

Third Rail Hailed by Journalism Giant

Photo by
John Adlan



Business Manager Joe Brush

BY WILLIAM KLINE

CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Publication, Third Rail Magazine, won a Gold Medalist Certificate from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association [CSPA], a student media coalition owned by Columbia University.

Recognized for their Spring 2008 issue, entitled "God Damn American Apartheid," Third Rail Magazine placed in the top 95th percentile out of a pool of 400 applicants.

"It's a very hard review," said Business Manager, Joe Brush. "They don't let anything slide by."

College publications like the Third Rail win awards through contests and affiliations such as the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The Third Rail also belongs to the College Press Association, the New York Press Association, and the Student Press Law Center. Branching out to organizations like these helped the Third Rail win an award in 2003.

The Third Rail previously won an award for reporting, in an issue that featured a cover of former CSI president, Dr. Marlene Springer. Five years later, when Columbia University lauded the student-run magazine, they hoped to garner some esteem from not only CSI students, but from readers all around the state.

"We hope that people who associate with Columbia, associate us with that standard," said Brush.

Brush pointed out the high degree of teamwork it takes to construct an award-winning magazine issue. He specifically thanked writers Nikki Bautista and Mike Miley, art director Neil Schuldiner, and "most importantly" Jeff Graham and Michael Guatieri.

"I can not be the reason for the award," Brush said.

According to their website, Columbia University founded the CSPA in 1925. The CSPA is affiliated with Columbia's Graduate School for Journalism, which remains a renowned institution for aspiring journalists.