



2021 NZ Business Journalism Awards

The NZSA Business Journalism Awards were established to encourage, identify and applaud outstanding business journalism in New Zealand. Business journalists working in New Zealand's print, online and broadcasting media are encouraged to submit entries to three discipline categories – news, feature and commentary.

The winner of the supreme NZSA Business Journalist of the Year Award will be chosen from the winners of the three discipline categories.

In addition, journalists who enter for any or all of these awards and who have been working as journalists for up to three years will, if they apply and provide additional supporting material, be considered for the Young Business Journalist of the Year Award.

- The closing date for entries in every category is **September 17th 2021**, submitted via the [official online form](#).
- Winners will be announced at the NZSA Journalism Awards Dinner in Auckland on **October 7th 2021**.
- Stories must have been published or broadcast in the year from **September 1st 2020 – August 31st 2021**.

Award category winners will receive \$2,500. The Young Journalist of the Year will receive \$2,000 and the Supreme Award Winner (selected from one of the category winners) will receive an additional \$2,000.

Award categories and Judging Criteria

Business news

This category is for outstanding, timely news coverage of a competitive business, financial or economic news story. Entries submitted for this category should include a covering letter that showcases the dominance and timeliness of the story or stories. The letter should also, if appropriate, set out the circumstances under which the story was obtained and developed.

Business news judging will include the following criteria:

- Timeliness and relevance of the story
- Degree of difficulty to obtain and file the story
- Impact of the story on business or broader community
- Story presentation, quality of written/spoken content
- Journalistic initiative to obtain the story
- Resources utilised by the reporter (such as number of relevant sources)

Business Features

Stories published or broadcast in any medium that are compellingly told and crafted. They will provide readers, listeners or viewers with a deeper understanding and explanation of a significant business topic.

Business feature judging will include the following criteria:

- Substance and relevance of the story
- Quality of writing and presentation
- Originality and impact of the story
- Depth of analysis and quality of research
- Resources used by journalist to file the story

Business Commentary

This category will include business, financial or economic editorials, columns, blogs, on-air or videocommentary or analysis that assist the audience in developing their own informed opinions on the subject.

Business commentary judging will include the following criteria:

- Cogency of the argument
- Quality of writing and presentation
- Significance of the issue
- Effectiveness of generating debate on the issue
- Resources used by reporter (such as number of relevant sources)

Young Business Journalist Award

Journalists who have worked less than three years and who submit stories to any or all categories will be considered for the Young Business Journalist Award if they provide a short explanation of their employment history as proof of their eligibility and include a sampling of three other stories that are representative of their other body of work.

Business Journalist of the Year

The winner of this award will be chosen from the winners of the three journalistic discipline categories.

Judging Panel

The NZ Business Journalism Awards comprise a panel of three experienced journalism and financial practitioners.

Gyles Beckford



Business Editor, Radio New Zealand

Mary Holm, ONZM



Author and Personal Finance Commentator

Louise Nicholson



Director of External Communications and Investor Capability, Financial Markets Authority

Gyles Beckford has been a journalist for more than 35 years, including stints with provincial newspapers, a ministerial press secretary and a long stint as local bureau chief for Reuters news agency. He has had two stints at Radio New Zealand covering everything from fire, floods, earthquakes and tempests, through to French nuclear testing in the Pacific, coups in Fiji, and for more than 20 years everything business, investment, economic and commerce.

He has been a regular presenter on Morning Report and was part of the combined RNZ-

Newsroom “Two Cents Worth” podcast, and a member of the combined RNZ-TVNZ unit that reported on the Panama Papers.

Mary Holm, ONZM, has written seven books, including *Rich Enough?*, a laid-back guide for every Kiwi, and her latest, *A Richer You – how to make the most of your money*. Both of these were No. 1 NZ bestsellers.

She writes a personal finance Q&A column in the Weekend Herald, presents seminars, and discusses personal finance with Jesse Mulligan on RNZ every second Thursday.

Mary holds a BA in economic history, MA in journalism, and MBA in finance. She is a director of Financial Services Complaints Ltd (FSCL), and a former director of the FMA and the Banking Ombudsman Scheme.

Louise Nicholson is the Director of External Communications and Investor Capability at the Financial Markets Authority, where her team is responsible for communicating with industry and equipping investors to make good decisions.

Louise is a former journalist who worked in New Zealand and Australia before moving into a range of communications roles in New Zealand, Australia and Asia.

Entry Criteria and Terms

1. The NZSA awards for business journalism excellence are open to journalists working for New Zealand media outlets. This can include freelance journalists.
2. **Entries must be received by 5.00pm Friday September 17th 2021.** Late entries cannot be considered.

The awards will be announced at an evening function in Auckland on October 7th 2021. The two finalists in each category will be notified in late September and will be assisted to attend the event as guests of NZSA.

3. Entries must have been published or broadcast between **September 1st 2020 – August 31st 2021.**
4. Entries must fall into one of the three following categories: business news, business features or business commentary.
5. Journalists who wish to be considered for the Young Journalist of the Year Award must submit at least one entry under any category. They should also provide a short statement of their employment history as proof of their eligibility (less than three years as a journalist) and include a sample of three other stories that are representative of their other body of work.
6. Journalists must submit their own entries through the [official online form](#). A separate

entry must be made for each story entered.

7. Entries must be the submitting journalist's own work. All submitted material must be accompanied by a declaration, proof of authorship or a letter of authorisation from your editor.
8. All submitted material must be accompanied by proof of publication or broadcast.
9. Where an entry is the product of a team; names of the team, along with a brief explanation of the role played by each team member should be submitted. One team member should be nominated to receive the award if the entry is successful. Teams should not exceed five members.
10. Journalists may submit up to three entries in total. The same story cannot be entered in more than one category.
11. Sponsored content of an advertorial nature will not be eligible for entry.
12. Entries may be news, feature or commentary of a business, financial or economic nature. Each entry can consist of one or a series of articles, broadcasts or podcasts.
13. Entries should not contain more than three individual stories unless the entry was published or broadcast as a distinct, labelled, sequential serial.
14. Each entry must include an entry statement of no more than 400 words to explain the circumstances in which the entry was produced and why the entrant believes the story is worth submitting for the award.
15. **Acceptable Formats** The preferred format is a URL link directly to the work in final format outside of any paywall. If this is unavailable, a PDF scan of the printed work is acceptable as is a suitable digital file for a broadcast item.

Any URL, PDF or digital file must contain the full work. The links to the entry and statements in support of the entry may be attached to a PDF of the relevant entry form.

16. Prizes will be awarded to category winners, although the judges reserve the right to not award a prize in a given category in a given year.
17. Entrants agree to the reproduction of their entry for the purposes of judging and promotion of the awards. The judges award decisions are final.

NZSA does not sit on the judging panel and all judges will provide a register of personal interests to NZSA to ensure against any conflicts of interest with the content of entries being judged.