

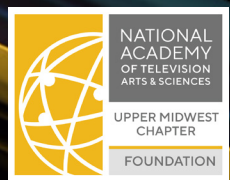
**15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Upper Midwest Foundation**  
**Student Production**  
**Awards**

Iowa  
Minnesota  
North Dakota  
South Dakota  
Western Wisconsin

Sponsored by:

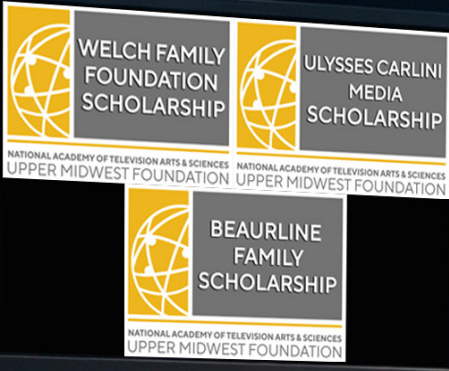
**Blaze**<sup>SM</sup>

**CREDIT UNION**



# UPPER MIDWEST FOUNDATION STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARDS - 15TH ANNUAL

PRESENTED BY BLAZE CREDIT UNION



## STAGE RULES.

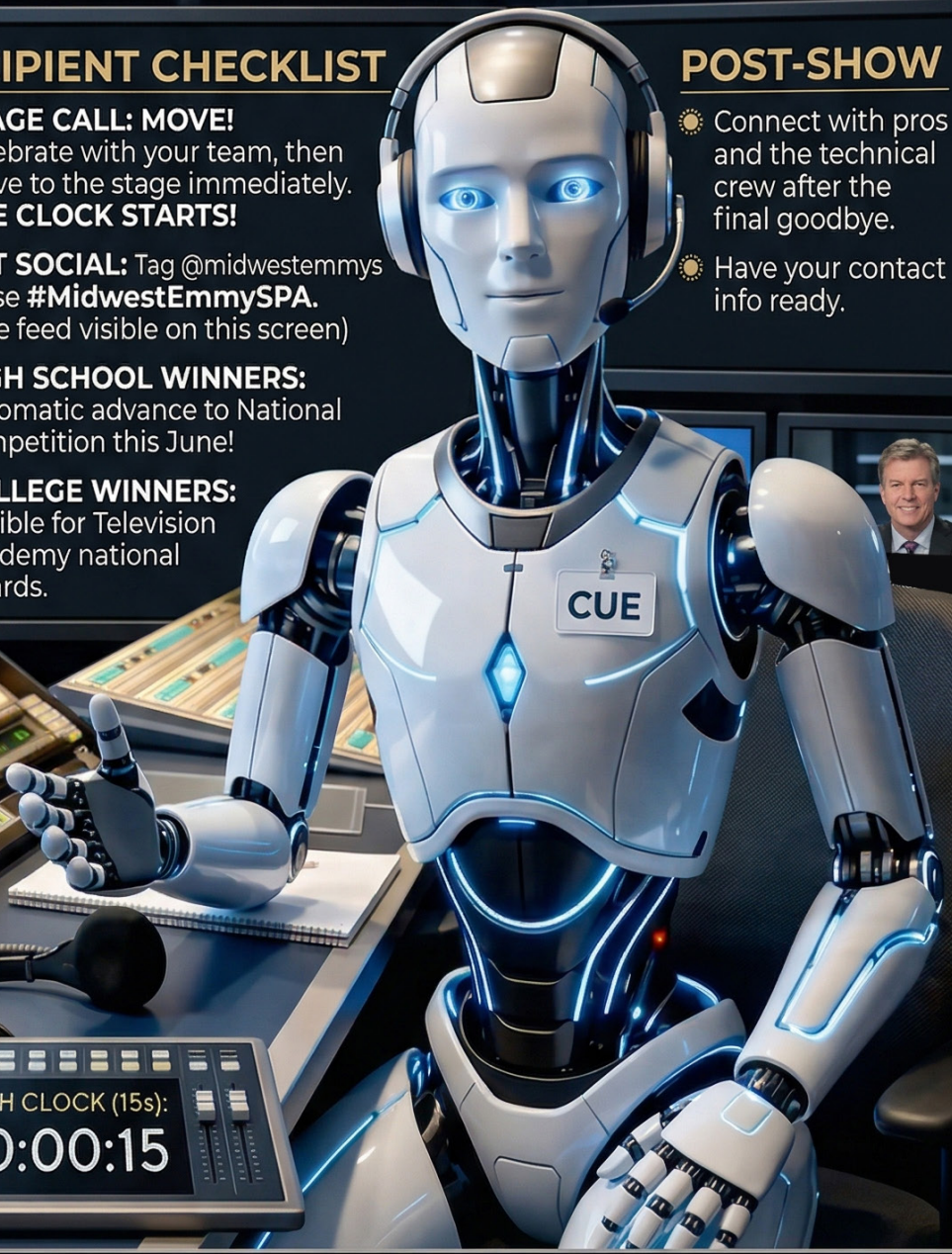
- MOVES FAST!**  
If called, move to the stage IMMEDIATELY.
- 15-SECOND SPEECH:**  
Keep it concise, fun, and memorable! Enjoy your moment quickly!

## RECIPIENT CHECKLIST

- STAGE CALL: MOVE!**  
Celebrate with your team, then move to the stage immediately. **THE CLOCK STARTS!**
- GET SOCIAL:** Tag @midwestemmys & use #MidwestEmmySPA. (Live feed visible on this screen)
- HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS:**  
Automatic advance to National competition this June!
- COLLEGE WINNERS:**  
Eligible for Television Academy national awards.

## POST-SHOW

- Connect with pros and the technical crew after the final goodbye.
- Have your contact info ready.



# UPPER MIDWEST FOUNDATION 15TH ANNUAL STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARDS

PRESENTED BY BLAZE CREDIT UNION

PRINTED GUIDE - NOT FOR BROADCAST. OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION.

# I. The Code of Ethical Conduct

The Code of Ethical Conduct ("Code of Conduct") is a policy outlining the principles and standards that all employees, members, and third parties acting on behalf of NATAS and its chapters must follow to maintain the high standard of professional conduct critical to the continued prestige of the organization (NATAS) and the National and Regional Emmy® Awards. All NATAS national and regional events are to be a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy and celebrate. This Code of Conduct applies to all participants at events, competitions, or on our social media channels; to Chapter members, guests, staff, volunteers, and vendors.

## II. Definition of Ethical Conduct and Practices

NATAS has zero tolerance for discrimination or harassment, illegal, dishonest, or unethical conduct. As such, members are expected to refrain from committing any act that will degrade NATAS in society, or prejudice, damage or harm the standing, reputation, welfare, and/or best interests of NATAS and its Members. NATAS will not tolerate, condone, or ignore unethical conduct and is committed to enforcing these standards at all levels.

## III. Covered Conduct

NATAS and its regional chapters do not tolerate:

- Intimidation or threats
- Inappropriate disruptions
- Unwanted physical contact
- Hurtful language, hate speech, or discriminatory acts
- Physical assault
- Unwanted sexual attention
- Bullying or stalking
- Disorderly behavior as a result of public intoxication or other impairment related to substance abuse
- Any other action or activity which could reasonably be construed as contrary or detrimental to the best interests and reputation of NATAS and its regional chapters.
- A present conviction of a felony or other crime of moral turpitude is also a violation of this code of conduct.

Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests as well.

## IV. Enforcement

NATAS and its regional chapters reserve the right to remove or ban any person who does not adhere to the Code of Conduct:

If you are asked to stop any harassing behavior, you must cease the behavior immediately.

If you experience or witness any form of harassment or violation of this Code of Conduct, contact:

- (i) The nearest NATAS staff member, if a national event
- (ii) The nearest Chapter Governor or regional staff member, if a regional event
- (iii) You may submit an email complaint to [reports@emmyonline.tv](mailto:reports@emmyonline.tv) or to your chapter's Executive Director

Alleged violations of this Code of Conduct shall be reviewed and resolved in accordance with procedures adopted by NATAS Bylaws and/or Chapter Bylaws. Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including but not limited to being refused admission or ejected from an event, being barred from future events, disqualification or suspended from participation in NATAS or Chapter competitions, or the suspension or expulsion of membership.

This Code of Conduct is subject to change and may be amended, supplemented or superseded by one or more separate policies without further notice. All Members are responsible for continuous review of this Code.

# Welcome to the 15th Annual Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Production Awards!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, the Foundation Board, and the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, we are very excited you've joined us.

Tonight, we're honoring excellence and innovation in all platforms of visual media from high school and college media programs across our region of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and western Wisconsin.

We're extremely grateful to Blaze Credit Union for their generous sponsorship and unwavering commitment to making a difference. Through their dedication to contributing to better lives through their work, uplifting and supporting, and continuously giving back, Blaze exemplifies the power of community and generosity. Their support helps us inspire the next generation of storytellers.

## Thank you, Blaze Credit Union!

We kick off our celebration with a career and college fair. We hope you took the opportunity to network with these regional professionals. They showcase the educational and professional opportunities for people like you to take this industry to new and exciting levels!

This ceremony recognizes 190 nominees and announces the 2026 Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Production Award recipients. We received almost 300 entries from 35 high schools and colleges.

Tonight, we're proud to award 5 Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Scholarships. Since 2002, we have awarded 111 scholarships worth \$239,500. These scholarships help pay for tuition and books for regional students studying video media production or digital journalism in college. In addition, we also recognize the next generation of media industry leaders through Classroom Grants and our AV All-Stars awards, which highlight outstanding students for their achievement, leadership, and overall contribution to student media programs.

