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For Immediate Release

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### **IWPA Announces Winners in Communications Contests**

Chicago, IL The Illinois Woman's Press Association, an affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women, will honor 54 High School students for their 57 winning entries in the 2010 IWPA High School Communications Contest at its May 15, 2010, Awards Luncheon at the Union League Club in Chicago.

186 students from 21 Illinois high schools submitted a total of 291 entries in 15 categories. 14 first place entries have gone on to NFPW for national judging. Results will be announced at the August 2010 national conference in Chicago, IL, at which IWPA will celebrate the 125th anniversary of its founding. The contest recognizes excellence among students in writing, graphics, cartooning, photography and layout. The most competitive categories were feature story and opinion. (A complete list of student winners is attached.)

Prospect High School won the Silver Pen Award for achieving the highest number of points among student contest entrants. Prospect students won three 1st place awards, two 2nd place awards, and two 3rd place awards for entries in the sports photo, reviews, graphics, single-page layout, columns, feature story and sports story categories. Lyons Township High School earned the second highest number of points, with Vernon Hills High School third.

The judges for the 2010 contest included journalists from *Chicago Lawyer*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Chicago Sun-Times*, *The Decatur Herald and Review* and *The Southtown Star*, as well as professors of journalism from Columbia College and Eastern Illinois University.

On May 15, IWPA will also honor its 2010 Communicator of Achievement, Val Ensalaco. Mrs. Ensalaco has served IWPA in many capacities, including as Secretary and President, and now serves NFPW as its national treasurer. She is a founding member of the West Suburban Philanthropic Network, where she established ViewPoint, their award-winning official newsletter, for which she has served for sixteen years as managing editor, researcher. She

will be presented with her award by Lana Weiss Brown, the 2009 Communicator of Achievement.

NFPW (along with its state affiliates) is a dynamic organization of professional women and men pursuing careers across the communication spectrum. Its members work in print and electronic journalism, public relations, graphic design, new media, marketing, photography, book publishing, education and more. The organization is dedicated to professional excellence and the highest ethical standards in the communications field, and to the rights and responsibilities of the First Amendment. For more information about IWPA, please e-mail [iwpa@comcast.net](mailto:iwpa@comcast.net), visit the website at [www.iwpa.org](http://www.iwpa.org), or call the hotline at (312) 458-9151. Contact NFPW at [www.nfpw.org](http://www.nfpw.org), [presswomen@aol.com](mailto:presswomen@aol.com), or call (800) 780-2715.