

TASMANIAN MEDIA AWARDS

2025 Categories

ARTS REPORTING

- This award recognises excellence in reporting on issues associated with the Arts.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

BEST NEW JOURNALIST

- This category is open to all journalists with **THREE or less years' experience** working in the industry who show a flair for reporting, a dedication to producing high-quality work and a demonstrable potential within the craft.
- Entrants for this award should submit a portfolio of work of **UP TO FOUR pieces**.

BEST NEWS IMAGE

- This award recognises the special role that photographers/camera operators play in getting the message through to the reader/viewer of publications or broadcasts.
- Judges are looking for the best use of the medium to advance a news story or a feature article. However, the emphasis generally will be on the news value or impact of the image/s and the skills that the photographer/camera operator has exercised in obtaining the image.
- Entrants may submit a **maximum of SIX images or videos**, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work. If a series is submitted AT LEAST ONE of the images must have been published/broadcast.

BEST NEWS STORY

- This award recognises the best news story of 2024.
- Judging criteria include the newsworthiness of the article/s, the impact on the reader, compliance with the ethics of the profession, writing excellence, skill of the writer, the depth of research, and any public benefit. Print includes daily and weekly publications, magazines and online or wire service.

- Entries in this category may be a **SINGLE short news report or one or MORE REPORTS** entailing coverage on the same subject.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories on the **SAME** issue or subject.

COMMENT & ANALYSIS

- This award recognises the best commentary or analysis in a news story of 2024 delivered in any media.
- The judging criteria includes the newsworthiness of the article/s, the impact on the reader, listener or viewer, compliance with the ethics of the profession, writing excellence, skill of the journalism, the depth of research and any public benefit.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories, **NOT NECESSARILY RELATED**, to be judged as indicative of their work.

COVERAGE OF A BREAKING NEWS EVENT

- Awarded to the most timely, accurate and comprehensive news coverage.
- Judges are looking for the best use of any medium which kept the community informed and up to date with an unfolding event.
- Entrants may submit up to four pieces covering the one event.

EXCELLENCE IN LEGAL REPORTING

- This award recognises excellence in legal reporting in journalism.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories, **NOT NECESSARILY RELATED**, to be judged as indicative of their work.

FEATURE, DOCUMENTARY or CURRENT AFFAIRS

- This category aims to recognise feature stories, current affairs, analysis of news events and longer reports. Reports should highlight research, effective storytelling and impact and have been produced ethically. Public benefit and courage in reporting will be considered favourably.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories on the **SAME** issue or subject.

FREELANCE JOURNALIST

- This award recognises the unique and growing contribution that freelance journalists make to the industry. Judging will be based on editorial independence, newsworthiness, research, writing, production, incisiveness, impact, public benefit, ethics, originality, innovation, and creative flair.
- Entrants may submit up to **FIVE** pieces, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

HEALTH REPORTING

- This award recognises excellence in reporting on issues associated with health issues.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNALISM

- This award aims to celebrate journalism's role in informing citizens as part of our democratic system. It is about journalism that aims to make a difference, with tangible public benefit to the community in Tasmania.
- Journalism which this award encourages can include:
- Journalism that focuses on human rights.
- Good civic journalism which gives a voice to the voiceless in our community.
- Journalism which starts a public debate on an important issue.
- Journalism which exposes incompetence or wrongdoing by those who should be working for the common good, especially in government or any institutions affecting the public; and
- Journalism which points to solutions to important issues within the community or society which it serves.
- Entries in this category may be **A SINGLE STORY or no more than THREE related reports on the SAME subject.**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- This award recognises excellence in reporting on issues associated with Science, Technology and Environment.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of **THREE** stories, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

SPORTS COVERAGE

- This award recognises the special nature of sports reporting in our media and is open to all journalists working in the area.
- Entrants can submit **up to THREE items on either a single theme or THREE different themes involving a sporting issue**. The judging will be based on the timeliness of the work, the impact on the reader, listener or viewer and the journalist's apparent ability to impart an understanding of the subject.
- Entrants may submit a maximum of THREE stories, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

- This award is judged on a BODY OF WORK, THREE (3) stories minimum, SIX (6) stories maximum, which shows:
- The journalist has demonstrated skill in breaking stories that have an impact on the state/national news agenda.
- The journalist has shown initiative and investigative skill.
- The journalist has demonstrated a commitment to journalism in the public interest.
- The journalist consistently produces work that is both informative and entertaining.

Other criteria considerations:

- **Impact and contribution to society:** The journalist's work(s) bring to light important information and significantly contribute to public understanding.
- **Research and Investigation:** The journalist's work(s) are well researched, they draw on the most relevant sources and contribute new information.

- **Perspective:** The journalist's work(s) provide a balanced coverage of the issue, seamlessly incorporating a range of views or details.
- **Presentation:** The journalist's work(s) entertain and inform. They are professionally written and presented, capturing and holding the audience.
- Judges can consider other categories winners for this award as well.
- Entrants must submit a minimum THREE stories and a maximum of SIX, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, to be judged as indicative of their work.

Peer Nomination Only

KEITH WELSH AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO JOURNALISM

- The **Keith Welsh Award for Outstanding Contribution to Journalism** recognises the work of journalists who have made an exceptional contribution to the industry in the state of Tasmania.
- To be eligible for this award, a journalist must demonstrate a consistently high standard of achievement and a commitment to quality journalism.
- Media editors, publishers and peers are invited to nominate deserving individuals.