



Best of Print News Design

42nd Edition Creative Competition

CALL FOR ENTRIES
Deadline: Feb. 26, 2021

The Best of Print News Design™

The Society for News Design Best of Print News Design competition has provided the opportunity for newsrooms to share their work and to be recognized for excellence and innovation in news design. The competition also provides a valuable learning experience for judges and volunteers through thoughtful discussion. 2020 was an extremely difficult and unprecedented year. Throughout uncertain times, media organizations around the globe rose to the occasion to deliver news during a global pandemic. We understand that many journalists do not have access to their newsrooms and/or print newspapers. In order to safely continue the competition and encourage wider participation, the judging will be hosted virtually and we will be accepting all print entries as PDFs this year through a new digital judging platform.

Deadline

All entries must be received by Feb. 26, 2021 using the online portal.

Eligibility

The 42nd Edition of the Best of Print News Design is open to all general circulation newspapers and magazines. You do not need to be a member of SND to enter. All entries must have been published between Jan. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020. Specialty publications, advertising, publicity and promotional materials are ineligible. Entries may be moved to another category or disqualified if they fail to follow the rules as outlined.

PDFs

The Best of Print News Design competition will accept entries in a new form this year. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, judging and entering will be hosted digitally and entrants will be asked to submit all entries in PDF form. Entries must not be edited and must appear as they were published. If an entry was published in black and white, the PDF must also be entered in black and white. PDFs that have been altered after publication will be disqualified.

Judging

Judging for all categories will take place virtually this year. A team of judges selected by SND will evaluate each entry on how well it accomplishes its editorial and design objectives. In some categories, such as illustration or graphics, entries will be viewed for the individual element, not the entire page. If only one element is to be judged, identify it when entering. Do not mark on the PDFs.

Awards

Winning entries will receive Awards of Excellence, Silver or Gold medals, for outstanding work. At their discretion, judges may choose to give no awards in one or more categories. Judges may select any submitted body of work deemed truly exceptional for a Judges Special Recognition award. Judges may also select a single Best of Show award from all Gold medal winners, if any. All winning entries will be represented in the annual "The Best of News Design" book published by SND.

Entering the Best of Print News Design

How to enter

You must enter the competition using Award Force, which is an effective and simple platform to host this year's competition. The entry portal will open on Jan. 11, 2020 for submissions. This platform allows entrants to create a profile, upload entries and pay for entries all in one place. If you've entered the competition in the past, you will no longer need your tearsheet, scissors and tape to put together those long entries. Instead, multipage entries should be bundled together into single PDFs. In some categories, such as illustration or graphics, entries will be viewed for the individual element, not the entire page. If only one element is to be judged, identify it when entering in the notes field. Do not mark on the PDFs.

Entry Fees

Entry fees are determined by single page and multipage entries. U.S. and international entry fees are identical.

Single page entries:

- \$20 each

Multipage entries:

- \$35 each

World's Best-Designed Newspaper entries:

- \$50 each

Accepted form of payment:

- Credit card, paid using the new online portal

By submitting work, you and your publication are granting permission to the Society for News Design to use the material in academic pursuits, in any publications or displays (printed and electronic) of the Society and in publicity and promotional activities. Your publication will receive credit for any reproduced work.

How to Reach Us

Send general questions to:

Greg Mees

Best of Print News Design Competition Committee Chair

Email: greg.mees@gmail.com

Virginia Singarayar

42nd Edition Competition Coordinator

Email: virginia.singarayar@gmail.com

Category

1

World's Best-Designed Newspaper

This category is **not mandatory** and will carry an entry fee of \$50 for newspapers. Please, only one entry per publication in this category. Because this entry is for overall excellence, only "Staff" will be allowed as a name when entering. Entries are evaluated on writing, visual storytelling, use of resources, execution, photography, headlines and voice — as well as overall design. No magazines may be entered in this category.

