Since 1965, SPD’s competition has yielded hundreds of thousands of entries from around the world. SPD recognizes and promotes the best in editorial design, photography and illustration in print and digital mediums. We welcome entries from a diverse range of consumer print publications, newspapers, independent magazines, custom-published publications, trade and educational magazines; as well as their mobile and web platforms. If you are a digital-only magazine or newspaper, you will find a variety of categories to show off your innovative design as well.

All entries selected by the jury during the second round of judging are either Merits, Medal Finalists or Medal Award winners and will be included in an online gallery. During the second round, judges vote on the Gold Awards for Excellence, the Silver Awards for Distinctive Achievement, and the finalists for Magazine of the Year and Brand of the Year.

The list of finalists for print and digital categories will be announced in March 2022.

The Chairs

Joseph Hutchinson
Creative Director, Rolling Stone

Nick Mrozowski
Creative Director, Hello Alice

Digital Chair

Amy Feitelberg
Art Direction Lead-Photo, Square

Magazine of the Year Chair

Robert Newman
Creative Director, This Old House

Brand of the Year Chair

J Armus
Consulting Creative Director, Jarmus Design

A full list of judges will be announced in early January.
WHO CAN ENTER?

PRINT

Editorial publications of any genre, including all newspaper publications, newspapers, newspaper magazines, trade, custom publishing, educational/institutional, special interest publications, and Independent/Self-Published Magazines (with a circulation under 20,000 are eligible). All entries submitted in the competition must be published and dated 2021; this includes magazines with a split date 2021/2022. (Please note: 2020/2021 issues are not eligible.)

Attention: Please submit the digital equivalent of the print publications exactly as published.

➡️ Seriously, we will disqualify any entry that is not consistent with the published print issue/edition.

DIGITAL/VIDEO

Websites, apps and other digital publications containing dynamic or regularly updated editorial content including text, pictures, video, audio, animation or a combination. Entries may be affiliated with a print magazine, but are not required to be. Websites and apps must be live to the public, and not demos or private betas.

FAQ’S

WHAT IS AN “INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE”?

A publication for which the person or people responsible for the magazine’s content and/or design are also responsible for financial decisions; or magazines that are not owned by a major media company. Circulation that is under 20,000.

WHAT IS A “BRAND MAGAZINE”? A magazine published to promote a brand, business or organization. Catalogs are not eligible.

DEADLINES & PRICES

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE
Thursday, December 23, 2021
$40 members, $80 for non-members.

STANDARD DEADLINE
Friday, January 14, 2022
$50 members, $100 for non-members.

LATE DEADLINE
Friday, January 28, 2022
$60 members, $120 for non-members.

MEMBERS

With 10 or more entries, you can submit an additional three entries FREE. (But only three. Not three for every 10.)

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY AND SAVE ON YOUR SPD 57 ENTRIES!

Becoming a member of the Society of Publication Designers allows you to join a community of your peers, obtain crucial information on the inner workings of your profession and meet other talented and influential visual professionals. Your membership also makes it possible for us to continue our educational programs, speaker series, social events and other initiatives that celebrate and support our industry.

AS A MEMBER, YOU WILL RECEIVE 50% OFF COMPETITION ENTRIES, PLUS THREE FREE WHEN YOU ENTER 10 ENTRIES OR MORE. For the full list of member benefits, visit spd.org/membership.

HOW TO ENTER

STEP 1
Go to SPD.org and click the SPD 57 “ENTER HERE” button. Then log-in or set up a profile if you don’t have an account.

STEP 2
Submit Entry Information. Choose what categories you’re entering, submit issue dates and credits for all entries. Only submit credit information that is specific to the entry. We will use this information later if you win! It’s the same for both print and digital categories.

STEP 3
Upload PDFs or digital images/files as required by the category.

STEP 4
Submit Payment. You’re done!
If you win, you’ll be notified by email in mid-March 2022.

Winning entries will be presented in the SPD 57 Awards in May or June 2022. To be included in the awards presentation, you will be required to send digital files, credits, and gallery fee payment to SPD by the end of March 2022. The notification email will include instructions for the SPD 57 Awards and winners’ gallery. If you don’t win, you won’t receive the email. All winning publications will be listed on SPD’s website, www.spd.org, mid-March 2022. Note: Not all categories result in medal winners due to low jury scores or significantly low entry volume.
THE CATEGORIES

HIGHLIGHTS

1. BRAND OF THE YEAR
   THE HIGHEST HONOR

2. MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR
   THE HIGHEST PRINT HONOR

4. MEMBERS’ CHOICE: BEST COVER
   THE ONLY AWARD CHOSEN BY SPD MEMBERS

5. SPECIAL CATEGORY: ROCK & ROLL
   SHOW US YOUR BEST PRINT OR DIGITAL WORK THAT DEALS WITH MUSIC IN ANY FORM, ANY CONTEXT, ANY GENRE, ANY POINT OF VIEW. IF IT’S MUSIC RELATED, ENTER IT.