A special thanks to John "JJ" Murray, our Executive Director, and to our awesome Board of Governors and Foundation Board for all they do to make tonight's Student Production Awards a huge success! We also wish to thank tonight's show Executive Producer John Stealey, Director Addie Chernow, Wireless Camera Operator Tyler Eichorst, Video Editor Dennis Becker, Graphics Editor Shane Craig and the Town Square Television production team led by Joe Conlon, Ashley Bowes & Trevor Blom.

We also want to thank tonight's hosts, Leah Henry/WCCO & Ben Henry/KSTP, and our other special presenters for volunteering their time to celebrate this night with you. Finally, thank you to the InterContinental Hotel in St. Paul, MN.



It's an honor to support students who are the future of this growing and changing industry, Good luck everyone!

## DIANA PIERCE

President, Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation



Congratulations to all the incredible nominees for the Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Production Awards!

First things first — this isn't a race to the highest score. It's all about meeting a Standard of Excellence. Every entry is evaluated independently on three key pillars: **content, creativity, and execution**. Our judges don't compare entries to one another — they review each project on its own merits. That means a category could have one award, several awards... or none at all. Excellence stands on its own.

A huge thank you to our amazing colleagues across the region who volunteered their time and expertise to judge the 2026 entries. More than 30 professionals carefully reviewed nearly 300 submissions from high schools and colleges throughout the Upper Midwest. Many even stepped up to judge multiple panels — talk about dedication!

Their commitment to maintaining the integrity and "Standard of Excellence" is what makes these awards so meaningful.

Educators — we need you! You make outstanding Regional Emmy® judges. It's a fantastic opportunity to view student work from across the country and gain firsthand insight into the judging process. Best of all, it's fully online and completed on your own schedule. Interested? Reach out to [awardschair@midwestemmys.org](mailto:awardschair@midwestemmys.org) to get involved.

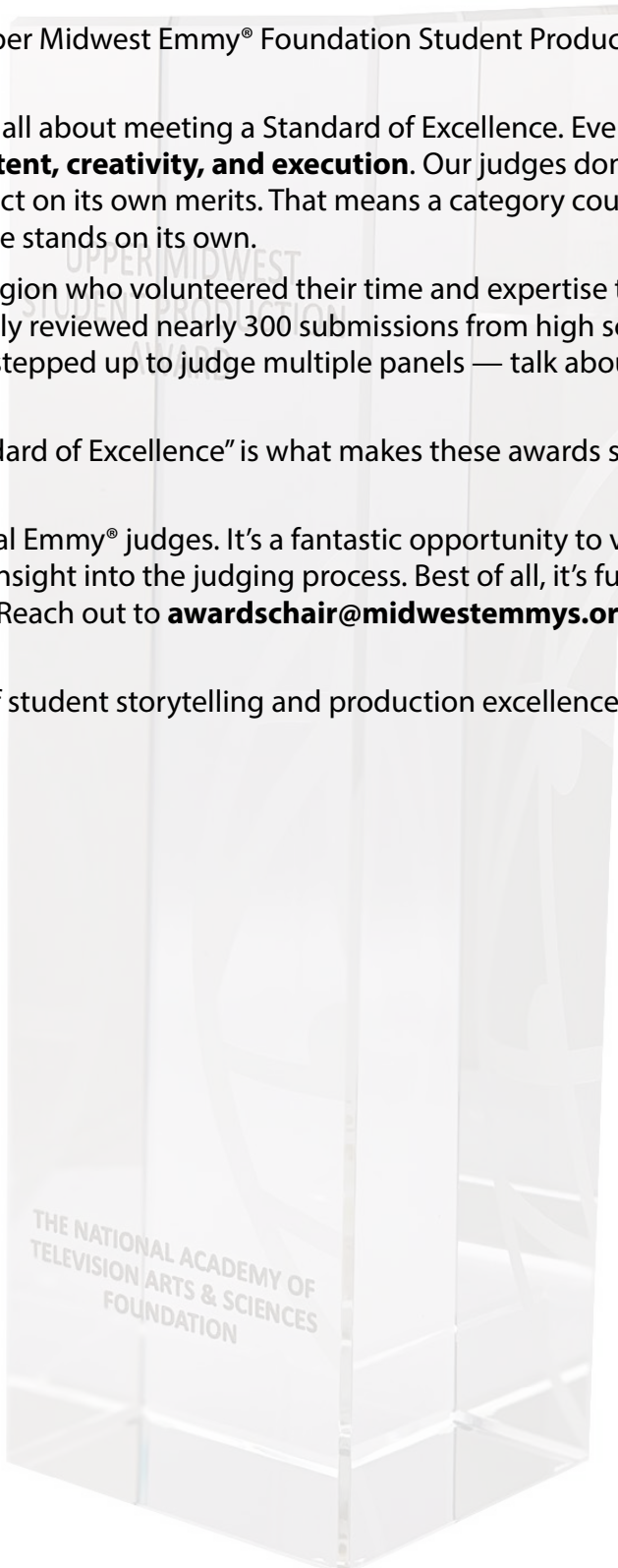
Now, sit back, relax, and enjoy an incredible celebration of student storytelling and production excellence!



**Terrence Thames**

Awards Chair

Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation





## Step into the spotlight — it's the biggest night in student video production!

Tonight, we celebrate the bold ideas, late-night edits, creative risks, and incredible talent of high school and college media students from across our region. Welcome to the 15th Annual Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Production Awards — where excellence takes center stage!

A special shout-out to **John James, C.P.A.**, for his careful ballot tabulation and support in verifying the awards. We're grateful for your precision and dedication! And a huge thank you to the **Board of Governors** and the **Student Awards Planning Committees** - your hard work makes this celebration possible.

On behalf of the Awards Committee and the **Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Board of Governors**, congratulations to every nominee. This is your moment. Soak it in. Celebrate the creativity, collaboration, and passion that brought you here.

Want to mark the occasion? Everyone listed on the official entry form and nominations/recipients page can purchase a personalized **Nomination Certificate and/or Crystal Pillar Award** engraved with your name and role. Visit the Awards Store at [midwestemmys.org](http://midwestemmys.org) to order yours!

And remember — we're more than awards night. **The Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation** is committed to supporting your growth long after the curtain closes. Emmy® on the Road workshops return in 2026, along with **free interactive classroom Zoom sessions** featuring award-winning showcases and hands-on critiques. Ready to bring us to your classroom? **Reach out at [info@midwestemmys.org](mailto:info@midwestemmys.org)**.

To all 2026 nominees and recipients — bravo! Tonight we celebrate your achievements, and tomorrow we can't wait to see the stories you'll tell next.



**John (JJ) Murray**

Executive Director

Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF  
TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES  
FOUNDATION

## 2026 Participating Schools

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) - Upper Midwest Foundation would like to thank the high school and college university educators and students participating in this year's 2026 Upper Midwest regional student production awards.

### HIGH SCHOOLS

Aberdeen Central High School | Apple Valley High School | Bloomington Educational Community Television | Eastview High School | FilmNorth | New Life Academy | Oskaloosa High School | RYSE: SPEAK MPLS | St. Cloud Tech High School | Webster City High School

### COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

Augsburg University | Bethany Lutheran College | Bethel University | Bismark State College | College of St. Benedict and St. John's University | Crown College | Dort University | Hennepin Technical College | Iowa State University | Loras College | Minnesota State University - Moorhead | Minot State | Morningside University | North Dakota State University | St. Cloud State University | University of Minnesota – Hubbard School of Journalism | University of Iowa | University of Northern Iowa | University of South Dakota | University of St. Thomas | Wartburg College | University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire | University of Wisconsin – La Crosse | University of Wisconsin – Superior | Western Iowa Tech

SOME ADD TO THE NOISE  
YOU'LL CUT THROUGH IT.

### OUR MAJORS

- Advertising
- Journalism and Mass Communication
- Public Relations

#WHYGREENLEE



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Greenlee School of Journalism  
and Communication

# 2026 Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Executive Board

Foundation President Diana Pierce | Diana Pierce Productions

Vice President Jodi Ritacca | Carlini Entertainment

Secretary Panhia Yang | KMSP

Treasurer Tyler Eichorst | acowsay film co.

