A Message from NBA Chairman Graig Kinzie on the 2020 Pinnacle Awards

March 30, 2020

Dear NBA Members:

We recognize that focusing on the health of our people while sustaining our station operations is taking an extended toll on all of us. In light of these intense and uncertain times, the NBA Executive Committee has made some adjustments to the 2020 Pinnacle Awards competition.

Our original entry window of April 15 – May 4 no longer feels right or realistic. The amount of outstanding journalism, community service and other support our members are generating in response to the COVID-19 outbreak deserves to be judged and recognized this year, not next year. A time to recognize and celebrate the unparalleled response of our local broadcasters is in our future.

To that end, we have made the following adjustments for 2020:

- **No charge** for entries this year
- A limit of **12** total entries per SEU (across all categories) has been set
- The entry window will now be from **May 6 – May 27 at 5pm Central**
- The dates between which your content must have first aired or been posted are now **April 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020**
- The “**Best Newscast**” and “**Best Sportscast**” entries no longer have to have aired on February 20, 2020; those entries may now have aired on any date between February 20, 2020 – April 30, 2020. This change allows inclusion of news and sportscasts reflecting the recent changes in our world.

Our Executive Committee feels these changes will allow our members to extend our tradition of strong participation in this annual competition, despite the current and uncertain challenges we all face.

Thank you for your membership in the NBA.

Sincerely,

Graig Kinzie
Chairman of the NBA Board
This awards program was established in 1958 to recognize and encourage excellence in broadcasting and service to the community by Nebraska radio and television stations. The NBA thanks our Pinnacle Awards sponsors: Pinnacle Bank and Nebraska Public Power District.

ENTRY DATES:

May 6 through 5:00 P.M. Central, May 27, 2020

ENTRY COST: $0.00 per entry.

All entries must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Central, May 27, 2020.

AWARDS: **GOLD:** 1st place plaque. **SILVER:** 2nd place plaque. **BRONZE:** 3rd place plaque.

PINNACLE AWARDS WINNERS:

Announcement details and plaque distribution details are pending
**ADVICE:** Get familiar with the entry process during our “practice window” through April 30, 2020. Once the official entry window opens, do not wait until the last day or two to submit your entries. Too many late entries can stress the entry site and limits the NBA’s ability to answer last-minute questions.

**USING THE “ROCK OUR AWARDS” ONLINE ENTRY SYSTEM:**
Rock Our Awards is fast and easy to use! Please see pages 5 & 6 for helpful tips to make your entry process easy.

**JUDGING:** is done by broadcasters from another state. The number of awards given is at the judges’ discretion. If judges deem no entries in any category represent “excellence,” no awards will be given.

**OFFICIAL RULES:** Rules apply to Radio, TV and College Student entries

1) There are SEPARATE contests and awards for Radio stations, Television stations and College Student entries.

2) ONLY LOCALLY PRODUCED CONTENT CREATED AND AIRED BY LOCAL NBA MEMBER RADIO OR TELEVISION STATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE. Entries that appeared solely on a station website or station-affiliated website are NOT eligible except where noted.

3) ALL ENTRIES MUST HAVE AIRED ON A NBA MEMBER RADIO OR TELEVISION STATION IN GOOD STANDING BETWEEN APRIL 1, 2019 and April 30, 2020. Any entries found to have aired outside of these dates will be disqualified and if having subsequently won an award, will be disqualified and the award rescinded.

4) A minimum total of four (4) entries must be received in each category. Categories receiving fewer than four (4) total entries will not be judged and related entry fees will be refunded.

5) Programs and/or segments must be submitted in their entirety as they actually appeared over the air, excluding commercials, and NOT otherwise edited; (video and audio clips are limited to 30 minutes). You may NOT enter a highlighted, edited, “best moments” version of any program, whether sports or news or any other category, but you should remove all commercials/promos within the program itself.

6) You may submit entries in as few as one or as many as 12 categories, not to exceed 2 per category.

7) The same entry may not be submitted in more than one category.

8) Only entries that have aired on NBA member broadcast stations/platforms as noted are eligible.

9) Entries are not considered eligible unless uploaded by 5:00 p.m. Central time on 5/27/2020.

10) Please follow the entry instructions you will find on www.rockourawards.com
CATEGORIES:

1. SERVICE TO COMMUNITY (2 entries/station, max.)
   
   • Any public service program or program series developed to benefit the station’s local listening or viewing audience.
   
   • Any public service announcement or series of announcements devoted to serving the station’s community.