Daily newspapers

To enter, submit **three (3) complete editions** from 2020.

All three editions should come from different weeks (more than seven days apart).

- 1 A Circulation 175,000 and over
- 1 B Circulation 174,999 and under

Non-daily newspapers

To enter, submit **three (3) complete editions** from 2020.

All three editions should come from different weeks (more than seven days apart).

- 1 C Circulation 175,000 and over
- 1 D Circulation 174,999 and under

Category

2

Section Design

This category is for regularly appearing sections. Submit **three (3) complete sections**. Editors may choose any three dates in 2020. The three sections constitute one multipage entry. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English. No magazines may be entered in this category.

A-Section

- 2 A.a 175,000 and over
- 2 A.b 174,999 and under

Local Section

- 2 B.a 175,000 and over
- 2 B.b 174,999 and under

Sports Section

- 2 C.a 175,000 and over
- 2 C.b 174,999 and under

Business Section

- 2 D.a 175,000 and over
- 2 D.b 174,999 and under

Opinion Section

- 2 E.a 175,000 and over
- 2 E.b 174,999 and under

Features Section

- This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel pages.*
- 2 F.a 175,000 and over
 - 2 F.b 174,999 and under

Other

For sections that do not fit listed subcategories.

- 2 G.a 175,000 and over
- 2 G.b 174,999 and under

Categories 3A–3I are single page categories. Categories 3J–3L are multipage categories for entries in which a story continues beyond a single page and the additional pages are to be judged. Spreads or doubletruck pages count as a single page entry. A doubletruck is defined as two pages designed as a single unit. Any given page may only be entered twice in category 3; once as a single page entry and once as part of a multipage entry. Single pages entered more than once will be disqualified. No magazines may be entered in this category.

Front Page

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 A.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 A.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 A.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 A.d** 174,999 and under

Local Cover

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 B.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 B.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 B.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 B.d** 174,999 and under

Sports Cover

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 C.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 C.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 C.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 C.d** 174,999 and under

Business Cover

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 D.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 D.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 D.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 D.d** 174,999 and under

Opinion Pages

This includes covers as well as inside pages.

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 E.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 E.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 E.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 E.d** 174,999 and under

Features Cover

This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel pages.

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 F.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 F.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 F.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 F.d** 174,999 and under

Inside Pages [News]

This includes A-section, Local and Business pages.

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 G.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 G.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 G.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 G.d** 174,999 and under

Inside Pages [Sports]

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 H.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 H.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 H.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 H.d** 174,999 and under

Inside Pages [Features]

This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel pages.

(Broadsheet/single pages)

- 3 I.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 I.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/single pages)

- 3 I.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 I.d** 174,999 and under

Cover Story, Spread [News]

Includes A-section, Local, Business and Opinion pages.

(Broadsheet/multi page)

- 3 J.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 J.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/multi page)

- 3 J.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 J.d** 174,999 and under

Cover Story, Spread [Sports]

(Broadsheet/multi page)

- 3 K.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 G.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/multi page)

- 3 K.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 K.d** 174,999 and under

Cover Story, Spread [Features]

This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel pages.

(Broadsheet/multi page)

- 3 L.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 L.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact/multi page)

- 3 L.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 L.d** 174,999 and under

Note: Entries in 3J–3L must come from a single section. Work from multiple sections or multiple days must be entered in Category 4. Cover is not required with entry.

Other

For sections that do not fit listed subcategories.

(Broadsheet; single or multi)

- 3 M.a** 175,000 and over
- 3 M.b** 174,999 and under

(Compact; single or multi)

- 3 M.c** 175,000 and over
- 3 M.d** 174,999 and under

Category

4

Special Coverage

Enter multiple pages that best demonstrate coverage of one topic across several days. An entry should either include a single day of coverage across multiple sections or pages from more than one day of coverage. There is no limit to the number of pages or days of coverage. These do not have to be consecutive pages or consecutive publication dates. Pages from the same event or topic on the same day may not be entered in more than one subcategory. For example, coverage entered as "Local/Regional" may not also be entered as "Obituaries." A page may not be used as part of more than one entry in this category.