Carla Beaurline | Around Town TV & Around Town Media

Rocky Dailey | South Dakota State University

David Kuznicki | University of North Dakota Aerospace

Brian Gabriel | Professor Emeritus, Concordia University Montreal, Quebec

Awards Chair Terrence Thames | Cocoa Creative

## 2026 Upper Midwest Emmy® Chapter Board Of Governors

### Executive Committee

Upper Midwest Emmy® Chapter President Ben Houtkooper | Minnesota National Guard

Vice President Panhia Yang | KMSP

### Regional Vice-Presidents

Iowa | Katie Copple, KTIV

Minnesota | Michael Baldwin, KBJR

North Dakota | Matt Henson, WDAY

South Dakota | Jim Berman, KSFY

Wisconsin | Kevin Millard, WIZM

### Governors

Mary Lahammer | Twin Cities PBS

Rocky Dailey | South Dakota State University

Mark Vancleave | Associated Press

Tyler Eichorst | Acowsay Films

### Executive Director

John (JJ) Murray

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TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES  
FOUNDATION

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN TELEVISION!**

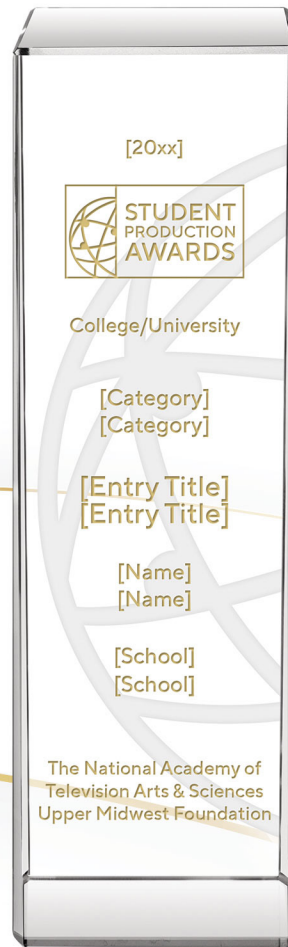
**STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARDS**



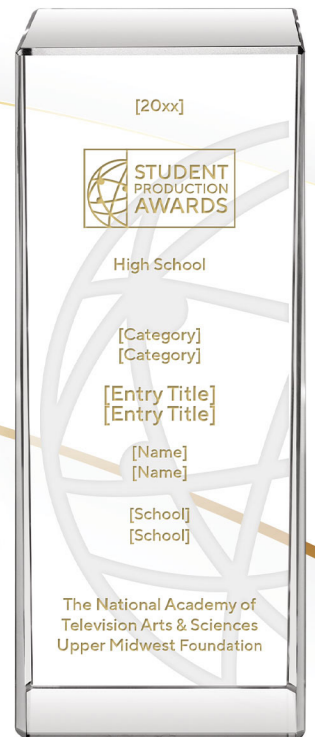
Visit [www.midwestemmys.org/emmy-awards/award-store/](http://www.midwestemmys.org/emmy-awards/award-store/) to place your order.  
For questions or assistance with placing your order, please contact [jj@midwestemmys.org](mailto:jj@midwestemmys.org)



8.5"x11" Student Nomination Certificates  
\$10



8" College Student Crystal Pillar  
\$125



6" High School Student Crystal Pillar  
\$100



**Scan the QR code to  
access the Upper Midwest  
Award Store**

*Prices include taxes and  
shipping fees.*

# STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARDS HOSTS

## Ben Henry



**Ben Henry** is a Regional Emmy® winning reporter with 5 Eyewitness News. For the last six years, his coverage has ranged from multiple events of civil unrest - including after the killing of George Floyd - many city council and school board meetings, to severe weather across the state.

He says some of his most fulfilling work has been covering stories that support veterans and first responders, while also filling in at the anchor desk.

Before working in the Twin Cities to report where he grew up, Ben reported and anchored in Fort Myers, Florida where he was recognized by the Florida Associated Press Broadcasters for his work as an MMJ. Before that, he started his reporting career in Rochester, Minnesota.

Attending St. Cloud State University where he majored in Broadcast Journalism, Ben credits a lot to his success to his time working at the campus television station - UTVS - where working alongside his fellow students created the groundwork and skills he still uses today. That's also where he met his now very talented producer wife, Leah Henry!

## Leah Henry



**Leah Henry** is a Regional Emmy® winning producer at WCCO-TV. For nearly seven years, she's produced one of Minnesota's most-watched newscasts, WCCO News at 10 p.m.

While attending St. Cloud State University (and meeting her reporter husband, Ben), Leah got her start in TV by working as an assignment editor at WCCO. She then became one of WCCO's weekend producers before she and Ben moved to Fort Myers, Florida. There, Leah was recognized by the Florida Associated Press Broadcasters for excellence in producing. Her newscasts also received several regional Edward R. Murrow Awards. In 2019, Leah and Ben jumped at the opportunity to continue their careers back home in Minnesota.

Leah's career has put her in the front row of major moments over the last decade: George Floyd's killing and the unrest that followed, the global COVID-19 pandemic, the confession that led investigators to Jacob Wetterling, the Parkland school shooting, Hurricane Irma, and the death of Prince.

And, most recently, the largest federal immigration enforcement operation in United States history.

# Official National Academy Rules For Student Award Promotion

Crystal Pillar awards presented at this ceremony are not regional Emmy® awards. **Please do not refer to these awards as student Emmys.**

Students are not considered peer professionals and as such, their regional student production award is not eligible to be promoted as a regional Emmy® award. **Students may refer to receiving a Student Production Award Nomination or Award from the Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation.... or being an Upper Midwest Emmy® Student Production Award Nominee or Recipient.**

Students and schools may not use the Emmy® name or replica of the Emmy® figure in any form of school publications, commercial advertising and promotion. Emmy® is in our Foundation name, it is NOT name of the award. The award is a Crystal Pillar.

The presentation of these awards is intended to be an incentive for the continued pursuit of excellence by those studying media and journalism and to focus public attention on outstanding cultural, educational, technological, entertainment, news and informational achievements by undergraduate college and/or high school students.

Crystal Pillar awards are presented to recipient schools for promotional purposes. Students listed on official entry are eligible to purchase awards.

**High school awards note:** regional high school recipients from all participating Regional Emmy® chapters will automatically advance to a national competition. Recipients of the national awards will be announced in the fall of 2025. For more information visit the website: [emmyonline.org/nationalstudent](http://emmyonline.org/nationalstudent)

## Special Thanks To The Judges From The Following Professional Media Organizations

**Diana Pierce Productions | Associated Press | acowsay film co. |  
Around Town TV | Carlini Entertainment | Cocoa Creates | KARE | KCCI  
| KMSP | KTIV | KSFY/KDLT | Mayo Clinic | Minnesota Women in Film &  
TV | Twin Cities PBS | University of North Dakota Aerospace | WDAY |  
WIZM**

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## High School Solo Storyteller

### Eastview Custodians

Eastview High School

Naomi Agboh, Solo Storyteller

## High School Interview/Discussion

### Adapted Sports

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

LiYun Nelson, Producer

Aidan Kiffmeyer, Producer

Matthew Keil, Advisor

## High School Sports Program

### Inside Jefferson Football - Oct. 14, 2025

Bloomington Educational Community Television (BEC-TV)

Andrew Marotz, Producer

Ian Ries, Director

Austin Arnold, Audio

Gabe Duits, Graphic Artist

Nathan Glick, Photographer

Tom Ringdal, Advisor

Alex Redding, Advisor

Paul Fourniea, Advisor

## High School Public Service Announcement

### We Are One

Aberdeen Central High School

Grey Hauge, Producer

Jackson Board, Producer

Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

## High School Talent-Performer

### Rylan Hunt Nevermore Narrator

New Life Academy

## College Animation / Graphics / Special Effects

### 1919 Rootbeer

Bethany Lutheran College

Luke Haines, Graphics Animator

### 3D Design & Animation Reel

Crown College

Noah Larson, Graphics Animator

### Foriel that Fell from the Stars

Bethany Lutheran College

Maleah Pfeifer, Graphics Animator

### In the Mist

Crown College

Andrew Sappia, Graphics Animator

### Light Snack

Hennepin Technical College

Peter Rudolph, Graphics Animator

John McCaffrey, Advisor

### Tub Surfing

Bethany Lutheran College

Alec Lade, Graphics Animator

### Your New Greatest Fear

Bethany Lutheran College

Alec Lade, Graphics Animator

## College Editor

### Hometown Hero of the Hardwood

Iowa State University

Matthew Nielsen, Editor

### Mason Kroll Composite

St. Cloud State University

### Savannah Reinke Composite

St. Cloud State University

### The Student Experience

University of Northern Iowa

Easton Steffen, Editor

## College Public Service Announcement

### Fatherhood

#### Hennepin Technical College

Ezekiel Thurston, Director  
Spencer Jones, Cinematographer  
Thythe Kue, Writer  
Brian Schroeder, Advisor

### Hearing Loss

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Emily Paschke, Graphics Animator

## College Interview / Discussion

### Legacy Red Carpet LIVE

#### Loras College

Anna Tallman, Producer  
Gigi Shallenberger, Director  
Michael White, Host  
Madisyn Heim, Host  
Mason Marrari, Graphics  
Max Clasen, Audio  
Tyler Kirk, Technical Director  
Iva Senio, Crew, Live Stream  
Aidan Joyce, Photographer  
Zac Joerger, Photographer  
Daniel Welter, Photographer

### Media for Change: Interview with Shaffer Ridgeway

#### University of Northern Iowa

Ethan Vogt, Producer  
Cade Williams, Producer  
Francesca Soans, Advisor

### Profile Shots: The Hidden Fortress & Star Wars

#### College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

Landon Muonio, Producer  
Bradyn Petrek, Host  
Josh Akkerman, Advisor  
Ethan Wittrock, Advisor

## Reel 2 Real: How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)

#### Hennepin Technical College

Makizza Rich, Director  
Luna Miller, Writer  
Jack Kleppe, Host  
Ezekiel Thurston, Host  
J Kolden, Technical Director  
Matt Donath, Audio  
Spencer Jones, Video Playback  
Grayson Kohout-Spidahl, Audio  
Ryan Hall, Advisor

## College Solo Storyteller

### Fr. Peter Documentary

#### Crown College

Sam Williams, Solo Storyteller

### Madisyn Heim Storyteller Rooted in Passion Series

#### Loras College

Madisyn Heim, Solo Storyteller

### NDSU Bird Research

#### MSU - Moorhead

Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor  
Chris Hovden, Solo Storyteller