2. SERVICE TO CHILDREN (2 entries/station, max.)
   
   • Any program or program series developed to serve the education and informational needs of children ages 16 or under.
   
   • Any public service announcement, series of announcements or short subjects for the benefit of children in the local listening or viewing audience.

3. SERVICE TO BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT OR EDUCATION (2 entries/station, max.)
   
   • Any program, program series, public service announcement or series of public service announcements devoted to advancing the positive interest of any classification above.

4. SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE (2 entries/station, max.)
   
   • Any program, program series, public service announcement or series of public service announcements devoted to advancing the positive interest of agriculture.

5. BEST SPOT NEWS REPORTING (2 entries/station, max.)

6. BEST IN-DEPTH OR INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES (2 entries/station, max.)

7. BEST NEWSCAST
   
   • Newscast may be edited to exclude commercials/promos. Only one newscast that aired between February 20, 2020 and April 30, 2020 can be submitted.

8. BEST SPORTS PLAY-BY-PLAY (RADIO) / ON THE SCENE SPORTS REPORTING (TV) (2 entries/station, max. Limit play by play to one game per entry.) Entries cannot be edited into a series of “best of” moments of a broadcast.

9. BEST IN-DEPTH SPORTS STORY OR SERIES (2 entries/station, max.)

10. BEST SPORTSCAST
• Length of edited sportscast not to exceed 12 minutes. Only one sportscast that aired between February 20, 2020 and April 30, 2020 can be submitted.

11. BEST COMMERCIAL (2 spots/station, max.)
• Best client commercial, any common length up to 60 seconds.

12. BEST PROMOTIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT (2 promos/station, max)
• Best promotional spot announcement to promote person, program or station event; written, produced & edited by station. Any length.

13. BEST CONTINUING COVERAGE OF A NEWS STORY (2 entries/station, max.)
• Best coverage of a continually developing news story.

14. BEST USE OF MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM (2 entries/station, max.)
• Best coverage of a single story using audio, video, online and social media elements.

15. BEST ONLINE-ONLY VIDEO (2 entries/station, max.)
• For the many NBA stations that video content that airs EXCLUSIVELY on the internet. Entries cannot be edited into a series of “best of” moments of a video.

16. BEST COMMERCIAL FOR A NONEXISTENT PRODUCT OR SERVICE (NEW IN 2020!)
• Let your creativity run wild! This “spoof” category is open to commercials in any common length up to 60 seconds. ONE entry per SEU, FREE OF CHARGE.

COLLEGE STUDENT CATEGORIES:
Radio AND Television

Student category entries must have been created by students while enrolled either at a college with a NBA member station or an affiliated college program. Entries must have been broadcast on radio or television, or through a channel offered by a cable TV provider.

1. Public Service Announcement: :60 or less. Single entry.


3. News Story: Up to 3 minutes in length, reported in a regularly scheduled program. Single entry.

4. News Feature: Up to 5 minutes in length, as a portion of a regularly scheduled program or specialty report. Single entry.

5. Sports News Story: Up to 3 minutes in length, reported in sports or a regularly scheduled program. Single entry.
6. **Live Sports Event:** Any length up to 10 minutes of one event. Single entry.

**RockOurAwards.com Entry Instructions**

→Log in or create your RockOurAwards.com account. Create a profile (username and password) by clicking the “Register” button on the top of the RockOurAwards.com homepage. Complete the information, click submit and you’ll be taken to the Nebraska Broadcasters Association homepage. **Forgot your password?** Email info@rockourawards.com

→From the homepage you can review Pinnacle Awards rules, submit an entry, view and edit an entry, or edit your station’s information using the buttons on the right.
To enter a category, click “Submit Entry” and fill in the information. The headline/title should be what you would want shown on a plaque. Please note the “Submit” button is on the bottom left of the entry page.

Acceptable file formats to upload to the site are .mp3, .jpg, .gif, .png, .bmp, .doc, .docx, .wma, .pdf, .mp4, .wmv and .mov files.

IMPORTANT To ensure server space for all states, RockOurAwards.com requires video entries to be linked from YouTube, Vimeo, other video hosting sites, or a station website. Simply copy/paste the videos URL in the “Add Link” section.

Certain special characters MUST be avoided in file names. Stick with letters, numbers, &, dots, dashes and underscores. **NO # or APOSTROPHES, please.**
If you have questions or are running into trouble, email info@rockourawards.com or call 800-471-1875.

Thank you for entering!