



# DIGITAL PUBLISHING AWARDS

2018 PROGRAM UNVEILED  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto, ON (December 1, 2017) – The National Media Awards Foundation (NMAF) is pleased to announce the lineup of categories for the third annual [Digital Publishing Awards](#), the most prestigious program recognizing excellence in digital editorial content in Canada. This year, awards in 24 categories will be bestowed to Canadian digital creators and publishers, along with a \$500 cash prize in creator-awarded categories.

“As an independent and charitable organization, the Digital Publishing Awards has established itself as an authoritative and respected champion of excellence in the Canadian digital community. The changes to this year’s categories reflect our commitment to the program’s quality and relevance to all digital creators and publishers.” – Nino Di Cara, President of the NMAF.

To review its Digital Publishing Awards program for 2018, the NMAF worked in consultation with a panel of industry professionals. This year’s Advisory Committee members, who provided invaluable guidance to crafting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Digital Publishing Awards, include:

- **Jean-Philippe Cipriani**, Director, Digital Content, *L'actualité*
- **Jude Isabella**, Editor-in-Chief, *Hakai Magazine*
- **Matt Frehner**, Head of Presentation, *The Globe and Mail*
- **Kenny Yum**, Chief of Staff, *CBC News*

The categories for the 2018 DPAs are:

1. Best Digital Editorial Package
2. Best Blog or Column
3. Best News Coverage: Small Newsroom
4. Best News Coverage
5. Best Feature Article: Short
6. Best Feature Article: Long
7. Fiction **\*NEW**
8. Best Personal Essay
9. Best Arts & Culture Story
10. Best Science & Technology Story **\*NEW**
11. Best Service Feature: Lifestyle
12. Best Service Feature: Careers & Personal Finance
13. Best Service Feature: Family & Health
14. Best Online Video: Short
15. Best Online Video: Feature
16. Best Online Video: Mini-Doc
17. Best Podcast and Audio Storytelling
18. Best Digital Design
19. Best Photo Storytelling **\*NEW**
20. Best Social Storytelling
21. Best Digital Initiative
22. Emerging Excellence Award
23. Leadership Excellence Award
24. General Excellence in Digital Publishing: Small, Medium and Large Publications

Notable changes for 2018 include:

- The top overall prize—**General Excellence in Digital Publishing**—will be presented in three divisions, for small, medium and large publications.
- One of the **Best News Coverage** categories will be exclusively open to small publications.
- The awards for **Best Service Feature**, rewarding excellence in service journalism, have been revised to include the following three categories:
  - Lifestyle;
  - Careers and Personal Finances; and
  - Family and Health.
- The Best Podcast category has been expanded and renamed **Best Podcast and Audio Storytelling** to include audio stories.
- Three new categories have been added to the program:
  - **Fiction;**
  - **Best Science and Technology Story; and**
  - **Best Photo Storytelling.**

For a complete list of awards categories, rules and judging procedures, visit [digitalpublishingawards.ca](http://digitalpublishingawards.ca).

## THE NMAF ELECTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

To help support and grow the DPA program on an on-going basis, the NMAF is pleased welcome two new digital publishing professionals to its board of directors:

As Head of Presentation at *The Globe and Mail*, **Matt Frehner** leads a cross-disciplinary team of editors, designers, developers and graphic artists. His team tells stories across all platforms - from breaking news to in-depth features and investigations.

Also joining the NMAF board of directors is **Elamin Abdelmohammed**, Social Media Editor at *BuzzFeed Canada* and Editor, News Curation at *BuzzFeed News*. Also a panelist for *CBC News* and a columnist for *Chatelaine*, Elamin teaches at Ryerson University in Toronto.

Visit [digitalpublishingawards.ca](http://digitalpublishingawards.ca) to view the NMAF's complete list of board members.

## 2018 CALL FOR ENTRIES

Submissions for the 2018 Digital Publishing Awards will be accepted from January 2 to February 2, 2018. The DPAs are open to all Canadian digital publishers— including those that support established brands in consumer & B2B magazines, newspapers, broadcast and other journalism, as well as those that serve their audiences exclusively as digital brands—published in either English or French.

For news and updates about the DPAs, follow the Digital Publishing Awards on Twitter [@DPAwards](https://twitter.com/DPAwards) and #DPA18.

## ABOUT THE DIGITAL PUBLISHING AWARDS

The [Digital Publishing Awards](#) promote and reward the achievements of those who create digital publishing content in Canada—the writers and editors, designers and developers, video and podcast producers, photographers and illustrators, and many others. The DPA program recognizes, celebrates and promotes to a national audience the innovative publishing teams that produce digital content in Canadian media.

At the 2017 Digital Publishing Awards, 75 Canadian digital publications participated, submitting the best of their digital content, design and innovation from the past year for consideration in 21 awards categories. 67 individuals volunteered their time, their expertise, and their passion for digital publishing in serving as judges for the second Digital Publishing Awards.

The DPAs are produced by the NMAF, a charitable foundation whose mandate is to recognize and promote excellence in content creation of Canadian print and digital publications through annual programs of awards and national publicity efforts. The Foundation produces two distinct and bilingual award programs: the [National Magazine Awards](#) and the [Digital Publishing Awards](#). Throughout the year, the Foundation undertakes various group marketing initiatives and professional development events.

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