Dear Journalist,

I am pleased to announce the 37th Annual Gerald R. Ford Journalism Prizes, a competition for distinguished reporting in 2023.

**DISTINGUISHED REPORTING ON THE PRESIDENCY**

or

**DISTINGUISHED REPORTING ON NATIONAL DEFENSE**

In 1988, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation established the Journalism Prize Competition. With this annual award, President Ford wanted to recognize and encourage thoughtful, insightful, and enterprising work by journalists covering the presidency and national defense. The Foundation is proud to continue this tradition and will award two $5,000 prizes, one for distinguished achievement in reporting on the presidency and another on national defense during the calendar year 2023.

We are proud of our past winners and look forward to receiving this year’s entries. Please see the attachment for the nomination process, deadline, and selection of winner’s criteria. The awards will be presented in June 2024.

**Submissions from print, broadcast, and online journalists are welcome.**

Please feel free to contact us with questions at press@38foundation.org or 616-254-0396. Information is also available on our website: www.geraldfordfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Gleaves Whitney
Executive Director

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303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353 / 616-254-0396
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation
37th Annual Journalism Prize Competition

NOMINATIONS
• Entries must be for work published in print, broadcast, or presented online during 2024 by a media outlet based in the United States or its territories. (No podcasts allowed.)
• Journalists may apply directly, or be nominated for one of the two prizes each year.
• Submissions with joint bylines may apply, or be nominated.
• Entries must be submitted on behalf of a journalist(s) and not an organization.

DEADLINE
• Applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 15, 2024.

MATERIAL TO BE SUBMITTED
• There is no application form or entry fee.
• Must include a minimum of four, but not more than five articles or stories of the candidate’s best reporting during 2023 on either the presidency or national defense.
• A letter of nomination from someone who is familiar with the candidate’s work.
• A brief biographical sketch identifying the candidate’s journalistic experience and training. Include the candidate’s address, phone number, and e-mail address.

Submission via the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Website:
• Submission page is: https://geraldrfordfoundation.org/journalism-award-prizes/
• All text material submitted electronically should be formatted and submitted as PDFs and measure no larger than 8 1/2 x 14 inches. If URLs are included in the material you must provide active links.
• Broadcast video entries must have a PDF transcript with material submission via live URL.
• Videos and other online content should be submitted via URL and must be placed outside of any paywall. If not possible, provide a simple username and password for judges.
• URLs must remain active until the prizes are awarded in June.

Submission by Mail:
• Broadcast entries submitted by mail must include 8 DVDs with transcripts of broadcasts.
• Postmarked by Friday, March 15, 2024.
• Address to: Journalism Contest Coordinator Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation
303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353
SELECTION OF WINNERS

Each prize will be determined by a separate panel of judges. Typically, judges are selected from journalism and academia or have experience in the executive branch or national defense.

CRITERIA

Judging will be based on the journalist’s ability to foster better public understanding of either the United States presidency or national defense. The prizes recognize reportorial excellence as reflected by resourcefulness, insight, brevity, and quality of writing, rather than the quality of editorial comment. Candidates for either prize should have compiled a year-long record of consistent, judicious, sensitive, and noteworthy coverage. The prizes recognize the quality of a journalist’s work throughout the year, rather than any single article or story.

Work may have appeared in print, broadcast, or been presented online during 2023 at a local, regional, national, or international level (daily newspapers, news magazines, or trade publications with a broad readership). Freelance as well as staff journalists may be candidates.

For the Presidency Prize, reporting should address ways in which the President exercises leadership, sets policy and makes decisions, initiates programs and responds to events, relies on Cabinet and senior staff, and the structure and functioning of White House operations.

For the National Defense Prize, reporting should address leadership, national security issues, Department of Defense operations, military operations, unconventional threats and targets, defense resource management, military preparedness, or international arms control.

Submit packet to/or contact for further information:

Journalism Contest Coordinator Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation
303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353

Phone: (616) 254-0396
E-mail: press@38foundation.org
Website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org
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