ZENGER HOUSE

ZENGER PRIZES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Encouraging Christian students to write deeply reported feature stories consistent with a biblical ethic.

For five years Zenger House, a Christian foundation, has given Zenger Prizes to top journalists. The 2026-2027 academic year will mark the first cycle of Zenger Prizes for college students.

AWARD & ELIGIBILITY

- **CASH**: Each Zenger Prize award is $1,000 to the winning author.
- Up to 10 prizes awarded per cycle: open to all undergraduate and graduate students in the United States.
- Submissions must be original journalistic works (articles, podcasts, or videos) usually produced individually, but teams of up to three students allowed.
- Entries should demonstrate on-the-ground reporting and sensory detail that immerses readers/viewers/listeners in the story.
- Entries must be published or produced between August 15, 2026, and June 1, 2027. We accept articles up to 2,000 words and narrative podcasts or videos up to five minutes long, with publication in college newspapers or magazines, local community outlets, or online platforms with a proven audience.

A PROMPT

One way to develop potential stories: Think of a protagonist with a mission. The central character accomplishes the mission by overcoming obstacles. As in biblical history, protagonists are not superheroes but humans with flaws. Journalists honor heroism while telling the truth, not doing public relations. Many Zenger professional winning articles are profiles: see www.zengerhouse.com/zenger-prize-winners for examples.

We accept submissions from August 2026 through June 2027. Winners announced in September 2027.

More information, including judging criteria and submission guidelines, on our website:

www.zengerhouse.com