4A	Local/Regional	4F	Obituaries
4B	National	4G	Politics/Elections
4C	International	4H	Natural Disasters/Climate Change
4D	Sports	4I	Coronavirus Pandemic
4E	Features	4J	Racial Reckoning

Category

5

Special Sections

This category is for news, sports, business, opinion and features special sections. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English. Single pages from special sections should be entered in Category 3. No magazines may be entered in this category.

Single Section [News]

This includes Local, Business and Opinion sections.

- 5 A.a** 175,000 and over
5 A.b 174,999 and under

Single Section [Sports]

- 5 B.a** 175,000 and over
5 B.b 174,999 and under

Single Section [Features]

This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel sections.

- 5 C.a** 175,000 and over
5 C.b 174,999 and under

Multiple Sections [News]

This includes Local, Business and Opinion sections.

- 5 D.a** 175,000 and over
5 D.b 174,999 and under

Multiple Sections [Sports]

- 5 E.a** 175,000 and over
5 E.b 174,999 and under

Multiple Sections [Features]

This includes lifestyle, food, arts & entertainment, fashion and travel sections.

- 5 F.a** 175,000 and over
5 F.b 174,999 and under

Category 6 Magazines

This category is for magazine design. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English.

Overall Design

6 A Submit three (3) consecutive magazines published in 2020. The three magazines constitute one multipage entry.

Special Sections

6 B Submit a magazine edition appearing fewer than four (4) times a year. Submit the entire magazine. Each magazine constitutes one multipage entry.

Cover Design

6 C Submit one (1) full cover for each entry. Do not submit inside pages — they should be entered in Category 6D or 6E.

Inside Page Design

Submit inside pages only. Do not include the cover. An entry may be one or more pages published on the same day. If more than one page is submitted, that entry will be at the multipage rate. A spread or doubletruck page counts as a single entry. A doubletruck is defined as two pages designed as a single unit.

6 D.a News
6 D.b Sports
6 D.c Opinion
6 D.d Features

Section Design

6 E Submit three (3) complete, regularly-appearing sections within your magazine. Each section should come from a different month.

Story Design

Enter one complete story from a single issue. If a story is the cover story, the cover may be included with the entry, but is not required. Each story constitutes one multiple page entry.

6 F.a News
6 F.b Sports
6 F.c Opinion
6 F.d Features

Category 7 Illustration

Do not submit original artwork. This category recognizes the illustration(s) entered, not the whole page. Work must be staff-generated or first-use. Work may have appeared in print or online. For online entries, submit a PDF of the web page it appeared on. If the illustration is animated, please also attach an mp4 or gif of the animation. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English. Several illustrations that combine to create a single image are considered multiple illustrations and should be entered in 7G.

Single Illustrations

Submit one (1) full page for each entry. Two pages designed as a single unit are considered a single page. A single illustration may only be entered once in subcategories 7A through 7F.

7A	News/Business	7C	Opinion	7E	Portrait
7B	Sports	7D	Features	7F	Other

Multiple Illustrations

7G Submit multiple illustrations for a single article or topic that spans one or multiple editions. If several illustrations combine to create a single image, submit only the combined result.

Category **8** Photography

This category is for use of photography and picture editing in a series. Do not submit original photos. Work must be staff-generated or first-use (except category 8C). Submit full pages for each entry. All photos on a page or pages will be judged in this category, which is open to newspapers and magazines. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English.

Single-Day Photo Series

8A Submit a page or pages from a single publication edition.

Multiday Photo Series

8B Submit pages from the entire series spanning more than one day.

Photo Page Design

8C Submit a single page or doubletruck to be judged on quality of photographs, photo editing and design. A doubletruck is defined as two pages designed as a single unit. Photos in Category 8C do not have to be staff generated.

