



# THE BULLETIN

*The newsletter for Georgia's student journalists and advisers*

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## IN THE KNOW

### Coming Soon!

Grady recently hired a new scholastic outreach coordinator, who will serve as the Georgia Scholastic Press Association director.

Paperwork is being finalized now, but we expect the new director to be in place when schools return from holiday break.

We look forward to celebrating GSPA's 90th Anniversary in 2018 and are excited to welcome new leadership in this role.

Look for the official announcement in the next Bulletin.

### Spring Workshop and Awards

The Spring Workshop and Awards Ceremony will be held on **Tuesday, April 17**, at the **University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education and Hotel**.

Registration will be open **Thursday, Feb. 1 to Tuesday, March 27**.

See pages 6 and 7 in the bulletin for information on how to submit works for award consideration.

### Media and Leadership Academy

The Media and Leadership Academy will take place **Sunday, June 3- Friday, June 8**.

More information about registering for the event will be released in January.



## 2016-2017 General Excellence Winners

| <b>Yearbook</b>                                       | <b>Literary Magazine</b>                   |
|---|--|
| All-Georgia   | All-Georgia                                |
| <i>Accipiter: Alignment</i><br>Mill Creek High School | <i>iliad</i><br>Clarke Central High School |
| Superior  | Superior                                   |
| <i>Crimson</i><br>Little Mill Middle School           | <i>Silent Voices</i><br>Woodward Academy   |
| <i>Beacon</i><br>Calvary Day School                   | <i>iliad</i><br>Clarke Central High School |
| <i>Wolverscenes</i><br>Union Grove High School        |  |

## 2017 Fall Conference First Edition Winners

### News Magazine

**Best Cover:** Pinnacle Mountain View High School

**Best Design:** The Blade Woodward Academy

### News Website

**Best Front Page:** The Knightly News Pace Academy

**Best Multimedia Usage:** The Southerner Online Grady High School

**Best News Story:** "GA Tech shooting shifts mental health crisis to spotlight" - The Southerner Online Grady High School

**Best Feature Story:** "MOBA progresses toward a better future for U.S. soccer" - The Prowler Starr's Mill High School

**Best Sports Story:** "Young Knights reverse winning football culture, start season 2-6" - The Southerner Online Grady High School

### Newspaper

**Best Cover:** The Southerner Grady High School

**Best Design:** Hoof Print Ola High School

**Best News Story:** "Deep-rooted self segregation persists" - The Southerner Grady High School

**Best Feature Story:** "Solar eclipse connects two generations of students" - The Southerner Grady High School

**Best Sports Story:** "More football players suffer CTE than believed" - The Southerner Grady High School

Fall Conference 2017  
On-the-Spot Photo Contest



**Zoe Peterson**  
Clarke Central High School  
Honorable Mention



**WINNER**  
Katherine  
Lemack,  
Calvary  
Day School



**John Lumapas**  
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School  
Honorable Mention



**Emma Barfield**  
Ola High School  
Honorable Mention



# Student Advisory Board Showcase

GSPA Student Advisory Board Member and staff writer at Clarke Central High School, Bria Echols, writes about her first experience with trapeze at Canopy Studio.



**Above: Going above:** Sophomore staff writer Bria Echols had the opportunity step out of her comfort zone and try trapeze for the first time. Echols was inspired to try trapeze after talking with senior Mara Bastow about her experience with trapeze. “It’s just so great what they do (at Canopy) that you really can’t find that anywhere else,” Bastow said. Cartoon by Ashley Lawrence.

Upon arriving at 160 Tracy Street, I looked around to see a gray building planted next to old warehouses and railroad tracks. On the building, a name was carved out of rusted metal: Canopy.

The studio’s interior was like nothing I’d ever seen. Trapeze bars were everywhere. They hung from rafters connected to the ceiling. People were on them -- standing, sitting, twisting their bodies in ways that I would never imagine.

It was almost like watching the circus. An electric wave of eagerness crawled up my spine. I wanted to try and senior Mara Bastow was going to show me the ropes, figuratively and literally .

Mara has been doing trapeze for six years. She teaches a wide range of ages at Canopy from small children to adults. She knows what she is doing. She guided me through the lesson carefully instructing me what to do every second.

Before getting on the bar we had to do stretches, specifically, shoulder and arm stretches to prepare my body for the trapeze -- definitely not the ones I’m accustomed to.

I laid on a black mat, which was spread across the floor, listening to their directions.

*“Focus on your arms.”  
“Turn your hands outward”  
“Move your neck around.”*

*Continued on pg.5*

*Continued from pg. 4*

My introduction to the bar was nice and easy. Although I did have the occasional reality slap battle in my head that told me, “I’m on a trapeze bar,” eventually I was able to conquer my nervousness because I was calmed by the friendly grins and encouraging words of Mara and Canopy Studio director Melissa Roberts.

