The CSPA is an international student press association uniting student journalists and faculty advisers at schools and colleges through educational conferences, idea exchanges and award programs.

Founded in 1925, the CSPA is owned by Columbia University in New York City. As a program of Columbia, it sponsors critiques, publications, educational conferences, idea exchanges and award programs. Fees collected for its services to colleges and schools, plus a small endowment, cover its expenses.

The Association honors excellence in student media with Crown Awards, plus Gold, Silver and Bronze Medalists. Its Gold Circle Awards provide chances for student journalists to be recognized for individual or team talent. Over the years, the Association has added national conventions, regional conferences and summer workshops. Its e-zine StudentPressReview.com now publishes online, and CSPA’s website offers daily access at http://cspa.columbia.edu.

Throughout its history, the CSPA’s goals have remained constant:
• to make clear expression the standard for success
• to maintain the student media for students, by students and containing news of students
• to conduct contests and offer awards to encourage student media to be better than they were
• to recognize that journalism can be a means toward broader understanding of society and people without leading to a specific career choice.
Professional Membership Benefits

- All CSPA emails and alerts for conventions/workshops/contests
- Membership certificate
- A copy of the special awards DVD
- Alerts for new StudentPressReview.com postings.

Eligibility for Professional Membership

Professional membership is open to individuals, not organizations, outside of education who have a strong personal interest in scholastic journalism.

CSPA programs & events:

- Charles R. O’Malley Award (for excellence in teaching)
- Edmund J. Sullivan Award (for students staffs serving student audiences)
- Fall Conference & Spring Convention (held on the Columbia University campus)
- Gold Circle Awards (205 categories of judging for individual student recognition)
- Gold and Silver Crowns (overall excellence)
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medalists (given to all publications evaluated)
- Gold Key Awards (for significant contribution to student journalism and CSPA)
- James F. Paschal Award (service to state press associations)
- Joseph M. Murphy Award (for outstanding service to CSPA)
- StudentPressReview.com (CSPA’s journal on the web)
- Summer Journalism Workshop (one week of intense journalism education for newspaper and yearbook staffs and advisers)