

**2026 NATAS Chicago/Midwest Chapter
STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARDS High School Crystal Pillar Recipients**

CRYSTAL PILLAR RECIPIENTS

Category 1

Newscast

Ariana Pantoja, Rana Stevens, Gabe Trevino, Aiden Hielema, Jayla Miller

Entry Title: CPTV Newscast January 29, 2026

Crown Point High School

Chris Gloff and Brent Barber

Category 2

No winners

Category 3

Hard News Report

Jayla Miller, Vanessa Cervantes, Aiden Hielema

Entry Title: CPHS Students Fear ICE Coming to Northwest Indiana

Crown Point High School

Chris Gloff and Brent Barber

Category 4

Feature News Report

Laila Dyer

Entry Title: Dreams Deferred

Homewood-Flossmoor High School

Mark Ciesielski

Category 5

Arts/Entertainment/Cultural Affairs

Eila Arkin

Entry Title: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at DHS-TV

Deerfield High School

Brett Schwartz

Category 6

Music Video

Maddux Johnson

Entry Title: My Life

Neuqua Valley High School

John Gelsomino

Category 7

Fiction -- Short Form

Christopher Devor, Yousef Abutaleb

Entry Title: A Legal

Neuqua Valley High School

John Gelsomino

Category 8

Non-Fiction -- Short Form

Luke Bucciero, Liam Kahn

Entry Title: **Band Camp to Game Day: Building Wildcat Pride**

Libertyville High School

Dan Treptow

Category 9

Sports Story

John Isaacson, Jacob Garcia, Alexandra McQueeney

Entry Title: **Bulldogs Forever**

Riverside Brookfield High School

Matthew Holdren

Category 10

Sports Program

Gabe Trevino, Braydon Zamojski

Entry Title: **Basketball Gamenight**

Crown Point High School

Chris Gloff and Brent Barber

Category 11

Live Sporting Event/Game

Gabe Trevino, Braydon Zamojski, Luke Bazin

Entry Title: **CP vs Chesterton Boys Basketball Broadcast**

Crown Point High School

Chris Gloff and Brent Barber

Category 12

Public Service Announcement (PSA)

Kallie Vanadia, Mikko Espino

Entry Title: **Filtered Out**

Maine West High School

Rebecca Fisher

Category 13

Public Affairs/Community Service

Charlie Rodis, Mason Myslinski, Kai Hendricks

Entry Title: **Elevate 208 Series**

Riverside Brookfield High School

Matthew Holdren

Category 14

Magazine Program— Two winners in this category

Declan Klyn, Laila Dyer

Entry Title: **VTV Holiday Show**

Homewood-Flossmoor High School

Mark Ciesielski

Grace Tresch, Alondra German, Grady Gilholy

Entry Title: **Bulldog Dispatch**

Harold L. Richards High School

Aaron Vermedal

Category 15

Commercial

Johnathan Jaffre

Entry Title: U92 – Catch the Rad

Lyons Township High School

Bill Alan and David Karaffa

CRAFT CATEGORIES

Category 16

Director—Two Winners in this category

Gonzalo Zarazaga

Entry Title: What's Left Inside of Us

Lake Forest High School

Steve Douglass

Nathan Martinez

Entry Title: Kaleidoscope Factory

Glenbrook South High School

Julie Benca

Category 17

Editor

Charlotte Johansen

Entry Title: Drive

Batavia High School

Jennifer Carpenter and Joshua Casburn

Category 18

Photographer—Two Winners in this category

Jacob Garcia

Entry Title: Jacob Garcia Photography Reel

Riverside Brookfield High School

Matthew Holdren

Luca Mariani

Entry Title: 2025 Photography Composite

Glenbrook South High School

Julie Benca

Category 19

Talent

Gabe Trevino

Entry Title: Gabe Trevino Sports Talent Reel

Crown Point High School

Chris Gloff and Brent Barber

Category 20

Writer

Ellory Moran, Kendrick Lee, Lexie Benedetti, Teddy Kullman

Entry Title: The Program

Glenbrook South High School

Julie Benca