I had to make what they called “O hands” and grip the bar, making sure to create space for my legs to get on. Then, I had to take one hand and place it on one of the ropes that held the trapeze bar and the other hand on the other rope to lift myself. Due to my lack of upper body strength, Mara had to support my back.

When I was sitting up on the bar, I slid my hands down the rope feeling the texture. It wasn’t like any standard gym rope. It was almost like rope on a sailboat.

A huge grin crept across my face. Even though the tricks were simple, it still felt surreal. “I can do this,” I thought to myself. It only got better when I was shown how to do basic tricks like skater and sitting layback.



**Sophomore Bria Echols is learning how to do sitting star with senior Mara Bastow’s help. Cartoon by Ashley Lawrence.**

For the sitting layback I had to sit on the trapeze bar and lean all the way back as if I was going to lay my head on the mat. I could feel the blood rushing to my head. It was almost as if I was flying.

For skater I had to stand on the bar while making sure to keep my balance by keeping both hands on the ropes. Then I had to take one leg off the bar and place it behind my body and tilt my head back. It was way out of my comfort zone but I enjoyed it.

With Mara’s and Melissa’s help, I felt powerful. For once I was trying something that was completely out there and I ended up loving it.



# 2018 Spring Contest Information

## 2017-2018 First Amendment Essay Contest

**Due Friday, Jan. 26 by 11:59 p.m.**

**Email essay to [gspa@uga.edu](mailto:gspa@uga.edu) and complete entry form found on [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.” Applications are now open.**

The First Amendment’s guarantee of a free press is of crucial importance to all Americans. It is the foundation of American freedom and the essential distinction between our democracy and totalitarianism. Journalists must dedicate themselves to defending our free press, and we call upon the scholastic journalists of Georgia to join the battle. Do so by entering our First Amendment Essay Contest! Essays should focus on the importance of the First Amendment to all Americans, to freedom of speech and particularly, freedom of the press for student publications. Explain in your own words how you interpret the First Amendment and the role it plays in American life. What is its importance on your campus and in your school newspaper, magazine, yearbook or broadcast?

*For rules and guidelines, visit [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org).*

## 2017-2018 General Excellence Critique and Competition

**On Jan. 3**, GSPA will start accepting entries for newspaper, newsmagazines, news websites and broadcasts produced in the **2017-18** academic year and published between **Feb. 1, 2017, and Feb. 23, 2018**.

**All entries must be submitted by February. 23, 2018.**

*Please note GSPA membership is required to enter all GSPA competitions. The membership form can be found online at [www.ugsugspa.org](http://www.ugsugspa.org).*

1. The contest/critique entry form is available online at [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.”
2. Submit: Newspaper & Newsmagazine- Send one copy of your best two issues for the 2017-2018. News Websites & Broadcasts- Provide link to publication on the entry form.
3. Prior to completing the entry form, please mail one copy of the publication(s) that will be critiqued.
4. An entry form is required for each publication being critiqued/entered in the contest.
5. Please mail payment with the publication. Make check payable to GSPA.
6. If an invoice is required, please email [gspa@uga.edu](mailto:gspa@uga.edu).
7. Please mail materials to: GSPA, 120 Hooper St. Journalism 211A, Athens, GA 30602.

## 2017-18 Individual Awards

GSPA offers 59 separate categories to recognize outstanding student work in journalism (see **categories online at [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions”**). Work published in newspapers, newsmagazines, news websites and video broadcasts may be entered in the spring competition.

Entries for individual student work must be published between **Feb. 1, 2017, and Feb. 26, 2018**. All required forms will be submitted online [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.”

**Applications will open on Jan. 3, 2018.**

**Deadline for submission is Feb. 26, 2018.**

1. A \$2 fee is required for each individual entry.
2. A form is required for each individual entry. The form is available online.
3. Entries are limited to THREE PER STAFF per category. We will not accept multiple entries from one individual in the same category.
4. Staff members should work with their fellow staffers and advisers to select the three best individual pieces from your staff per category.
5. Individual entries for newsmagazine & newspaper should be in a PDF. The PDF title should be the following: *Category-Headline/Title-Publication Name-Student Name*. The PDF should also include the title of entry and name of students in the document.
6. Enter the URL for individual entries submitted for the broadcast & news websites type of media.
7. Entries that do not follow guidelines properly will be disqualified.
8. Please compile all individual entries in a Dropbox or Google folder and email link to [gspa@uga.edu](mailto:gspa@uga.edu).

## 2017-18 Journalist of the Year

Each year, GSPA recognizes the top student journalist in the state with the Georgia Champion Journalist Award. The winner receives a \$100 prize and represents the state in the Journalism Education Association’s National Journalist of the Year competition.

