



Nominate a Deserving Journalist!

Have you read a civil engineering article that has knocked your socks off? Did an article leave a lasting impression on you, so much that you forwarded it to all your coworkers?

Recognize excellent journalists that spread the great knowledge of civil engineering through ASCE Texas Section's **Excellence in Journalism Award**. Nominations are due to the Texas Section Office by June 1, 2021.

>> [View Previous Award Recipients](#) <<



EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM AWARD

The **ASCE Texas Section's Excellence in Journalism Award** honors journalists for outstanding coverage of civil engineers, civil engineering projects and civil engineering issues. The media have tremendous impact on public opinion. Journalism that enhances public understanding of the role of civil engineers and the impact their designs have on water supply, transportation, public works projects and the environment can engage the public in the infrastructure initiatives that impact their communities. Public opinion can influence legislation about funding infrastructure, and it can affect regulation such as licensing. It can also convince talented young people to choose careers in civil engineering.

The award will be presented to the journalist(s) at the annual Texas Civil Engineering Conference (CECON) during the Gala & Awards Banquet. The winner(s) will receive two (2) complimentary tickets for the Gala. In addition, the Award will also be publicized by a media release and by being the subject of an article with the Texas Section's online news platform, *Texas Civil Engineer*. The winning story will be submitted to ASCE for consideration in the **ASCE Excellence in Journalism Award** contest.

Criteria

Judging will, in general, follow the rules, eligibility and criteria of ASCE which can be found on the ASCE [website](#). The story may be nominated by any Texas Section Branch, by a Texas Section member, or by a journalist. Judging will be conducted by the Texas Section *Editorial Committee* with recommendations to the Executive Committee for final approval. Selection of the Winner is to be guided by the following criteria.

Did the story:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Cover all sides of the civil engineering issue fairly? | 20 points |
| 2. Accurately describe the civil engineering project or issue? | 20 points |
| 3. Effectively explain how the engineering project or outcome of an issue benefits the community or region? | 15 points |
| 4. Clearly describe the engineer's role (Examples: How did engineers contribute to the project's completion? How did engineers influence the positive outcome of an environmental issue, natural disaster, or key legislation?) | 15 points |
| 5. Advance public knowledge and understanding of civil engineering? | 15 points |
| 6. Include the most knowledgeable civil engineering experts? | 15 points |
| TOTAL | 100 POINTS |

Eligibility

The award honors English-language stories from media outlets based in Texas in one of the following categories:

- Daily and weekly newspapers
- General circulation (non-trade) related magazines
- Electronic/Web-based, non-trade related news outlets
- Radio shows
- Television news shows



Eligible stories must be published or broadcast between May 1 of the previous year and April 30 of the current year.

A single story, series or special section is eligible. A series is a coordinated sequence of articles/broadcast segments appearing closely in time and covering unified story angles. A special section also is a coordinated package, but the stories all appear the same day.

If an entry is co-authored/produced, at least one author must be a full-time journalist. The story will be considered a single entry and the honorarium (*if available pending current year fiscal budget*) will be divided between all journalists listed on the entry form.

Branches can nominate up to two entries for the Texas Section Award. However, those nominees must be the Branch's duly recognized co-winners — not a winner and a runner-up.

To be eligible, the nominated author must be able to accept the award with no conflict of interest. If not self-nomination, it must be verified by the person nominating that the award can be accepted.

Entry Format & Instructions

All entries must include a copy of the following:

1. A description in two pages or less how your entry meets the six official criteria.
2. A completed and signed ASCE Excellence in Journalism Award Entry Form.
3. A copy of the article from original publication, which includes date of publication.
 - a. *All print entries (newspapers, non-trade related magazines) must include:*
 - i. An original clipping of the article as it appeared in the publication, including date of publication at the top of the first page, and a copy of the publication's name plate; and
 - ii. A legible photocopy of the article, including date of publication at the top of the first page and a copy of the publication's nameplate, on white, standard, or legal-sized paper.
 - b. *All radio and television entries must include:*
 - i. A digital copy of the segment/program, including any introductory information or station ID's, in electronic format.
 - c. *All electronic and Web-based news outlet entries (electronic, non-trade related magazines and newspapers) must include:*
 - i. An electronic copy of the story, including the Web site banner; and a printed copy of the story, including the date of publication.

The nomination deadline is June 1, 2021.

Email your entry to office@texasce.org with the subject "TexASCE – Excellence in Journalism Award Nomination"

For any questions, contact the Texas Section Office at 512-472-8905 or office@texasce.org.



American Society of Civil Engineers – Texas Section Excellence in Journalism Award Entry Form

Please submit a copy of this form with each entry. All fields required.

Article title /Title of entry: _____

Publication date(s): _____

News organization: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Author name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Editor or publisher name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Self-Nominations: I acknowledge that I can accept this award (circle one): YES NO

IF NOT SELF NOMINATED, PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW:

Nominated by: _____

ASCE Member (circle one)?: YES NO

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ fax: _____

Email: _____

Verified Nominee can accept award (circle one): YES NO

I hereby submit this entry for nomination in the ASCE Excellence in Journalism Award.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____