

# SPECIAL SECTION

# Newspro

THE STATE OF TV NEWS

## THE AWARDS SEASON

It's Time for News Professionals to Burn the Midnight Oil, Dust Off Their Best Work of '08 and Gain Some Precious Recognition

**By Elizabeth Jensen**  
*Special to TelevisionWeek*

Calls are starting to go out for entries for the most coveted awards in the news business—the RTNDA's Murrows, the George Foster Peabodys, the Society of Professional Journalists Awards, the Investigative Reporters and Editors' honors, Emmys of all stripes.

While the awards remain as prestigious as ever, this year there's a huge unknown hanging over the process. With the current economic climate and so many news organizations reducing their

staffs with layoffs, buyouts and attrition, it's anyone's guess how award entries will be affected.

Will entries be up as reporters look to improve their resumes and stations seek to stand out as they scrap for scarce ad dollars? Or will they be down, as news organizations cut expenses and decline to pick up the costs of entering?

The awards competitions aren't inexpensive to enter: \$250 to try for a Peabody, \$375 for a National Sports Emmy, as much as \$195 for a local station Murrow Award and \$245 for a network Murrow.

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*Here's to a Wonderful Holiday Season  
and a Happy New Year!*



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