



**New Mexico
Scholastic Press
Association
Board**

President
Ron Gonzales
Grants High School

VP/President-Elect
Elizabeth LeMay
Portales High School

Secretary/Treasurer
Aldo Jurado
Highland High School
Lesley Valencia
Cibola High School

Past President
Rebeca Zimmermann
Retired, Highland

**Serving high school
journalism since
1945**

NMAA/NMSPA State Scholastic Publications Competition Saturday, April 25

at the Albuquerque Journal
7777 Jefferson St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Contest Schedule

Check-in: 9 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Contests: 9:40-11:40

Lunch: Noon at the Journal

Workshops: 1-3 p.m.

Awards: 3 p.m.

Required Pre-registration:

Email students' names and competition choice to Ron
Gonzales at ronald.gonzales@gccs.k12.nm.us
by Friday, April 10

Letter from the President

Hey Everyone!

Hope your semesters are going well for you all! We are excited to let you know we will host this year's NMAA Scholastic Publications State Championship at the Albuquerque Journal's building on Saturday, April 25.

We are also happy to welcome Gwyneth Doland and Andy Lyman from the University of New Mexico, who are planning some wonderful workshops for us that afternoon!

Our students are some of the finest in the state, and your school's participation at state helps them be recognized. We hope to see you!

Contest information is on page 3. Also attached is the detailed list of our competition categories. Again it is only one competition per student, and each school can enter up to three students per category.

Please help your students to read over the requirements and enter the proper competition. Then register your students by adding their names to our Google spreadsheet as well as sending a list to ronald.gonzales@gccs.k12.nm.us.

See you soon!

Ron Gonzales, NMSPA President
Grants High School

NMSPA/NMAA SCHOLASTIC PUBLICATIONS STATE 2026 COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Writing

- Newswriting
- Feature Writing
- Sports Writing
- Review Writing
- Editorial Writing
- Editorial Cartooning

Photojournalism

- Sports Action Photography
- Feature Photography
- News Photography
- Portrait Photography
- Photo Illustration

Yearbook

- Yearbook Double Page Spread
- Yearbook Cover Design

Literary Magazine

- Poetry Writing
- Short Story Writing
- Illustration

Broadcast and Podcast

- Broadcast News Story
- Broadcast Sports Story
- Broadcast Feature Story
- Broadcast Anchor
- Podcast Interview

Contest Information

Dear Publications Advisers and Teachers,

The 2026 NMSPA/NMAA Scholastic Publications state championships will be Saturday, April 25, 2026 at the Albuquerque Journal, 7777 Jefferson St. NE in Albuquerque. The event will start with registration from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and run through mid-afternoon.

The state championships recognize student achievement in broadcasting, journalistic and creative writing, photography and yearbook design. A list of categories is attached.

Students can only participate in one category. Schools may enter a maximum of three students per category. For Broadcast categories – except Anchor Presentation – students may work in groups up to three. All other competitions are for individual students only.

Winners are named in each category and a team championship is announced at the end of the day. Points are given for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each category that count toward the team championship. If competition categories do not have at least three competitors, the results of that category will not be included in overall team standings although individual winners will be recognized.

The competition is open to New Mexico students in grades 8 through 12. Schools do not have to have student publications or formal journalism programs to participate in many contest categories. Per New Mexico Activities Association rules, all participants must be academically eligible to compete.

There are no fees for participation in the event. However, it is vital that we have an accurate count of participants to ensure we have enough judges. Please let us know immediately if someone needs to drop out.

We encourage everyone to send even one student as this event gives students a chance to receive feedback from professionals in the media world.

Please forward this on, to anyone else at your schools -- or friends at other schools -- who might want to have students participate, English and Art teachers in particular. The literary magazine categories may be appropriate for some of those students who aren't in publications.

For more information, please contact President Ron Gonzales at ronald.gonzales@gccs.k12.nm.us

We look forward to meeting you there!

New Mexico Scholastic Press Association Executive Board