### The Story of Coach Franz

#### Crown College

Noah Larson, Solo Storyteller

### Touchdown in Dublin: Living in a Postcard

#### Iowa State University

Kayde Sheaffer, Solo Storyteller

### UMN Men's Gymnastics Succeeds Despite Setbacks

#### University of Minnesota - Hubbard School of Journalism

Eitan Schoenberg, Solo Storyteller

## College Commercial

### Bunker Hill Golf Course

Loras College

Nora Bruxvoort, Producer

### Camcorder Ad

Bismarck State College

Isaiah Johnson, Producer

### DZOFILM Pictor Zoom Lens Commercial

Crown College

Noah Larson, Cinematographer

Katie Hauschild, Editor

Gavin Leuthold, Producer

### Laundry Max: Clean Money Ad

Loras College

Maxwell Clasen, Director

Brady Oberfoell, Cinematographer

Mason Marrari, Editor

### Therabody Commercial

Bethany Lutheran College

Alex Almeda, Director

## College Sports Program

### Bison Overtime Bracketology Special

North Dakota State University

Jack Higgins, Technical Director

Cash Rohman, Director

Grant Hubbard, Host

Ethan Ibach, Host

### Blunation - 12/5/2025

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

David Abel, Director

Gary Barta, Host

John McLean, Host

Michael Watson, Talent: Sports Analyst

Eli Benes, Talent: Sports Analyst

Maxwell Harding, Advisor

## Husky Mag - December 10th, 2025

St. Cloud State University

Noah Grant, Producer

Thomas Riess, Producer

## Key City Sports

Loras College

Caroline Hutchinson, Producer

David Peteres, Producer

Lucas Schoaf, Director

Duane Vetter, Host

Patrick Louscher, Reporter

Daniel Welter, Cinematographer

Hunter Jones, Reporter

Allen Catour, Cinematographer

## Pregame: Before the Kickoff

University of Iowa

Elise Gan, Director

Collin Carrithers, Director

## Prep Sports Central - November 17th, 2025

Iowa State University

Isaac Christensen, Producer

## Prep Sports Central - November 3rd, 2025

Iowa State University

Taten Eighmy, Producer

Matthew Nielsen, Director

## High School Music Video

### Spirit Week Song

#### New Life Academy

Elizabeth Collins, Producer  
Ellie Fredrickson, Advisor

### Turkey Bingo Open

#### Eastview High School

Lilly Blumb, Director  
Briel Green, Photographer

### We Need You Here

#### Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Addison Wallace-Jones, Producer  
LiYun Nelson, Performer  
Benjamin Keil, Writer  
Salmo Abdi, Photographer  
Vernon Amundson, Writer  
Riley Lundgren, Writer  
Alexis Rieke, Performer  
Andrew Bares, Performer  
Ava Bauck, Performer  
Maren Inkster, Editor  
Matthew Keil, Advisor  
Nasim Ibrahim, Performer  
Salmo Ore, Performer  
Maryama Hassan, Performer  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

## College Music Video

### Beats of Your Heart

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Tyler Pasbrig, Director

### Far From Here

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Reese Moorad, Graphics Animator

### Going to see the MOTHMAN

#### Augsburg University

Travis Alajoki, Director  
Nicholas Sachs, Composer  
Jenny Hanson, Advisor

## Studio Sessions: "Is Your Hope" by The Band

### College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

Gabe Evenocheck, Producer  
Chenxu Yu, Cinematographer  
Chloe Moore, Technical Director  
Bernie Noria-Castillo, Audio  
Samuel Edwards, Audio  
Landon Muonio, Audio  
Olivia Smith, Photographer  
Margaret McConville, Photographer  
Adam Jank, Photographer  
Connor Mahoney, Performer  
Jane McMahon, Performer  
Max Meyer, Performer  
Erin Utke, Advisor  
Ethan Wittrock, Advisor

### The Night (My Love)

#### Bethel University

Esperanza Ortega, Producer  
Kaitlyn Baker, Producer  
Bengt Mulberry, Producer  
Tyler Gustafson, Producer  
Paige Drew, Producer

### Three Fake Girlfriends by LENT

#### Augsburg University

Reese Pesta, Director  
Jenny Hanson, Advisor

## High School Arts/Entertainment/ Cultural Affairs

### Fashion In Depth

#### Apple Valley High School

Coda Nguyen, Reporter  
Angelo Brown, Photographer  
Hamid Hamud-Socoro, Producer  
Jeylani Abdulaziz, Producer  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor  
Tim Sheehan, Advisor  
Ryan Franus, Advisor

## Lakota Flag Song History

Aberdeen Central High School

Logan Glodrey, Producer  
Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

## Math Musician

Eastview High School

Kayla Griglak, Reporter  
Lucas Young, Photographer  
Cadence Gensmer, Editor

## Megan's Art

Eastview High School

Amy Nguyen, Reporter  
Kevin Burch, Photographer  
Sophia Barylo, Photographer

## Somalia to the World

RYSE: SPEAK MPLS

Hamdi Mohamed, Director  
Sundus Osman, Director  
James Harris, Advisor

## College Arts/Entertainment/ Cultural Affairs

### Celebrating 35 Years: The All-America Concert Band

Morningside University

Gabriel Ruiz, Director  
Carter Gill, Videographer  
Leslie Werden, Advisor

### Country Band Thrives Despite Distance

Iowa State University

Abby Altman, Producer  
Carson Duinink, Producer

### D Smoke at MSUM

MSU - Moorhead

Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor  
Selah Jacoway, Reporter

### Nate & Tate in Dublin - Episode 2

Iowa State University

Nathan Porter, Producer  
Taten Eighmy, Producer

### Nate & Tate in Dublin - Episode 3

Iowa State University

Nathan Porter, Producer  
Taten Eighmy, Producer

## High School Fiction - Short or Long Form Content

### Expedition Yeti

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Tucker Collette, Director  
Nikita Brusso, Director  
Theodore Klaverkamp, Editor  
Andrew Bares, Photographer  
Maren Inkster, Performer  
LiYun Nelson, Performer  
Benjamin Keil, Performer  
Aprilia Borchert, Performer  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

### Mirror Image

FilmNorth

Willa Henkemeyer, Producer  
Addison Maki, Editor  
Zero McCoy, Director  
Abby Stewart, Advisor

### Mock Car Crash

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Maren Inkster, Producer  
Aprilia Borchert, Photographer  
Benjamin Keil, Editor  
Jonathan Hegge, Producer  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

### Pitch Perfect Auditions: The Flash Edition

Eastview High School

Amy Nguyen, Director  
Cadence Gensmer, Photographer  
Kayla Griglak, Photographer

UPPER MIDWEST  
STUDENT PRODUCTION  
AWARD

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF  
TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES  
FOUNDATION

## College Fiction Short Form

### BaLove Story

Bethany Lutheran College

Matthew Strom, Director

### Cursed Melodies

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Libby Hummel, Producer

McKenna Bladl, Producer

Analsabel De La Torre, Producer

Amanda Keil, Producer

Matthew Crawford, Producer

Taylor Miller, Advisor

### Light Snack

Hennepin Technical College

Peter Rudolph, Director

Saadman Maheer, Audio

Aidan Lynch, Graphics Animator

Jack Hinze, Graphics Animator

John Genco, Graphics Animator

Eduardo Dominguez Castillo, Graphic Artist

John McCaffrey, Advisor

### The Forest

Hennepin Technical College

Kobe Session, Director

Nathan Petersen, Photographer

John McCaffrey, Advisor

### The Good Stalker

Iowa State University

Bella Brandi, Producer

Nayeli Gonzalez, Producer

Irina Sacuiu, Producer

### The Library Mystery

Iowa State University

Calleigh Klein, Producer

Michael Martinez, Producer

Faith Millsap, Producer

Jenna Whalen, Producer

## The Truth Within

Bethany Lutheran College

Michael Lazzaretti, Director

## Thick Skin

Augsburg University

Danielle Russell, Director

Kelsey Bosch, Advisor

## College Fiction Long Form

### Beside Still Waters

Bethany Lutheran College

Coleton Pringle, Director

### Conspirituality

University of Wisconsin - Superior

Jake Edwards, Director

Brent Notbohm, Advisor

### It's My Turn

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Greg Sokup, Producer

Lilly Schram, Producer

George Subra, Producer

Jackson DeBruin, Producer

Hillary Haarstad, Cinematographer

Taylor Miller, Advisor

### Psyche

Loras College

Than San, Director

## High School Non-Fiction

### European Christmas Market

Eastview High School

Jaiden Tovsen, Editor

Nayla Venter, Photographer

Sophia Barylo, Editor

### Jack O Lantern Spooktacular

Eastview High School

Sophia Barylo, Reporter

Nayla Venter, Photographer

Kirthana Rajulapati, Photographer

## Robotics Mentor Video

### New Life Academy

Ava LaValle, Producer

Ellie Fredrickson, Advisor

## Thread for Thought

### RYSE: SPEAK MPLS

Kamya Bell-Jones, Director

Jaya Tummala, Director

James Harris, Advisor

## College Non-Fiction Short Form

### Beyond the Spotlight

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Silas Schoeneck, Director

### Dementia

#### Hennepin Technical College

Makizza Rich, Director

Brian Schroeder, Advisor

### Faith Rodgers Testimonial

#### Western Iowa Tech

Evan Amundson, Cinematographer

London Russell, Producer

### My People

#### University of Wisconsin - Superior

Patrick Douglas, Director

## College Non-Fiction Long Form

### Behind The Curtain - The Jason Show Story

#### University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Jackson Limberg, Director

Erik Johnson, Advisor

### Built on Hope

#### Bethel University

Kathryn Kovalenko, Director

K Bierma, Editor

Luca Lombardi, Editor

Devanie Andre, Photographer

## Karen Kerner: A Life Sew Perfect

### University of Wisconsin - Superior

Drew Kerner, Director

## Mystery Cave Underground: Mapping for the Future

### University of Northern Iowa

Ryder Bates, Director

Francesca Soans, Advisor

## Ride On: The Story of Gwen Maiers

### Loras College

Ryan Haywood, Editor

Lucas Schoaf, Cinematographer

## High School Director

### Tiger Robotics - Live Competition

#### Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Alex Schaefer, Director

Matthew Keil, Advisor

### We Need You Here - Music Video

#### Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Addison Wallace-Jones, Director

