



MFCP Annual Awards – Celebrating the Best in Our Industry!

It takes a Team! The success of free community papers relies on the dedication and hard work of professionals in a variety of roles—many of whom work behind the scenes with little recognition. MFCP is proud to introduce a series of annual awards to honor these individuals. We invite you to submit nominations in the following categories

Graphic Designer of the Year

Criteria:

- Consistently produces eye-catching, effective designs.
- Demonstrates creativity, technical skill, and attention to detail.
- Works well under deadlines and adapts to client needs.
- Plays a key role in enhancing publication quality and engagement.
- Contributes to team success by mentoring and/or supporting colleagues.

Call for Nominations:

Behind every great publication is a talented designer! MFCP's *Graphic Designer of the Year* award recognizes the creativity and skill that bring ideas to life. If you know a designer who makes a difference, send in your nomination! Nomination form and up to 3 samples of their work required.

Journalist of the Year

Criteria:

- Produces high-quality, engaging, and impactful content.
- Demonstrates journalistic integrity.
- Covers community news and features with accuracy, fairness, and depth.
- Helps strengthen the role of their publications in informing and engaging readers.
- Contributes to team success by mentoring and/or supporting colleagues.

Call for Nominations:

Great journalism keeps communities informed and engaged. MFCP's *Journalist of the Year* award honors those who tell compelling stories and uphold journalistic excellence. Nominate a journalist who makes a difference! Nomination form and up to 3 samples of their work required

Unsung Hero Award

Criteria:

- Plays a critical role in the daily success of a publication.
- Demonstrates reliability, teamwork, and dedication.
- Goes above and beyond to support the publication.

Call for Nominations:

Some of the most important contributions come from behind the scenes. MFCP's *Unsung Hero Award* recognizes the essential team members who make everything run smoothly but rarely get the spotlight. If you know someone who keeps things moving, nominate them today! (Note: sales people, journalist and graphic artists not eligible. This is for the folks behind the scenes). Nomination form and written comments to support nomination are required.



Annual Awards Nomination Form

Thank you for taking the time to recognize excellence in our industry! Please complete the form below to submit your nomination.

Award Category (Check One):

Graphic Designer of the Year
Journalist of the Year
Unsung Hero

Nominee Information

- Nominee's Name: _____
- Nominee's Job Title: _____
- Company/Publication: _____
- Nominee's Email: _____
- Nominee's Phone Number: _____

Your Information (Nominator)

- Your Name: _____
- Your Job Title: _____
- Company/Publication: _____
- Your Email: _____
- Your Phone Number: _____

Nomination Details

1. **Why are you nominating this individual?** Please provide specific examples of their achievements, impact, and dedication. (Attach up to 3 examples of work if required for the award category.)

2. **How has this individual contributed to their team's success and the overall success of their publication?**

3. **Additional Comments (Optional):**

Supporting Documents (if applicable):

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Submission Instructions: Please submit your completed nomination form and any supporting documents via email to director@mfcg.org by 4PM, January 30, 2026.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the best in our industry!