



## The FCJ Excellence Awards – 2018

Presented by the Forum of Community Journalists NPC

The FCJ Excellence Awards is aimed at encouraging excellence and rewarding meritorious work in local and community print media. Only permanent editorial staff member working for such media in South Africa may enter.

### CALL FOR ENTRIES

Please read through the instructions for entering very carefully. Entrants not adhering to the instructions/rules will be disqualified.

1. The competition covers the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018.
2. The **closing date** for entries (in all the categories) is **30 April 2019**.
3. For enquiries about entries, contact the judges' convener, Dr. Thalyta Swanepoel on 079 212 4958 or [thalyta.swanepoel@nwu.ac.za](mailto:thalyta.swanepoel@nwu.ac.za).
4. Each entry per category must have a separate entry form.
5. The editor / manager / publisher must certify on the entry form that the entry is the entrant's own work.
6. The decision of the judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into. The judges reserve the right to make no award if insufficient entries are received or they feel that none of the entries in a particular category are sufficiently meritorious.
7. The call for entries and entry forms are also available at [www.fcjonline.co.za](http://www.fcjonline.co.za)

#### **Address for entries:**

**All entries, except Digital reporting**, must be marked **FCJ Excellence Awards 2018** and sent to:

ATTENTION: Dr T Swanepoel  
Building F20, Room G63  
11 Hoffman Street  
Potchefstroom Campus  
North West University  
Potchefstroom  
2531

Contact numbers: Dr. T Swanepoel: 079 212 4958

## **WRITING CATEGORIES**

Complete a separate entry form for each category and attach the necessary number of articles to it as prescribed in each section.

Journalists with less than three years' experience, who enter in the Journalist of the Year category, will automatically be considered for the Alet Roux Award for best new comer.

### **The categories are:**

#### **1. Journalist of the Year:**

A total of 20 stories. This includes follow-up stories.

You will be judged on a variety of stories in your portfolio.

(A motivation of not more than 250 words and an index indicating the variety of categories may be included.)

#### **2. Investigative reporting:**

A maximum of 20 articles. This includes your follow-up stories.

(A short background of not more than 300 words explaining investigations, interesting obstacles and the outcomes of the article(s) may be included).

#### **3. Headlines:**

Five, with the accompanying articles.

The impact and creativeness of the headlines and their relevance to the articles will be judged – not the content of the articles.

#### **4. Hard news:**

10 articles in total, including follow-up articles.

#### **5. Human interest:**

Enter a maximum of five articles only.

#### **6. Editorial comment,**

Enter a maximum of five pieces.

#### **7. Columns**

Enter a maximum of five columns.

#### **8. Sport:**

Enter a maximum of five articles only.

## 9. Digital reporting:

Please enter five articles. This must include at least two breaking news stories.

Explain, in 'Extraordinary circumstances' on the entry form, your role in the uploading/ publication of the content, etc. as set out in the Call for Entries, for certification by the Editor / Manager / Publisher.

### Format of entries for Digital reporting.

Enter electronically by sending an email to [myfcjinfo@gmail.co](mailto:myfcjinfo@gmail.co)

The subject line must read **FCJ Excellence Awards: Digital reporting.**

Attach the entry form in the email.

In the email provide the following information:

Name and surname

Newspaper

Newspaper's website

Daytime telephone number

- Include the links to the five articles you want to enter.
- The entries should consist of stories published on the web, and/or portfolios of web/social media/online multimedia treatment of a story or stories.
- A motivation of not more than 250 words may be included.

### Format of entries for all other writing sections.

Cuttings of reports, or photocopies thereof (not reduced), must be pasted onto A4 pages; A3 for larger reports and stapled to the entry form.

Do not use paperclips.

Use larger staples for thicker entries.

Paste turnovers onto separate sheets.

Do not bind entries in files.

## **CATEGORY: PHOTOGRAPHY**

Complete a separate entry form for each category and attach the necessary number of photographs to it as prescribed in each section.

In the Photographer of the Year section a portfolio as a whole (and not individual photographs) will be judged. In the other sections individual photographs will be judged, meaning that an entrant may receive more than one prize in one section.

**Number of photographs:**

**Photographer of the Year:** You **MUST** enter **6** photographs. Versatility is crucial.

**News, Sport and General:** A maximum of 5 photographs in each.

**Format of entries:**

The photographs must be attached to the entry form.

Use a large enough paperclip. (**DO NOT staple the photographs to the entry form.**)

Only prints of original digital photographs will be allowed.

All photographs must be identified clearly by pasting an **identification slip for photographs** onto the back of each photograph entered (see entry forms). Also paste a cutting of the original caption and photo as it was published.

The size of prints should not be larger than 20 cm x 25 cm (8" x 10").  
Photographs should not be mounted.

**CATEGORY: FRONT PAGE:**

(Sections: Corporate-owned paid newspapers, Corporate-owned free newspapers and any other community/local newspapers (not owned by any of the major media groups).

Complete a form and attach the front pages to it.

The portfolio of three front pages as a whole (and not individual front pages) will be judged.

**Number of front pages: 3 Original front pages.**

One published in April 2018, one in August 2018 and an own choice, i.e. one published in any month in 2018.

**Format of entries:**

Attach the three original front pages (only the front pages, not the whole newspaper) to the entry form.

Use a large enough paperclip.  
Do not staple the front pages to the entry form.

## **CATEGORY: NEWSPAPERS**

Corporate-owned paid newspapers: circulation of more than 5 000.

Corporate-owned paid newspapers: circulation of 5 000 or less.

Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination of more than 24 pages, worked out as an average over all editions of the year).

Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination of 24 pages or less, worked out as an average over all editions of the year).

Independent commercial newspapers and any other community/local newspapers (not owned by any of the major media groups).

Complete a form and attach the newspapers to it.

The portfolio of three newspapers as a whole (and not individual editions) will be judged.

### **Number of newspapers: 3**

One published in March 2018, one in November 2018 and an own choice, i.e. one published in any month in 2018.

### **Format of entries:**

Attach the entry form to the first newspaper.

Use a paperclip.

Do not staple the entry form to the newspaper.

**OoOO**