Matthew Keil, Advisor

## College Director

### 9:00

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Noah Lippert, Director

### Hometown Hero of the Hardwood

#### Iowa State University

Benji Genise, Director

Matthew Nielsen, Director

### Mya Fryckman Director Composite

#### St. Cloud State University

### Prep Sports Central - November 17th, 2025

#### Iowa State University

Caleb Sheldon, Director

### Prep Sports Central - October 20th, 2025

#### Iowa State University

Nicholas Harmon, Director

## High School Writer

### Aaron Diaz Mora Composite

Apple Valley High School

### Expedition Yeti

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Tucker Collette, Writer

Nikita Brusso, Writer

## College Writer

### Derrick Pfingsten Composite

MSU - Moorhead

### Nate Coen Composite

MSU - Moorhead

## High School Photographer

### Mock Car Crash

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Maren Inkster, Photographer

Benjamin Keil, Photographer

Jonathan Hegge, Photographer

## We Need You Here-Music Video

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Vernon Amundson, Cinematographer

Riley Lundgren, Cinematographer

Alexis Rieke, Cinematographer

## Winter Adventures at Tech High School

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Alex Schaefer, Photographer

Andrew Bares, Photographer

Jonathan Hegge, Photographer

## College Photographer

### Megan Sirek Composite

MSU - Moorhead

### Nate Coen Composite

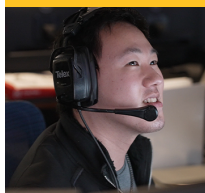
MSU - Moorhead

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## NATIONAL ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES

The Foundation of the Upper Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences – is proud to announce its 2026 Scholarship recipients.

Each year, the Foundation of the UMW Chapter of NATAS awards several scholarships to students within our chapter region (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and western Wisconsin).

This year, thanks to help from generous sponsorship contributions from the the Ulysses Carlini family, The Beurline Family, The Welch Family as well as our chapter members and past Gold & Silver Circle recipients, we are able to award scholarships to area students! This year's scholarship recipients will receive \$1,500 for tuition & books costs for school in the fall of 2026.

Since 2002, the NATAS-UMW Foundation has awarded 111 scholarships worth \$239,500 to regional students who want to study media production or journalism in college.

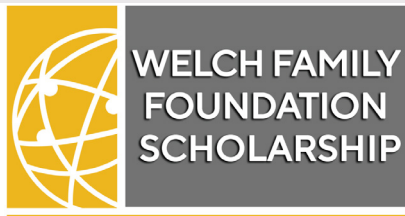
The Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation is a 501(c)(3) and donations to the Scholarship Fund are tax-deductible. You can donate at any time by scanning the QR code below.





# Alex Schaefer

St. Cloud Tech High School



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES  
UPPER MIDWEST FOUNDATION

## Welch Family Foundation Media Scholarship

The Welch Family Foundation Media Scholarship was created to support and inspire high school students across the Upper Midwest who are pursuing education and careers in media, communications, journalism, and storytelling. This scholarship reflects the Welch family’s deep belief in the power of education as a pathway to opportunity, leadership, and lifelong impact.

The scholarship honors the legacy of E. Thomas “Tom” Welch, who passed away in 2024. Tom was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, business leader, and lifelong champion of education. He and his wife, Rita, placed education at the center of their family’s values and worked tirelessly to ensure future generations had access to learning and growth opportunities.

Tom’s own story is one of resilience and determination. He lost his father at the age of 9 and grew up on a ranch in North Dakota, where he worked countless hours alongside hired help to support himself and to contribute to his family. Through grit, discipline, and an unwavering commitment to education, Tom earned enough money to put himself through college and later postgraduate law school. It was during his college years that he met the love of his life, Rita, while working at the student union at the University of North Dakota where they both went to college. They married in 1962 and built a life rooted in hard work, integrity, and service to others.

Over the course of his career, Tom became a highly respected banker and business owner, well known throughout the Twin Cities for his leadership, business acumen, and community involvement. Despite his professional success, Tom never forgot his beginnings or the role education played in shaping his future. He instilled those same values in his three children Colleen, Patrick, and Katie—and his 11 grandchildren.



**Alex Schaefer’s** been living and breathing media both in and out of the classroom.

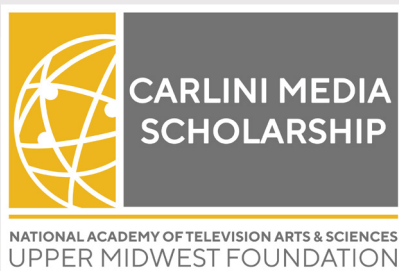
When Alex is not in class at St. Cloud Tech High School, you’ll probably find him at a racetrack capturing high-speed moments with a camera or flying drones for live broadcasts and post-production projects. Working in fast-paced, live event environments has sharpened his ability to think quickly, adapt on the fly, and deliver under pressure.

Alex has spent four years as part of The Tech Morning Show’s media production team, where he’s received four Upper Midwest Emmy® Foundation Student Production Awards and the AV All-Star Award. He’s directed and produced two live streams which gave him hands-on experience in leadership, coordination, and live show execution.

Beyond media, Alex has logged 50+ volunteer hours supporting VEX Robotics events. He’s assisting with setup and technical support. Alex has also served as a mentor during a four-day summer robotics camp for elementary students and helped lead activities at a winter camp for younger kids.



**Lizzy Nyoike**  
University of Minnesota



**Lizzy Nyoike** used her summer break last year from the University of Minnesota for an incredible opportunity to join the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Student Multimedia Projects in Cleveland, Ohio — where she pitched stories, sharpened her interviewing skills, and collaborated with passionate student journalists from across the country. It was fast-paced, inspiring, and solidified her love for storytelling.

These days, you can find Lizzy interning at CCX Media, a hyperlocal cablecast news station covering nine northwest suburban cities in Minnesota. She also hosts Northwest City Politics, where Lizzy sits down with local representatives to break down the issues shaping our communities. Whether she’s behind the camera or behind the mic, Lizzy is all about amplifying local voices and making civic conversations accessible.

Outside of media, Lizzy is a Lifetime Girl Scout and currently serves as a Girl Scouts River Valleys National Delegate. Lizbeth volunteers with a BIPOC girls troop, helping uplift and empower the next generation of leaders. She also served as Vice President of the Rebound Inc. Youth Advisory Board in partnership with Hennepin County, advocating for youth voices and community impact.

Storyteller. Community advocate. Leader. And always ready for the next big opportunity.

**Ulysses A. Carlini** was a pioneer of television, starting one of the first CBS TV stations in the county in 1953, and working in TV for decades in everything from TV program director to announcer, writer, salesman and production to hosting and entertaining kids on “live” TV Saturday Morning Shows as “Peppo the Clown” and “Fire Chief Andy” in the 50s & 60s.

He also managed TV stations in Kentucky, Indiana and Nebraska for more than 60 years including as Vice President/General Manager of KNOP-TV, and created the Greater Nebraska Television, Inc. Network. Ulysses joined other TV legends including Johnny Carson to receive the Nebraska Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame Award, and honored to serve on the National Broadcasting Association as board member in the 1970s.

Ulysses’ media passion was passed down to his family. His daughter-in-law Jodi Ritacca Carlini is an Emmy® Award-winning storyteller, the former President of the Upper Midwest Emmy® Chapter, former NATAS Trustee Alternate, and a 2019 inductee into the Silver Circle Honor Society.

Ulysses’ grandson Joe Carlini received Upper Midwest Emmy® Student Production Awards and Regional Emmy® Awards. Joe is an independent video producer and screenwriter living in Los Angeles.

Besides being a distinguished broadcaster, Ulysses was a WWII veteran who received a Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart for his heroic combat service. Thanks to the educational assistance of the Veterans GI Bill, he was grateful to be the first in his family to go to college, and graduate from DePaul University and receive his master’s degree at Northwestern University.

Thanks to donations from Ulysses’ family, we are proud to honor his legacy with the Carlini Media Scholarship.

Applications are open to all college students seeking leadership roles in media. The Carlini family will give special consideration to a student who is a Gold or Blue Star family member, U.S. veteran or currently serving in the military. We’d like to thank the Carlini family for its generous donations to provide this scholarship



**Gretchen Fuller** is a Twin Cities native storyteller who feels just as at home behind a camera as she does in a control room.

In Fall 2024, Gretchen served as the Video and Multimedia Intern at The Public Interest Network, where she blended visual storytelling with environmental advocacy. From mission-driven media to game-day excitement, Gretchen has built a dynamic production background — working as a camera operator for NSPN.TV, capturing high school sports across Minnesota, and operating camera for Harvard University Athletics.

Gretchen grew up in Maple Grove and now attends Boston University, where she is completing her undergraduate degree. Gretchen has immersed herself in every corner of production. She's a former member of the Athletics Video Production Crew, operating camera and stepping into technical directing roles. She's worked on a live weekly news broadcast, Good Morning BU, contributed to over 30 class and extracurricular film projects, and serves as a photographer for the university newspaper, The Daily Free Press.

Looking ahead, Gretchen has accepted a place in the Broadcast Journalism MA program at City St George's, University of London for the 2026–27 academic year — an exciting next chapter as she continues sharpening her skills in global media and journalism.

Driven, versatile, and always ready to hit “record,” Gretchen brings passion, precision, and creativity to every production she joins.