70. WEBSITE OF THE YEAR
   THE HIGHEST DIGITAL AWARD

91. VIDEO OF THE YEAR
   THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF STORYTELLING
1. **BRAND OF THE YEAR**

   **THE HIGHEST HONOR**

   Honoring the editorial excellence across all channels of a brand. We are seeing the emergence of editorial brands that are equally adept at multiple mediums, from print and digital to video and live events.

   If your brand demonstrates an imaginative use of design, illustration, photography, and typography across multiple platforms and channels, then this category is for you.

   If you go to great lengths to express the needs of the story, to engage the reader with your visual voice, that’s what we want to honor here!

   To compete in this category please submit the following:

   Each brand must submit a short written statement describing their effort of telling stories across multiple platforms (no more than 150 words).

   **IF PRINT IS YOUR PRIMARY PLATFORM:**
   1. Submit PDFs of 2-3 issues of the publication.
      In addition, submit 3 types of assets from the following list. Your entry will consist of 4 types of assets - Print plus 3 additional.
   2. URLs: 3-5 specific page URLs within the same site. In addition, you can submit the home page URL. Submit screenshots as reference.
   3. A PDF of a Print Supplement, book, or special edition (exactly as it was published).
   4. Video Series (submit up to 3 videos from the same series or different subjects that reflect your brand’s voice).
   5. Live Event in the form of a video or sizzle reel
   6. App (screen recording of the app experience)
   7. Social Media Channel (screen recording of the channel experience)

   **IF DIGITAL IS YOUR PRIMARY PLATFORM:**
   1. URLs: 3-5 specific page URLs within the same site. In addition, you can submit the home page URL. Submit screenshots as reference.
   In addition, submit 3 types of assets from the following list. Your entry will consist of 4 types of assets - Web URLs plus 3 additional.
   2. A PDF of a Print Supplement, book, or special edition (exactly as it was published).
   3. Video Series (submit up to 3 videos from the same series or different subjects that reflect your brand’s voice)

2. **MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR**

   **SPD’S HIGHEST PRINT AWARD**

   Magazine of the Year is given to the art director whose magazine demonstrates the most effective and imaginative use of design, typography, illustration and photography.

   To be eligible, your magazine must have a frequency of at least three (3) issues per year. If your publication only publishes two times a year, please contact mail@spd.org for eligibility considerations. Submit PDFs of three (3) different issues from 2021 (exactly as it was published).

   By Entering Magazine of the Year, you will automatically be entered into Best of Genre. You do not have to submit additional issues as a separate entry. We want to recognize excellence in different types of publications. This is a special opportunity for the best in each genre to be recognized. Each genre is eligible for one gold medal, no silver.

3. **MEMBERS’ CHOICE: BEST COVER**

   Only $10 to Enter! This is the only award voted by members of SPD! Only one entry per publication is allowed, not one entry per member. An entry is defined as a cover from a print or digital platform. Want to vote for your favorite? Join SPD today!

4. **WEBSITE OF THE YEAR**

   This award is given to the site that demonstrates the absolute highest standards in editorial web design for desktop and mobile. Sites will be judged based on the quality of design, photography, typography, use of interactivity, user experience, and responsive behavior across platforms. To submit enter the homepage URL, plus 6 - 9 specific page URLs within the same site (10 max). The site must be a stand-alone domain not a sub-domain. Work must be viewable via a standard browser, with standard plugins or downloads. Entries will be viewed on both desktop and mobile devices. In addition, upload a screen recording of the web experience.

5. **VIDEO OF THE YEAR**

   This award is given to the video that demonstrates the absolute highest quality of storytelling and production appearing on a site, app, or social platform. Entries may include: one video or no more than three thematically linked videos in a series.
### Digital Category List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Website of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Single Page Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Web/HTML Typography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Digital Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Digital Redesign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Custom Feature Design (800+ Words)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Custom Feature Design - Editorial Package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Animated Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Information Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Original Digital Illustration/Photography Feature: Portfolio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Celebrity: Entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Non-Celebrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Documentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Fashion/Beauty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Lifestyle / Travel / Food / Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>Original Digital Photography Feature: Conceptual/Still Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>Digital Photo-Editing (non-commissioned photography)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>Animated Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Social Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Social Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Video of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Feature Video: Profile, Celebrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>Feature Video: Profile, Non-Celebrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Feature Video: Service/Explainer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Feature Video: News/Documentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Short Video or Video Series (60 seconds or less, 3 videos maximum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>Animated Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Visual Identity &amp; Branding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Innovative Technology (AR &amp; 360 Video)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREPARING YOUR ENTRIES

ATTENTION: DO NOT SEND TEAR-SHEETS.

