



OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD NOMINATIONS

Application Deadline: Feb. 7, 2020
800 Sumter Street
SJMC/University of South Carolina ·
Columbia, SC 29208

Karen H. 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, to probe and to 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 and publishers,
- reporters and anchors,
- scholastic journalism and press association directors,
- lawyers,
- CEOs,
- school board members,
- government officials,
- non-journalism teachers and technicians,
- parents
- ...**the list is endless.**

They might have helped one publication or thousands.

They may be local, regional or national.

Who can nominate?

Anyone connected with SIPA may nominate people for this award.

How to nominate?

- In a letter of nomination, 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 (1) the letter with (2) the nominee's resume and (3) a photograph either by mail to the SIPA office or email to dennislc@email.sc.edu.