**Gretchen Fuller**

St. George's University  
of London



**The Beaurline Family Foundation** honors the legacy of the late Carl M. and Sandra Jean Beaurline. Post-secondary education for their two children (Carla Jean and Carl John) was extremely important to Carl and Sandy Beaurline. Carl is considered a 1995 Augsburg Alumni and was made “One of Augsburg University’s Own” on October 23, 2018, at age 75. He passed away June 12, 2020, at age 76.

Carl enrolled at Macalester College when he graduated from Humboldt High School in 1961. Unfortunately, he was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War, but instead chose to enlist in the Navy.

He was a pioneer in the medical device industry (primarily cardiovascular products). Carl was the 113th employee at Medtronic and has over 25 FDA Clearances and 2 Patents. Carl had 6 pages of college classes, certifications, patents, and 22 products by the FDA. Yet, he still had no official college degree.

Carl and his wife Sandy’s Daughter, Carla Beaurline, was inducted into the Silver Circle Honor Society for the Upper Midwest Emmy’s on October 15, 2022.

A lifelong Minnesota native, Carla is the current Founder and Owner of Around Town TV & Around Town Media. Around Town TV started its 20th year on air January 2022 and is Minneapolis/St. Paul’s longest airing TV community showcase.

Carla’s on-air resume includes a 13-year stint with Shop NBC, guest host for QVC, a host for Talk of the Twin Cities, and providing her talents as an on-air spokesperson for many Twin Cities-based businesses. Carla graduated from Augsburg College in 1991 with a double major in Communications and Sociology.

The Beaurline Family Foundation supports higher education and create opportunities for youth. “Your best investment is your education.” Carl Beaurline



## High School Talent - News or Sports

### Carleigh Bogue Composite

New Life Academy

### Kate Soledad Sanchez Composite

Apple Valley High School

## College Talent - News or Sports

### Abby Altman Composite

Iowa State University

### Annie Witt

South Dakota State University

### John McLean Composite

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

### Nathan Porter Composite

Iowa State University

### Noah Grant Composite

St. Cloud State University

### Olivia Stepes Composite

St. Cloud State University

### Selah Jacoway Composite

MSU - Moorhead

## High School Sports Story

### Changes Create Championship Caliber Team

Eastview High School

Avery Nielson, Editor

Hannah Sinkinson, Photographer

Nayla Venter, Photographer

### March or Tackle

Aberdeen Central High School

Mason Muilenburg, Producer

Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### One of Ours: Greta Marcott

Apple Valley High School

Lyric Schowalter, Editor

Mia Holmstrom, Reporter

Ikram Madar, Editor

Ryan Franus, Advisor

Andrew McCluskey, Advisor

### One of Ours: Kamran Wimberly

Apple Valley High School

Abby Garner, Writer

Kalaysia Poindexter, Photographer

Angela Busia, Editor

Amina Mussa, Producer

Ryan Franus, Advisor

## College Sports Story

### A Partnership of Progress

Bethany Lutheran College

Emily Doyle, Editor

### Caitlin Clark's return

University of Iowa

Elise Gan, Reporter

Collin Carrithers, Reporter

Cole Krueger, Reporter

Ryan Paris, Reporter

### Golden Touch: Back-to-Back

St. Cloud State University

Savannah Reinke, Producer

### Iowa-Nebraska Football

University of Iowa

Elise Gan, Reporter

### On the Pitch: Gretta Macdonald

St. Cloud State University

Savannah Reinke, Producer

### St. Thomas employee set for second Paralympics

University of St. Thomas

Adam Mueller, Reporter

## High School Public Affairs / Community Service

### Black Business Week

RYSE: SPEAK MPLS

Saty Jaimes-Botello, Director

Aminah Turner, Director

James Harris, Advisor

### Cooks for Kids

Eastview High School

Hannah Sinkinson, Reporter

Nayla Venter, Photographer

### Give Today Receive Tomorrow

Aberdeen Central High School

Mason Muilenburg, Producer

Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### Mental Health

Eastview High School

Mia Noonan, Solo Storyteller

### OHS Food Cupboard Helps Combat Food Insecurity

Oskaloosa High School

Logan Lint, Editor

Kylie Owens, Reporter

Kim Gile, Advisor

## College Public Affairs/Community Service

### Du-Valor

Loras College

Mason Marrari, Producer

### Scooters Push Safety Guidelines

University of Iowa

Liz Schultz, Reporter

### Student's Free Speech on Campus

University of Iowa

Morgan Burhans, Reporter

## TEDx St. Cloud - Stephen Rider

St. Cloud State University

Mya Fryckman, Director

Savannah Reinke, Producer

## The Reality of Underage Drinking Culture

University of Iowa

Hannah Lipski, Reporter

## High School Magazine Program

### A Very Special EagleEye - Episode 250

Apple Valley High School

Carter Hanson, Reporter

Frankie Warumzer, Reporter

Coda Nguyen, Reporter

Ash Pazdernik, Writer

Max Uchenik, Editor

Mohamed Mohamed, Producer

Angelo Brown, Photographer

Jacob Hanson, Producer

Alvin Souriyong, Photographer

Andrew McCluskey, Advisor

### Eagle Zone 9.24.25

Aberdeen Central High School

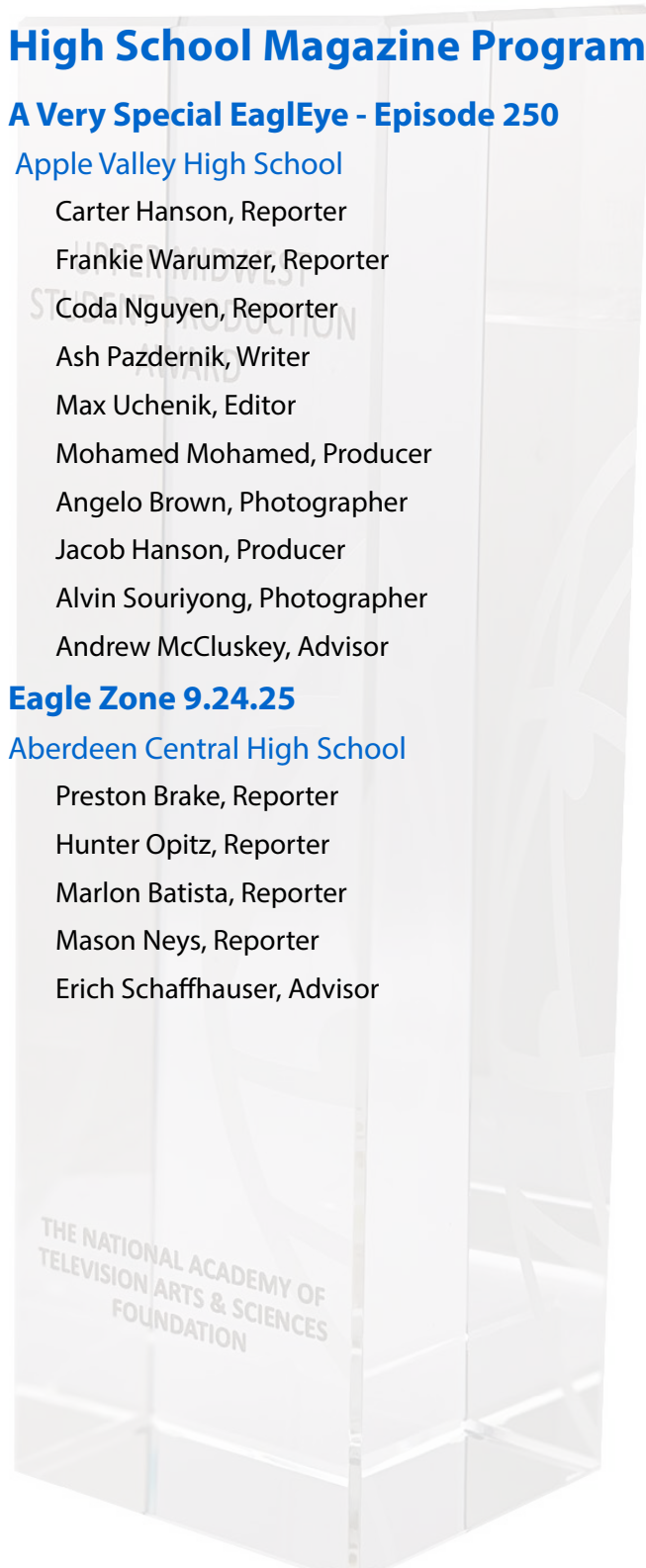
Preston Brake, Reporter

Hunter Opitz, Reporter

Marlon Batista, Reporter

Mason Neys, Reporter

Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor



## Tech Morning Show S7/E9

### Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Riley Lundgren, Host  
Addison Wallace-Jones, Host  
Benjamin Keil, Writer  
Ava Bauck, Writer  
Abrielle Bushman, Writer  
Alex Schaefer, Technical Director  
Theodore Klaverkamp, Director  
LiYun Nelson, Editor  
Salmo Abdi, Reporter  
Kacilynn Dobbs, Solo Storyteller  
Andrew Bares, Photographer  
Vernon Amundson, Photographer  
Aidan Kiffmeyer, Photographer  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

## The Flash 10.8.25

### Eastview High School

Kirthana Rajulapati, Reporter  
Mia Noonan, Reporter

## College Magazine Program

### Campus News 4-26-25

#### MSU - Moorhead

Chris Hovden, Producer  
Nate Coen, Producer  
Drew Berg, Producer  
Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor

