



George Bliss Award: The Judging Panel

The Bliss Award judging panel is composed of five individuals, rotated annually by invitation of the Board of Directors of the BGA and the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. Judges are drawn from the Midwest region, and are subject to conflict of interest policies regarding entries where a judge or a judge's publication was included. Panel composition is generally as follows, though it may vary from year to year:

- A representative from a community media publication.
- A representative from university journalism program.
- A journalist from a for-profit news outlet.
- A representative from the BGA Board of Directors.
- A representative from the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation.

Works that include any significant role by a panelist may not be entered into the contest. Panelists are also asked to recuse themselves from judging on entries where publications they represent are substantially involved. While this can represent a challenge on the part of individuals and newsrooms, the BGA and Driehaus Foundation appreciate the sacrifice to ensure the integrity of the award.

If you would like to be considered for the 2009 judging panel or wish submit a colleague for nomination, please contact Heidi Grossenbacher, Development and Communications Director at hgrossenbacher@bettergov.org.