

Dear WNA Better Newspaper Contest Judges,

Please accept this letter nominating Janelle Fisher of the Press Times in Green Bay for Rookie Reporter of the Year.

Janelle joined the Press Times staff on Feb. 24, 2022 through an internship program with UW-Green Bay. She quickly learned the ropes of AP Style and excelled as a proofreader. She eagerly took on additional responsibilities including covering village, town and school board meetings, both in-person and also leveraging streaming technology where available to cover more than one meeting happening at the same time.

When the spring internship program ended in May, we hired Janelle as a staff reporter. While continuing to cover local government, her role expanded to include compiling and editing news briefs, aggregating content for an extensive weekly calendar of events called the Big Guide and writing original feature stories for both the news and entertainment sections.

In addition to being a reliable and accurate reporter, Janelle has also distinguished herself in the day-to-day operations of the newsroom including rewriting interview questionnaires to elicit more impactful answers from respondents and developing a shared online filing system to organize news briefs into the future.

Her quick study of the operation led to her being tapped on a recent deadline day to run traffic control between editorial and production staff when I was out of the office. She handled the communication and dozens of game-day decisions almost effortlessly, and the paper went to press on deadline.

For these reasons, I am nominating Janelle Fisher without reservation for Rookie Reporter of the Year.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nick Wood, acting editor
The Press Times/City Pages