Please submit the digital equivalent of the print publication EXACTLY as it was published, instead of tear-sheets. If your publication wasn’t printed because of the pandemic, but it was still published online, enter it!

BE AWARE: WE WILL DISQUALIFY ANY ENTRY THAT IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE PUBLISHED ISSUE/EDITION. WE AREN’T JOoking.

MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

To be eligible to enter, your magazine has to have a frequency of at least 3 issues per year. Submit PDFs of three (3) different issues from 2021. If your publication only publishes 2 times a year, please contact mail@spd.org for eligibility considerations.

BEST OF GENRE

By entering Magazine of the Year, you will automatically be entered into Best of Genre. You do not have to submit additional issues as a separate entry. We want to recognize excellence in different types of publications. This is a special opportunity for the best in each genre to be recognized. Each genre is eligible for one gold medal, no silver.

MEMBERS’ CHOICE: BEST COVER

Only $10 to Enter! This is the only award voted by members of SPD! Only one entry per publication is allowed, not one entry per member. An entry is defined as a cover from a print or digital platform. This category is judged on-screen only, and will be awarded one gold medal, no silver. Upload jpegs or animated gifs for your entry. DO NOT SEND tear-sheets for Members’ Choice.

BRAND OF THE YEAR

Each brand must submit a short-written statement describing their effort of telling stories across multiple platforms (no more than 150 words). Please submit four (4) assets per brand. See the Brand of the Year page for more details.

ENTIRE ISSUE ENTRIES

Submit only a PDF of the entire issue (exactly as it was published).

COVER AND SINGLE PAGE ENTRIES

Submit only covers or single pages as PDFs or digital images (exactly as it was published). Split run covers, flip covers, and gatefold covers are welcome, but must be submitted as one file per issue date.

FEATURE-WELL SINGLE PAGE OPENERS

Enter a PDF or digital image of visually compelling single page openers for the feature-well (exactly as it was published). DO NOT SUBMIT SPREADS for this category.

continued
SPREAD ENTRIES
Submit only spreads as PDFs or digital images (exactly as it was published). Only one file per entry.

STORY ENTRIES
These entries are for two or more single pages/spreads from the same story or package. The single pages/spreads of the story should be placed in order and submitted as one file per entry; either as a multiple-page PDF or digital image (exactly as it was published). Please submit one file per entry.

FOB, BOB, SECTION/ NON-FEATURES
Front of the Book or Back of the Book Section of a publication will be judged for visual excellence and cohesiveness. These entries may come from any part of your publication that is not a feature, or not part of the feature well. Entries may be from a FOB, BOB section from one issue, or the same parts of an FOB, BOB section from multiple issues. Each FOB, BOB Section entry should not include more than three spreads or six total pages. The FOB, BOB section pages should be placed in order and submitted as a multiple-page PDF or digital image (exactly as it was published). Please submit one file per entry.

REDESIGN
Submit a PDF of the last issue BEFORE the redesign. Submit a PDF of the issue AFTER the redesign (exactly as it was published). It does not need to be the first redesigned issue.

PREPARING YOUR ENTRIES

TYPOGRAPHY, ILLUSTRATION, AND DATA VISUALIZATION
Submit the entire editorial page(s) on which the work appeared as a PDF or digital image. Please submit one file per entry.

PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION
An original editorial image for which the primary method of creation is manipulating, combining and/or stylizing photographs in Photoshop or other image editing software. All photo and illustration entries must be original work and must not have been previously published.

Images that have previously appeared in any type of publication, including digital formats, are not eligible. However, layouts that include previously published images may be entered in any design category. Submit as a PDF or digital image (exactly as it was published). Only one file per entry.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ENTRIES
Please provide an English translation of the headline and subhead when entering entry details.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CATEGORIES: DO NOT SEND PHYSICAL ENTRIES.

GENERAL DIGITAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION
For the digital categories, you’ll submit sRGB JPG/GIF files at 72 dpi or MP4/Screen Recording files. Each individual GIF or JPG file should not exceed 20MB.

For any websites or apps that are not freely accessible (e.g. behind a paywall), you must provide log-in information. Website entries must be viewable via a standard browser, with standard plug-ins or downloads. Digital Apps are defined as any editorial app created for a smartphone or tablet. This also includes apps like Apple News+ and Google News.

