2013 Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers

Application Guidelines

The Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers was established through gifts for an endowment by members of the Taylor family, which published The Boston Globe from 1872 to 1999. The purpose of the $10,000 award is to encourage fairness in news coverage by America’s daily newspapers. Second and third place finalists receive $1,000 each. The award is administered by the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard.

The Nieman Foundation accepts nominations each year for a single article, editorial, commentary, photograph; series of stories, photographs, editorials, commentaries; or a body of work by an individual journalist. To be eligible for the 2013 award, the work must have been published in a U.S. daily newspaper between Jan. 1, 2013, and Dec. 31, 2013.

Anyone may submit a nomination. A completed application includes the application form, five copies of the work and a letter explaining why the entry is an exemplary example of fairness in newspapers. The letter must also explain how the work was developed, reported and presented to readers in the context of fairness.

In evaluating work for entry, submitters should consider all aspects of the journalistic process: reporting, writing, editing, headlines, photographs and illustrations, and presentation.

The guidelines for the Taylor Fairness Award do not offer a definition of fairness. This is deliberate, recognizing that elements of fairness in journalism are diverse and do not easily lend themselves to a precise definition for a journalism competition. There are many ways to define work that can be held up as an example of fairness, so it is very important that the letter sent with the nomination explain clearly why the entry should be considered for the award.

Send the below application form, entry letter, and five copies of the work to the below address. Entry must be postmarked by January 24, 2014.

Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers
Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard
One Francis Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
2013 Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers

Please print or type.

Name of newspaper: ____________________________________________________________

Name of entry (series or article title): ______________________________________________

Date(s) of entry: __________________________________________________________________

Name of submitter: _______________________________________________________________

Title of submitter: __________________________________________________________________

Address of submitter: __________________________________________________________________

Phone number of submitter: _________________________________________________________

E-mail address of submitter: __________________________________________________________________

Names and titles of journalists who made significant contributions to the entry.

(Please include reporters, photographers, graphic artists, editors, copy editors, headline writers, researchers and any other staff whose work was critical to entry. Use the back of form if additional space is necessary.)

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Send this form, five copies of the work, and your entry letter to:

Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers
Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard One Francis Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138

Entry must be postmarked by January 24, 2014.