*Entrants must be seniors, maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, have at least two years of journalism experience and be planning to major in journalism in college. Entrants must prepare a comprehensive portfolio showcasing their journalistic work and include an official transcript and three letters of recommendation.*

The 2018 Georgia Champion Journalist and Junior Champion Journalist competitions require entrants to complete an online portfolio of their work. View the JEA guidelines for portfolios via the link on [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.”

Fill out the 2017 GSPA Champion Journalist entry form online at [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.”

Guidelines for 2017 Champion Journalist and Jr. Champion Journalist can be found at [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions.”

**Applications are now open.**

**Postmark deadline for both the Champion Journalist and Junior Champion Journalist Award is Feb. 2, 2018.**

## 2017-18 Achievement Awards

The GSPA Achievement Awards recognize “behind-the-scenes” work of staffs or individuals.

Fill out the 2018 GSPA Achievement Awards Entry Form online at [www.ugagspa.org](http://www.ugagspa.org) under “competitions” starting **Jan. 3**.

Achievement Award Descriptions:

**Administrator of the Year** recognizes an administrator who has demonstrated strong support for the journalism program.

**Adviser of the Year** recognizes a journalism adviser who goes beyond the “call of duty” in supporting his or her staff.

**Community Service** recognizes a staff that through its forum has initiated significant change within the community.

**First-Year Adviser** recognizes a new adviser who has demonstrated success and desire in strengthening the program.

**Freedom of the Press** recognizes a producer(s) of work that demonstrated solid reporting and/or insight, but was censored from student publication.

**Perseverance** recognizes a staff that has overcome significant adversity to put out a quality product.

**Start-Up** recognizes a first-year publication/program that has demonstrated significant quality.

**Turnaround** recognizes the staff that has significantly changed the quality of its product from the previous year.

**Deadline for entries is Feb. 26, 2018.**



SIPA.sc.edu

2018 Convention  
March 2-4

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— THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER, "LOCAL NEWS IN A DIGITAL AGE"

The Center for Collaborative Journalism (CCJ) is a unique partnership between Mercer University, The Telegraph and Georgia Public Broadcasting, with generous support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and The Peyton Anderson Foundation.

Our groundbreaking collaboration has students, faculty and veteran journalists working together in a joint newsroom. Learning in a "teaching hospital" model, our students engage the community using the latest digital tools and leave with a portfolio of published work that gives them an edge in a rapidly changing, but never more important, field.

Learn more about the CCJ and events like our Media Changemaker Scholarship Competition (Jan. 20, 2018) and Digital Media Summer Camp (June 16-23, 2018) at [ccj.mercer.edu](http://ccj.mercer.edu).



**CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE JOURNALISM**

[CCJ.MERCER.EDU](http://CCJ.MERCER.EDU)





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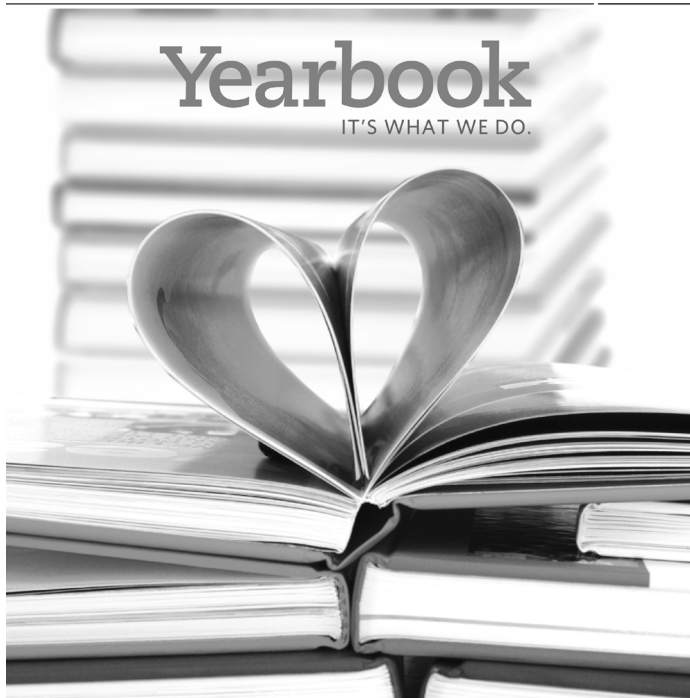
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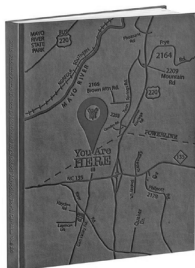


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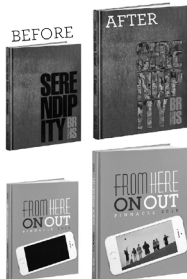
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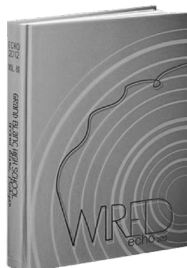
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