All entries must have been live online in 2021 and must be available for viewing through March 2022.

WEBSITE (MOBILE / DESKTOP)
These categories honor overall excellence in editorial website design across desktop and mobile.

WEBSITE OF THE YEAR
This award is given to the site that demonstrates the absolute highest standards in editorial web design for desktop and mobile. Sites will be judged based on the quality of design, photography, typography, use of interactivity, user experience, and responsive behavior across platforms. To submit enter the homepage URL, plus 6 - 9 specific page URLs within the same site (10 max). The site must be a stand-alone domain not a subdomain. Work must be viewable via a standard browser, with standard plugins or downloads. Entries will be viewed on both desktop and mobile devices. In addition, upload

CONTINUED
a screen recording of the site experience (1 file total). The screen recording video should not exceed two (2) minutes.

**SINGLE PAGE DESIGN**

Any single page or opener that is designed to work exceptionally well across both mobile and desktop platforms, including homepages. Along with the URL, please submit 1-2 representative JPGs or a screen recording of the site experience. The screen recording video should not exceed one minute.

**WEB/HTML TYPGRAPHY**

Recognizing exceptional use of web-based typography in digital editorial experiences. Submissions must use web/HTML typography; a static image representation of typography is not eligible. Submit full URL(s) and a screen recording. Submissions can be individual stories or full sites (no more than 3 URLs per entry). The screen recording video should not exceed one minute.

**DIRECTIONAL GRAPHICS**

Entries will be judged on a compelling digital cover. Include a screen recording not exceeding one minute.

**DIGITAL REDESIGN**

Submit at least three (3) clearly labeled screenshots with BEFORE & AFTER redesign for mobile and desktop. For websites, submit 1-3 URLs. Submissions may contain but are not limited to: brand identity (logo), homepage, landing page, b-page. In addition, upload a screen recording of the AFTER experience.

**CUSTOM FEATURE DESIGN (800+ WORDS)**

Any single story design that uses visual design, illustration, typography, photography, video, audio, animation, data visualization, or interactivity to tell a story in a compelling way. Submit the full URL and a screen recording not exceeding one minute. (Apps should submit the URL to the App).

**CUSTOM FEATURE DESIGN, EDITORIAL PACKAGE**

Any collection of multiple articles focused on a single topic that uses visual design, illustration, typography, photography, video, audio, animation, data visualization, or interactivity to tell a story in a compelling way. Submit 2-3 URLs and a screen recording not exceeding one minute. (Apps should submit the URL to the App).

**ANIMATED CONTENT**

Including animation of typographical, illustration, graphics, titles/headlines. Submit the full URL and a screen recording not exceeding one minute. (Apps should submit the URL to the App).

**INFORMATION GRAPHICS**

Including data visualization with the use of interactivity to display information in a user-friendly experience. Submit the full URL to the website or App with a screen recording not exceeding one minute.

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Any video entry that was created to tell or support an editorial story, appearing on a site, app, or social platform. Videos will be judged based on quality of storytelling, editing, motion graphics and typography. Please upload the video file. If you don’t have access to the video file, make a screen-recording.

** SOCIAL IDENTITY & BRANDING**

This award is given to a suite of motion graphics (such as, but not limited to: logo, title sequence, in-show graphics, credits, outtro, etc.) intended to brand a show/series or network from an editorial division or custom publishing outlet. Please provide at least three (3) screenshots or a graphics reel (recommended runtime: 60 seconds max).

**INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY (AR & 360 VIDEO)**

Recognizing stories that utilize new digital technologies to create innovative design and visual storytelling in the area of augmented reality and 360° videos. Entries will be judged on how each entry utilizes a given format to make a compelling visual and/or narrative experience.

**VIDEO OF THE YEAR**

Any video that was created to tell or support an editorial story, appearing on a site, app, or social platform. Videos will be judged based on quality of storytelling, editing, motion graphics and typography. Please upload the video file. If you don’t have access to the video file, make a screen-recording.

**SADY: WE CAN’T ACCEPT VR ENTRIES AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF SANITIZING THE HARDWARE NEEDED FOR JUDGING (3D GLASSES, OCULUS RIFT, ETC.)**

**THANK YOU HOUSE INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCIAL TYPE FOR DONATING POINTS USED IN THE SPD 57 CALL FOR ENTRIES.**

**FROM HOUSE INDUSTRIES PING SWISS INTERLOCK**

**FROM COMMERCIAL TYPE DRUK FAMILY Publico Text**
“MUSIC IS HEALING. MUSIC HOLDS THINGS TOGETHER.”

PRINCE