

Nominate Your Students for the 2009 Illinois All-State Journalism Team

The Illinois Journalism Education Association sponsors an annual all-state journalism team for Illinois high school students. Members of the 2009 team will be selected this spring. The IJEA invites all its advisers to nominate students for this honor.

- **Purpose**

The purpose of the all-state journalism team is to recognize those students who have proven themselves to be indispensable to their respective school media. Illinois already has numerous journalism contests that recognize individual “bylined” excellence. The All-State Team recognizes those students who are “most valuable players” – those students whose leadership, energy, dedication and expertise make their publications possible but whose main contributions often occur behind the scenes.

- **Eligibility**

The Illinois All-State Journalism Team consists of the top 10 students who practice excellent journalism in any of the following venues: newspaper, magazine, yearbook, broadcast or online. All Illinois student journalists in grades 9-12 are eligible to be nominated. A student journalist must be nominated by his or her adviser. The adviser must be a member of the Illinois Journalism Education Association. Nominations may not exceed two students per school.

- **Application process**

Applications must be postmarked by **March 1**. For a student to be considered, his or her adviser must complete a nomination form. The student must fill out a brief application form, write a brief supporting essay (350 words maximum), and submit three work samples. The winner and his or her adviser will be notified by mid-May. A \$10 fee must accompany each nomination form.

- **Selection process**

A three-member committee consisting of professional journalists will select the winners.

- **Awards**

Each member of the All-State Journalism Team will receive a plaque. All members, their parents and advisers, will be invited to a recognition banquet June 6, in Springfield to be hosted by the Illinois Press Association/Illinois Press Foundation.

- **Getting started**

A nomination form for advisers and an application form for students are enclosed. For more information, contact Sally Turner at seturner@eiu.edu or (217) 581-7867.