

High School & College Audio Categories

All audio projects including over-the-air broadcasts, podcasts, Internet radio, etc.

1. Commentary

A production showcasing the broadcaster's opinion on a matter of interest to the audience. Opinions should be ethically resourced when addressing controversial topics.

Entries should include: 45 to 60 seconds of live or edited post-production content. A disclaimer is optional and may allow the entry to extend beyond the 60-second limit.

2. Current Events Story

A current events story covering significant events of local or national interest.

Entries should include: Up to five minutes of one continuous story. Edited compilations will not be accepted.

3. Daily Newscast/News Feature

A newscast or news feature.

Entries should include: Up to 10 minutes of one continuous newscast or news feature.

4. Live Sports Coverage

Broadcast coverage of an individual or team at a sporting event.

Entries should include: Up to five minutes of representative moments from one single sporting game or event. Entries may be edited compilations.

5. Music Feature or Special

A music-focused special program, feature, interview, or feature story.

Entries should include: Up to 30 minutes of continuous musical programming that is not aired as part of a regular newscast or music programming block.

6. On-Air Personality or Team

Best on-air broadcast personality or broadcast team.

Entries should include: Up to five minutes of representative moments compiled from multiple broadcasts.

7. Promotional Announcement

A single spot promoting a school, station, program, or community event.

Entries should include: Up to three minutes of one continuous announcement that is written, produced, and aired on your station or program.

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8. Public Service Announcement

An announcement of general public interest that raises awareness of a cause or topic.

Entries should include: Up to 60 seconds of one continuous spot that is written, produced, and aired on your station or program.

9. PSA - Sponsored by the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission

An announcement raising awareness about labor and/or sex trafficking in Michigan and encouraging students and communities to recognize warning signs, share resources, and help prevent exploitation. The announcement must be written, produced, and aired by your school program.



Entries should include: Up to 60 seconds of one continuous spot that is written, produced, and aired on your station or program. The entry must include this closing tag: "If you suspect or have been a victim of human trafficking, please contact the National Human Trafficking hotline at 888-373-7888. All calls are anonymous."

Links to resources can be found at MichiganMedia.com/Student-Awards

10. Sportscast

Best locally originated, regularly scheduled sportscast or sports-themed show. Pre-produced sports features, special segments, or syndicated reports should be entered in the Sports Feature category. In-game content should be submitted in the Live Sports Coverage category.

Entries should include: Up to 30 minutes of one continuous sportscast or sports program. Program content may include game recaps or excerpts from live broadcasts. Edited compilations will not be accepted.

11. Sports Feature

A single report or story that may have aired independently or as part of a newscast or sportscast. Content may include journalistic sports stories, athlete features, or sports human interest stories.

Entries should include: Up to 10 minutes of one continuous selection.

12. Talk Show/Podcast

A talk show or podcast program on a topic of choice.

Entries should include: Up to 30 minutes of one continuous program. Edited compilations will not be accepted.

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13. Use of Social Media

*Showcase the ways your program uses social media across a variety of platforms to enhance the listener's experience. Demonstrate how you are connecting with your target audience and local community through social media to promote stories, programming, newscasts, sports, and/or events. **Each school program is limited to one entry.***

Entries should include: Up to 10 minutes of content such as video/audio clips, screenshots, pictures, and more, edited into one presentation file such as PowerPoint, Google Slides, or equivalent, with audio included.

14. High School Only - Sports Public Service Announcement

A PSA promoting sportsmanship and officials recruitment.

Entries should include: A 30-second continuous spot that is written, produced, and aired on your station or program.

15. High School Only - Public Service Announcement Sponsored by OK2Say

An announcement encouraging students to utilize OK2SAY, Michigan's Student Safety Program, if they have a concern about their safety or the safety of another. The announcement must be written, produced, and aired by your school program. Visit ok2say.com for topic suggestions.



Entries should include: Up to 60 seconds of one continuous spot that is written, produced, and aired on your station or program.



ENTRY DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2026 | 3:00 PM EST

All Michigan high school, college, & post secondary education students may enter. Projects must have been completed between January 1 - December 15, 2026.

For complete category details & to enter, visit MichiganMedia.com/Student-Awards