Category **9** Information Graphics

This category recognizes graphic storytelling. Work must be staff-generated or first-use. For non-English entries, please include a brief explanation of the content in English. Spread or doubletruck pages count as a single page entry. A doubletruck is defined as two pages designed as a single unit. Several graphics designed over more than two (2) pages or spreads to work together as a single image should be entered in subcategory 9H.

Single Graphic

Submit one (1) full page for each entry. Two pages designed as a single unit are considered a single page. Multipage graphics should be entered in subcategory 9H. A single graphic may only be entered once in subcategories 9A through 9G.

9A News
9B Business
9C Sports
9D Features

9E Politics/Elections
9F Coronavirus Pandemic
9G Other

Multiple Graphic

9H Submit multiple graphics for a single article or topic that spans one or multiple editions. If several graphics combine to create a single image, submit only the combined result.

Category **10** Portfolios

If more than one portfolio is entered by the same person/staff in the same subcategory, pages may not be duplicated. A spread or doubletruck, as a part of any portfolio, counts as a single page. A doubletruck is defined as two pages designed as a single unit.

Page Designer Portfolio

Submit **six (6) pages by one (1) designer**. Entries with fewer than six pages, more than six pages or that name more than one individual will be disqualified. Team projects in this category should be entered as a staff portfolio. If you've changed jobs, enter under the circulation category that is appropriate for the majority of the pages submitted. Individuals may, at their discretion, enter portfolios in larger circulation categories than their publication otherwise enters.

News & Business

10 A.a 175,000 and over
10 A.b 174,999 and under

Sports

10 B.a 175,000 and over
10 B.b 174,999 and under

Features

10 C.a 175,000 and over
10 C.b 174,999 and under

Magazine

10 D.a 175,000 and over
10 D.b 174,999 and under

Combination

Any combination of news, business, sports, features or magazine pages by one designer

10 E.a 175,000 and over
10 E.b 174,999 and under

Information Graphics

10F Submit exactly six (6) full pages showing any mix of deadline and non-deadline graphics by a single person. Multiple graphics by one artist on one page is considered one entry.

Illustration

10G Submit exactly six (6) full pages showing the work of a single artist. Multiple illustrations by one artist on one page is considered one entry.

Staff Portfolio

Submit **eight (8) pages** showing the work of a staff or more than one designer. Entries with fewer than eight pages, more than eight pages or by a single designer will be disqualified.

News & Business

10 H.a 175,000 and over
10 H.b 174,999 and under

Sports

10 I.a 175,000 and over
10 I.b 174,999 and under

Features

10 J.a 175,000 and over
10 J.b 174,999 and under

Magazine

10 K.a 175,000 and over
10 K.b 174,999 and under

Combination

Any combination of news, business, sports, features or magazine pages by a staff

10 L.a 175,000 and over
10 L.b 174,999 and under

Information Graphics

10M Submit exactly eight (8) full pages showing any mix of deadline and non-deadline graphics by the work of multiple people or a staff.

Art Direction

10N Submit exactly eight (8) pages showing the planning and art direction of illustrations. This category is for the work of a staff or team.

This category is for single topics that have both print and digital components that will be judged together. The print entry should contain single pages or multiple pages that best demonstrate coverage of one theme. The print entry should include content from no more than five (5) editions. Multiple page print entries do not have to be consecutive pages or consecutive publication dates. All digital submissions must have been posted to the web or made available for public viewing in 2020. SND recommends shortening a URL if it is more than 50 characters. All URLs will be displayed in a web browser on a laptop computer. All URLs must be live by Feb. 1, 2021, and must remain active through May 30, 2021. If digital content to be judged includes an app, please indicate the ideal device (e.g. iPad), download information and a username/password.

- 11A** News
- 11B** Sports
- 11C** Features
- 11D** Other