

***“Hometown”***

*A collaboration opportunity offered by the Project for Better Journalism*

Have you ever wondered what parts of your community are particularly special? When you think of your home and its surroundings, what stands out? What makes your community strong and what makes it weak? And what role do you and your classmates play in the community?

In this assignment, you’ll have the opportunity to creatively express your perspective on your hometown or community. Your submission will be displayed alongside other submissions by students all across the country—and many of them will have very different responses to the idea of “Hometown”! You’ll be able to view them on an interactive website, with many forms of expression.

**The theme of this assignment is "Hometown":**

* What's unique about your community? What is its setting—geographic or urban/suburban/rural—and how has that setting contributed to its uniqueness?
* Are there specific elements to your community that make it shine—specific individuals, cultural elements, or particular diversity—or make it weak?
* In the recent context of your community, how has your community evolved in response to events, challenges, and changes?

You can submit anything you’d like. The only requirement is that your submission substantially relate to the theme and tell a compelling story.

You can submit anything, including but not limited to—

* Non-fiction written work (articles, profiles, personal essays, interviews, etc.)
* Creative written work (short stories, essays significantly relating to your hometown, poetry, etc.)
* Video and other motion media (documentary, artistic portrayal of your hometown, etc.)
* Photo essays or collages that tell a story
* Creative artwork (prints, paintings, etc)
* Audio work (podcast, spoken word, original music composition, etc.)

**DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION**

Submissions must be turned in to PBJ by December 1, 2016 at 11:59pm Eastern Time.   
You’ll need to complete the steps for submission found here:  
*http://docs.betterjournalism.org/docs/16f-collab-students*