### Huskies On The Road - Season 1, Episode 1

#### St. Cloud State University

Mason Kroll, Producer  
Joey Guzek, Producer  
Benjamin Koshiol, Producer  
Calvin Amundson-Geisel, Producer  
Mackenzie Hareland, Producer

## Media for Change: The Pursuit of Happiness

### University of Northern Iowa

Cade Williams, Photographer  
Luis Alvarez, Producer  
Kyle Williams, Producer  
Daniel X. Mitchell, Producer  
Cameron Rausch, Director  
Ethan Vogt, Director  
Karson Kleve, Audio  
Francesca Soans, Advisor

## The Collegian Report Magazine Show

### South Dakota State University

Emily Attrill, Director  
Emily DeCock, Producer  
Brayden Byers, Producer

## High School Live Sporting Event / Game

### Boys' Hockey: The Final Battle of Bloomington

#### Bloomington Educational Community Television (BEC-TV)

Thomas Fyler, Producer  
Ian Ries, Audio  
Brayden Kinney, Photographer  
Andrew Marotz, Photographer  
Hailey Schwain, Video Replay  
Connell Krouth-Chelmo, Photographer  
Paul Fourniea, Advisor

### Football: Kennedy at Jefferson

#### Bloomington Educational Community Television (BEC-TV)

Thomas Fyler, Producer  
Ian Ries, Director  
Gabe Duits, Audio  
Andrew Ingebritsen, Graphic Artist  
Brayden Kinney, Photographer  
Aiden Akif, Photographer  
Shania Batchelder, Photographer  
Colton Grimme, Video Replay  
Paul Fourniea, Advisor

UPPER MIDWEST  
STUDENT PRODUCTION  
AWARD

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FOUNDATION

## Lynx vs Bulldogs Boys Wrestling

### Webster City High School

Evangeline Streigle, Technical Director  
Tony Williams, Photographer  
Kendra Schultz, Photographer  
John Wilwerding, Sports Anchor  
Braxton Flattery, Sports Anchor  
Austin Priborsky, Advisor  
Mark Murphy, Advisor

## Tiger Robotics Competition

### Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Alex Schaefer, Producer  
Benjamin Keil, Photographer  
Andrew Bares, Audio  
Aidan Kiffmeyer, Audio  
Jonathan Hegge, Photographer  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

## College Live Sporting Event / Game

### 2025 CCHA Mason Cup Championship Game

#### Bethany Lutheran College

Skylar Fisher, Producer  
Jaksyn Graham, Director

### Football: Loras vs Simpson

#### Loras College

Brock Booth, Play-by-Play  
David Peters, Analyst  
Nora Bruxvoort, Director

## Men's Basketball: Bethel vs. Augustana

### Bethel University

Paige Drew, Director  
Tyler Gustafson, Talent: Play-by-Play  
Weston Catton, Video Replay  
Calvin Bloomquist, Talent: Sports Analyst  
Symone Harms, Reporter  
Aiden Penner, Reporter  
Bengt Mulberry, Photographer  
Jesus Arriaza-Lopez, Photographer  
Elliot Dickson, Photographer  
Jacob Marziano, Photographer  
Ryken Kulenkamp, Photographer

## Men's Hockey - St. Cloud State vs Denver

### St. Cloud State University

Mya Fryckman, Director

## High School Promotional Video

### ATEC

#### Aberdeen Central High School

Jackson Board, Producer  
Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### Business Electives

#### Eastview High School

Amy Nguyen, Producer  
Sophia Barylo, Editor  
Kevin Burch, Cinematographer

## Nevermore Sock Puppet Promotion

### New Life Academy

Elizabeth Collins, Producer  
Rylan Hunt, Writer  
Ellie Fredrickson, Advisor

## Zach in the Box Choir Promo

### New Life Academy

Zachary Dzioba, Producer  
Ellie Fredrickson, Advisor

## College Promotional Video

### 2025 Minnesota State Men's Hockey Hype Video

Bethany Lutheran College

Luke Haines, Producer

### Bethel Men's Basketball Intro 2025-26

Bethel University

Ryken Kulenkamp, Producer

Weston Catton, Producer

Bengt Mulberry, Photographer

Jacob Marziano, Photographer

Sam Sheedlo, Editor

Tyler Gustafson, Audio

### Bethel Track and Field Intro 2025-26

Bethel University

Symone Harms, Producer

Aiden Penner, Producer

Jesus Arriaza-Lopez, Producer

Paige Drew, Producer

## Bethel Volleyball Intro 2025

Bethel University

Elliot Dickson, Producer

Kaitlyn Baker, Producer

Esperanza Ortega, Producer

Bryna Eigenfeld, Producer

## Huskies On The Road Trailer

St. Cloud State University

Mason Kroll, Producer

Benjamin Koshiol, Producer

Joey Guzek, Producer

Calvin Amundsen-Geisel, Producer

MacKenzie Hareland, Producer

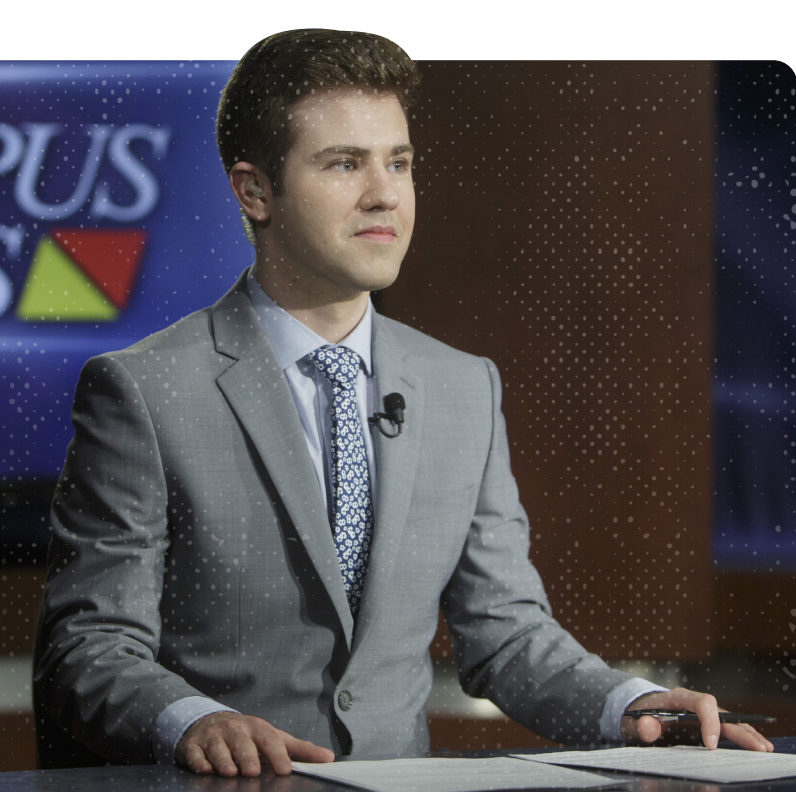
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- **Photojournalism**



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☎ 218.477.2983 ✉ [gorsline@mnstate.edu](mailto:gorsline@mnstate.edu)

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## 2026 Student AV All Star Honorees

**THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES – UPPER MIDWEST FOUNDATION** recognizes students who are an incredible technical asset to the overall success of a school or non-profit educational student video media program.

Educators could nominate a junior or senior from their school or organization's media program. These are the behind-the-scenes, technical, dependable and engaged students in the video program or club. The go-to students who help keep the school's content on the air.



**Ava LaValle**  
New Life Academy

**Ava LaValle** is the creative force behind New Life Academy's weekly news show introductions.

Ava brings fresh ideas and bold energy to every episode. Whether it's an animated sequence, a themed intro for Homecoming or Theater Week, or a clever twist on a classic TV show opening, she writes, directs, edits, and often animates it all — sometimes on very short notice.

Ava is skilled in scriptwriting and knowledgeable in Adobe Premiere, Adobe Fresco, directing, and sound mixing. She is a reliable leader who can take a project from concept to completion. She also produces videos for the robotics team, showcasing her versatility as a storyteller.

Beyond her technical talent, Ava excels at collaboration — creating space for others' ideas while confidently guiding the overall vision. Her creativity, willingness to try new techniques, and constant innovation have elevated the school's entire news program.

## High School Hard News Report

### Bats

#### Aberdeen Central High School

Hunter Opitz, Multimedia Journalist (MMJ)  
Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### Bus Shortages

#### Eastview High School

Anais Moti, Reporter  
Kami Obeng, Photographer

### Homecoming Traditions Then & Now

#### Apple Valley High School

Mariana Abaunza Hernandez, Reporter  
Emma Michel, Photographer  
Eileen Moreno Torres, Editor  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor  
Ryan Franus, Advisor

### Lunch Rush

#### Eastview High School

Amy Nguyen, Reporter  
Cadence Gensmer, Photographer  
Kevin Burch, Photographer  
Sophia Barylo, Photographer

### Osprey in Eagle Territory

#### Apple Valley High School

Ashton Drahos, Editor  
Sarah Taleb, Photographer  
Dayana Fuentes Castanon, Photojournalist  
Ashley Ortiz Sion, Reporter  
Ryan Franus, Advisor

## College Hard News Report

### From Washington D.C. to Iowa City: No Kings

#### University of Iowa

Kayla Smith, Reporter  
Kabedi Mutamba, Reporter

### ICE Detainment

#### University of Iowa

Collin Carrithers, Reporter

## Student Narcan Bill

### MSU - Moorhead

Drew Berg, Reporter  
Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor

## UMN Workers Rally for Academic Freedom

### University of Minnesota - Hubbard School of Journalism

Eitan Schoenberg, Multimedia Journalist (MMJ)

