



Application deadline: Feb. 1

Karen Flowers Outstanding Service Award

The Karen H. Flowers Outstanding Service Award was awarded for the first time in 2010 as the New Friend of Scholastic Media Award. This award went to an individual who is not in the classroom but who has significantly supported scholastic journalism.

The first recipient of the award was Ruth McCune Hartness of Henderson, N.C, a Board of Education member who learned that students in two of Vance County's schools had experienced prior review, prior restraint, and censorship and worked to ensure students' freedom of the press.

Why give such an award?

Those of us who work in the trenches **know** why scholastic journalism is important in our nation's schools. We understand the very heart of our democracy is at risk because too few citizens understand the importance of being informed and being informed by individuals who seek the truth and present it in a fair, objective, and responsible way. And those of us in today's classrooms see such truth-seeking and reporting at risk.

This Outstanding Service Award honors an individual who **does** understand the importance of encouraging students to ask questions, probe, and inform others. This award goes to an individual who is not in the classroom but who has significantly supported scholastic journalism and continues to do so.

Who can be nominated:

People who have contributed extraordinary amounts of time, talent, and energy to scholastic journalism. Nominees can come from all walks of life:

- printers & publishers,
- reporters & anchors
- scholastic journalism & press association directors,
- school board members & government officials,
- parents & non-journalism teachers,
- ...the list is endless

Who can nominate:

Anyone connected with SIPA may nominate people for this award.

How to nominate:

- In a nomination letter, explain your reasons for nominating the person for the Karen H. Flowers Outstanding Service Award.
- Letters supporting the nomination are welcome but not required.
- Submit the letter with the nominee's resume to dennislc@email.sc.edu.