



James A. Tidwell Award for Excellence in Scholastic Media Education

Co-sponsored by IJEA and EIU Dept. of Journalism

Nomination Form

Each year, the IJEA seeks to honor a single outstanding high school media educator who has done exemplary work during this and the previous academic year. Please note that membership in IJEA is not required for this award. Qualified candidates are invited to self-nominate. Past recipients and other advisers are encouraged to nominate candidates by gathering and submitting the required materials. The committee will consider the following in making its selection:

- Minimum of three years' advising experience including this academic year.
- Candidate's résumé.
- Candidate's response to the five questions listed on the second page of this form.
- Samples of student work advised by the candidate during this and/or the previous academic year.

The recipient is honored during the IHSA state series. The award includes an honorarium in memory of Diana Peckham, IJEA co-founder and an IJEA past president. **Annual deadline: Postmarked or received electronically by March 1 of the current school year.**

Section 1: nominator's information

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

Section 2: nominee's information

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

Nomination packets must include all of the following: Candidate's résumé indicating at least three years of advising experience including the current academic year, five essays in response to the prompts on the back of this form, samples of student work as described above, a headshot and three letters of recommendation from those who know the candidate's work well. These can be from colleagues, students or former students or parents.

Mail the application materials to: Dr. Sally Renaud, IJEA Executive Director
Journalism Department, Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920-3099

Or submit all materials digitally to serenaud@eiu.edu

Application materials must be postmarked or received electronically by March 1 of the current school year.

Questions for Candidates

Candidates for the Illinois Scholastic Journalism Educator of the Year co-sponsored by IJEA and EIU Department of Journalism must respond to each of the following prompts in essay form. Each response should be limited to 300 words or less.

1. Describe your journalism teaching/advising assignment, touching on the journalism curriculum, number of student participants, forum status of your student news medium/media and challenges facing your journalism program.
2. What recognition have you, your students and their news medium/media received in the past year?
3. What specific evidence can you provide of the positive impact your journalism students and their media have had on student culture and the school community?
4. What is your plan for getting school officials to recognize the value of the scholastic press and convincing them to support free and responsible student news media?
5. How would you use the platform of "Illinois Journalism Teacher of the Year" to address the issues of scholastic journalism?