## High School Feature News Report

### Break Dancing

#### Eastview High School

Sophia Barylo, Reporter  
Kevin Burch, Photographer

### Cafeteria Staff Appreciation

#### Apple Valley High School

Aaron Diaz Mora, Writer  
Kate Soledad Sanchez, Reporter  
Estrella Dominguez Diaz, Editor  
LaJoia Shepherd, Photographer  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor

### Local Eats: Ajeen Bakery

#### Apple Valley High School

Kareena Amnay, Reporter  
Aishah Ahmed, Editor  
Rayan Khalif, Photographer  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor  
Tim Sheehan, Advisor

### Teen Sleep Habits

#### Apple Valley High School

Kate Soledad Sanchez, Reporter  
Estrella Dominguez Diaz, Photographer  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor  
Ryan Franus, Advisor  
Tim Sheehan, Advisor

# College Feature News Report

## Iowa City Middle Schooler Cooks Up a Storm

University of Iowa

Kabedi Mutamba, Reporter

## Lift Heavy, Live Strong - Joshua Neumann's Story

St. Cloud State University

Savannah Reinke, Producer

## Mime Workshop

MSU - Moorhead

Dallas Korelc, Reporter

Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor

## NDSU Kiddie Days

MSU - Moorhead

Selah Jacoway, Reporter

Aaron Quanbeck, Advisor

## Two Bands, Part 1

Iowa State University

Abby Altman, Reporter

Matthew Nielsen, Photographer

## Two Bands, Part 2

Iowa State University

Abby Altman, Reporter

Matthew Nielsen, Photographer



**Mya Fryckman**

St. Cloud State University

UPPER MIDWEST  
STUDENT PRODUCTION  
AWARD

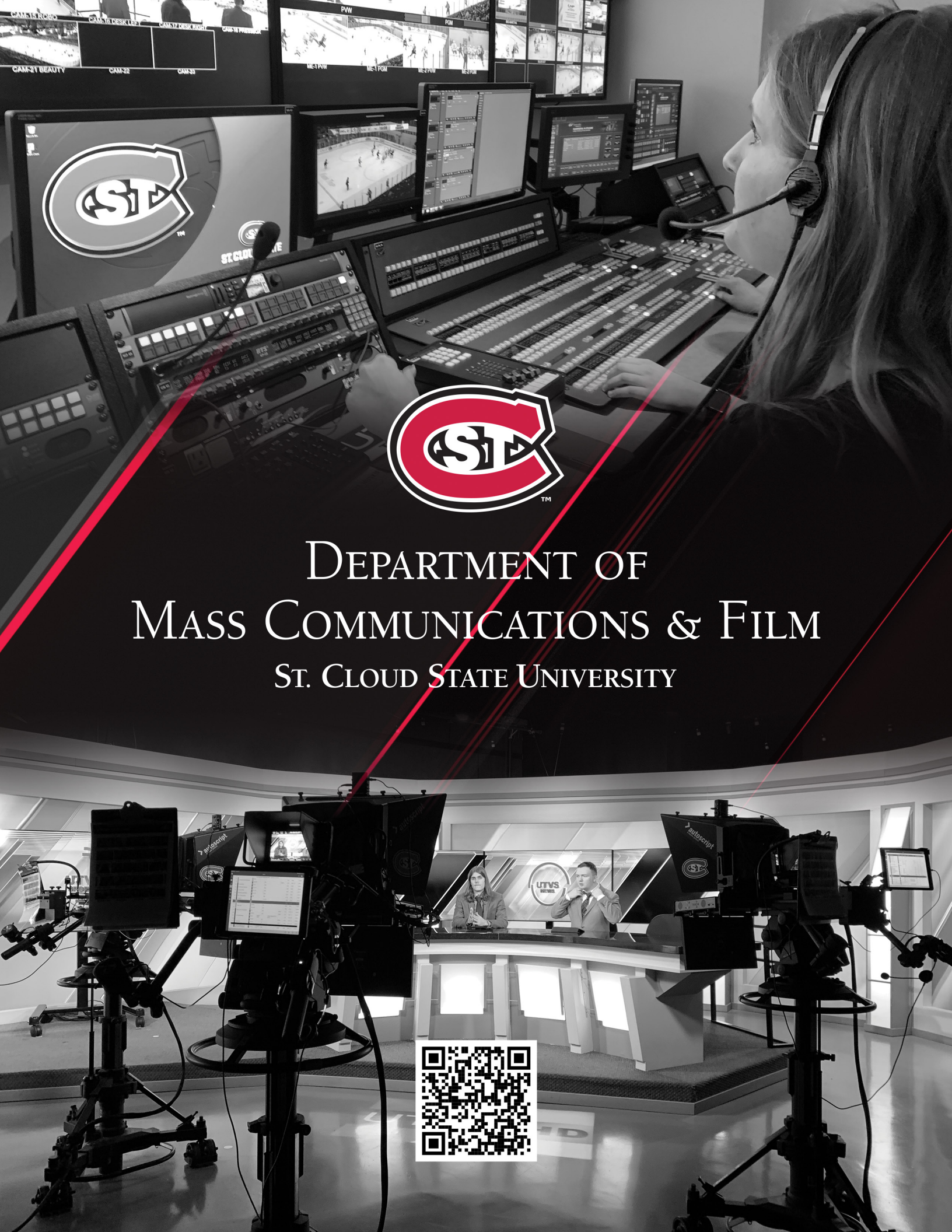
**Mya Fryckman** is a powerhouse in live production and broadcast leadership. Mya is currently Station Manager of UTVS Television at St. Cloud State University. She guides the daily operations and long-term vision of the campus station, balancing creativity with technical precision and strong team leadership.

From directing live DI hockey broadcasts on Fox9 and CW Twin Cities to producing large-scale events like KVSC Trivia Weekend and TEDx St. Cloud, Mya thrives under pressure. She's led everything from live studio shows to multi-day coverage, calling shots, managing crews, coordinating talent, and ensuring every broadcast meets professional standards.

A four-year broadcast student engineer, Mya brings exceptional technical expertise in signal flow, routing, live switching, encoding, and troubleshooting — often solving problems before others even see them.

She understands production from every angle, from big-picture strategy to perfectly wrapped over-under cables.

Confident, collaborative, and highly skilled, Mya doesn't just run productions — she elevates them.



DEPARTMENT OF  
MASS COMMUNICATIONS & FILM  
ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY



## High School Headline News

### Eagle Zone Mobile 10.1.25

Aberdeen Central High School

Delainey Falken, Producer  
Ellie Isaak, Producer  
Daviour Williams, Producer  
Brady Heilman, Editor  
Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### Tech Morning Show S6/E11

Saint Cloud - Tech High School

Tucker Collette, News Anchor  
Nikita Brusso, News Anchor  
Andrew Bares, Sports Anchor  
Alex Schaefer, Technical Director  
Benjamin Keil, News Anchor  
Maren Inkster, News Anchor  
Aprilia Borchert, Weather Anchor  
Jonathan Hegge, Photographer  
LiYun Nelson, Editor  
Matthew Keil, Advisor

## College Headline News

### Husky Headlines - November 5th, 2025

St. Cloud State University

Mya Fryckman, Producer  
Thomas Riess, Producer

### Johnnie Bennie Campus News - 2/7/2025

College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

Olivia Smith, Producer  
Chloe Moore, Producer  
Gabe Evenocheck, Technical Director  
Landon Muonio, Audio  
Ben Bugbee, News Anchor  
Dasha Gray, News Anchor  
Pola Milosz, Weather Anchor  
Ethan Wittrock, Advisor

## High School Newscast

### Eagle Zone Live 11.20.25

Aberdeen Central High School

Mason Muilenburg, News Anchor  
Logan Glodrey, Reporter  
Abdallah Osman, Reporter  
Yandel Martinez, Reporter  
Erich Schaffhauser, Advisor

### EagleEye Episode 251

Apple Valley High School

Mariana Abaunza Hernandez, News Anchor  
Emma Michel, News Anchor  
Eileen Moreno Torres, Director  
Ashton Drahos, Producer  
Ava Lopez, Producer  
Najma Mohamed, Photographer  
Andrew McCluskey, Advisor  
Ryan Franus, Advisor  
Tim Sheehan, Advisor

### New Life News Episode 813

New Life Academy

Camden Fischer, News Anchor  
Carleigh Bogue, News Anchor  
Nolan Bayer, Producer  
Ava LaValle, Graphics Animator  
Ellie Fredrickson, Advisor

### The Flash 12.10.25

Eastview High School

Kierra Sherard, News Anchor  
Lilly Blumb, News Anchor

## College Newscast

### Coyote News: September 17 Newscast

University of South Dakota

Nathan DeGreef, Producer

Jacob Peirce, Producer

### DITV Newscast - 05.09.2025

University of Iowa

Johnny Valtman, Director

Kayla Smith, Director

Brady Behrend, Director

Collin Carrithers, Director

Madison Johnson, Director

### The Deep Dive: Fall 2025 Top Stories

University of St. Thomas

Eli Bieker, Producer

Grace Woelfel, News Anchor

Lucy Troester, News Anchor

## This Week on Campus - December 5th, 2025

Western Iowa Tech

Asha Loutsch, Host

Luke Larson, Host

Ike Scott, Sports Anchor

Evn Amundson, Director

Jonathan Denne, Director

Jack Stahle, Technical Director

Tighe Graves, Audio

Savannah Jones, Reporter

Chris Mansfield, Advisor

### UTVS News - December 2nd 2025

St. Cloud State University

Thomas Riess, Producer



*Congratulations*  
to all of the nominees!



**Blaze**<sup>SM</sup>  
CREDIT UNION

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