SPJ San Diego will award up to five $1,200 scholarships to local college students in the categories of print, photojournalism and video/audio/multimedia. We are also awarding two additional scholarships: one in honor of former North County Times columnist Agnes Diggs ($1,400) and one in memory of former San Diego Union-Tribune reporter Bradley J. Fikes ($1,000). Applicants may submit an application in multiple scholarship categories (e.g., print, photo and a memorial scholarship) but can win only one award. Scholarships are open to all current college students, including those who will have already graduated by the summer 2024 awards presentation, except for the Agnes Diggs award, which is open only to students who have at least one semester of studies before graduation.

The deadline for scholarship application is 9 p.m. Monday, April 22, 2024.

**Agnes Diggs Scholarship**

San Diego SPJ administers the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation's Agnes Diggs Scholarship. This scholarship, named for North County Times columnist Agnes Diggs, is open to San Diego County journalism and communications sophomores, juniors or seniors attending college full or part-time at the time of application. The scholarship is open only to college students who have at least one more semester or quarter (Fall 2024), as the money is paid directly to the school. For this reason, only those who can use the scholarship funds for tuition, campus fees or on-campus housing should apply for this award. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to journalism that uplifts communities in their essays. Priority is given to students from underserved communities and the contest is open to all journalism formats (print, photojournalism and video/audio/multimedia). Please submit 2-3 examples of your best work. Coursework is allowed, but published work is preferred.

**Bradley J. Fikes Scholarship**

The Bradley J. Fikes Scholarship honors the exemplary career of the late reporter, who wrote for The Daily Transcript, North County Times and San Diego Union-Tribune. In recognition of Bradley’s contributions to science and technology journalism, preference will be given to applicants who have an interest in these areas. It is open to all journalism formats (print, photojournalism and video/audio/multimedia). Please submit 2-3 examples of your best work. Coursework is allowed, but published work is preferred. Entrants may submit a combination of formats.
Instructions

To be considered for one of these scholarships, applicants must write an essay of no more than 500 words that explains their career goals, their journalism experience and why they should be chosen for this award. Entrants must also submit at least two — and no more than three — examples of work. To be clear: you must submit 2 to 3 articles to the print category, 2 to 3 photos for the photography category or 2 to 3 works for the multimedia category. Coursework is allowed, but published work is preferred. Attach all articles, video/audio or photos to your entry and don’t forget your essay. Submissions must have been published in 2023 and must be electronic — e.g., URLs, PDFs, JPGs or a digital link.

Mailed copies will not be accepted.

To enter, go to www.betterbnc.com and create an account for yourself under “Open Call Contestant.” Then go to “Manage Entries” and click on “Make entry.” Under “Division,” choose “Scholarships” and then choose which scholarship you wish to apply for and follow the instructions from there. If you need help with this or have any questions, please contact spj.sandiego@cox.net.

Winners will be announced prior to our annual awards event in summer 2024 and the scholarships will be distributed at that time.