Northeastern Wisconsin Scholastic Press Association
NEWSPA

Rules for Newspaper Competition – 2012

General:

1. Any student enrolled in a Wisconsin public, parochial or private high school, on a newspaper staff, and a member of NEWSPA is eligible to enter.
2. There are five divisions--Writing, Design, Photography, Student-Developed Website and Publication. Each division has several categories that students can enter. If you enter one or several categories from each division, you pay that division's entry fee only once.
3. The entry time period is from March 1, 2011 to February 28, 2012. Writing, Design, Student-Developed Website or Publication entries not published during this time period will be disqualified. Photography entries are not required to be published, but should have been taken within the entry time period.
4. Only TWO entries from each category can be submitted by a school. Extra entries received for a category will be disqualified.
5. Each writing and design entry must contain an ENTIRE page(s) (tearsheet), not a clipping of the article or graphic. Outline the entry in red. If two entries appear on the same page use two separate tearsheets.
6. Each student-developed Website entry must have a printout of the article, photo, graphic or site design.
7. Each entry must have a title and student name(s) listed.
8. Staple to the front of each writing, graphics and student-developed Website entry a completed entry form.
   Tape a completed photo entry form to the back of each photo.
   Paper clip to the front of each publication entry a completed entry form.
9. Completed entry forms should be typed or hand printed. If completed entry form is not legible, the entry may be disqualified.
10. Put entries in order before sending, first by division and then by category.
11. The entries are divided by small (699 or less), medium (700-1,199) and large (1,200 & over) schools.

Judging:

The entries will be judged by a panel of professional journalists and journalism educators. The contest committee/judges reserve the right to shift entries to another category or to disqualify any entries that do not meet the established rules.

Awards:

Recognition will be given at the **Spring Conference, Wednesday, April 25, 2012** on the UW-Oshkosh campus. Judges reserve the right to duplicate awards or to eliminate awards when it is felt that no entry in a category merits an award.

Entry Fees/Membership Fee:

Writing and Design Divisions each -- $10

* Articles and design entries should have been published in the school newspaper or in the school column of a community paper.
* The Writing Division has 14 categories and the Design Division has five categories.

Photography Division -- $10

* Publication of photo(s) not required but should have been taken within the entry time period of March 1, 2011 to February 28, 2012.
* The Photo Division has five categories.

Student-Developed Website Division -- $10

* Articles, photos/graphics and site design entries should have been published on the student-developed Website.
* The Student-Developed Website Division has three categories.

Publication Entry -- $60

* Two consecutive issues (one set) of a newspaper must be submitted as one entry. Include weekly news sheets where applicable.

Membership -- $65 (If not already paid)

Go to www.uwosh.edu/journalism/newspa/membership.php to see if your school has already paid membership for the year.

Deadline
Membership/Entries/Fees
Monday, March 5, 2012

MAILING ADDRESS: UW-Oshkosh
NEWSPA
Department of Journalism
800 Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901-8696

Any questions call: 920-424-7145
920-424-1042
E-mail: benish@uwosh.edu
schultzc@uwosh.edu
Fax: 920-424-7146

Yearbook Competition

* The yearbook competition is separate from the newspaper competition.
* The books, entries and fees must be received by July 2 for Spring books and September 30 for Fall books.
* Winners for 2012 are from the 2011 spring and fall yearbook entries.

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I. WRITING DIVISION

1. News Story--General. Coverage of a community event or issue with stress on the informative elements of journalism. Should be a timely article either in advance of or coverage of the event.
2. News Story--Academic/Class Related or Extracurricular. Coverage of an academic/class related or extracurricular event or issue using the informative elements of journalism. Should be a timely article.
3. News Story--Sports. Coverage of a sports event or issue with stress on the informative elements of journalism. Should be a timely article.
4. Feature Story--Entertaining. Article must, for instance, focus on human interest, description or humorous incidents.
5. Feature Story--Personality Profile. Article should be a personal portrait in words of an individual.
6. Feature Story--News Based. Article should explore a serious aspect of the news.
7. Feature Story--Sports. Article should focus on one of the creative elements of journalism (color, description or emotional appeal) of a sports-related topic.
8. Editorial. An expression of opinion or interpretation of a school-related event, issue or policy.
9. Column--Humorous. One humorous column. It may be news or feature in nature.
10. Column--Serious. One serious column. It may be news or feature in nature.
11. Column--Sports. One sports column. It may be news or feature in nature.
12. Review. Article should review books, records, concerts, plays, etc.
13. In-Depth Reporting I. A single story that requires extensive research and/or investigation including the use of multiple local sources and goes beyond summary-type news.
14. In-Depth Reporting II. A series of stories, either from several successive issues or within one issue, all on the same general subject. This series should reflect extensive research and/or investigation including use of multiple local sources.

II. DESIGN DIVISION

1. Ads. Layout, planned and produced by students (may include supplied logo).
2. Editorial Cartoons. Any topic.
3. Comic Strips. Any topic.
4. Hand-Rendered Illustration. (Traditional media or Adobe Illustrator/similar image creation software)
5. Photo Illustration. (Adobe Photoshop/similar image editing software)
6. Page Design/Layout. (Photo or Hand-rendered Illustration integrated with body of story in full page or spread layout)
7. Logo Design (E.g. mastheads, mascots, etc.)

III. PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

1. News Photo. An event focusing on the informative elements of the subject.
2. Sports Photo. A sports event which may be news or feature.
3. Feature Photo. A photo that emphasizes human interest, mood or emotional appeal rather than storytelling.
4. Essay and Series Photo(s). A single photo or sequence of photos which tell a story, and contains strong human interest, appeal or a central theme.
5. Open Photo. Any theme.

Additional Rules for Photography Division

* Mount each photo entry, preferably on 8x10 illustration board.
* Mount essay and series, preferably on two hinged boards that are each 8x10.
* Photo can be any size on the 8x10 illustration board.

Note: *While it is NEWSPA's intention to return photos, such a return is not guaranteed.*

IV. STUDENT-DEVELOPED WEBSITE DIVISION

1. Writing. A story written exclusively for the online site.
2. Photographs/Graphics. A photo taken or a graphic designed exclusively for the online site.
3. Site Design. The overall appearance, including quality, creativeness and ease of use of the online site.

Additional Rules for Student-Developed Website

* Printouts of the stories, photos and graphics, including the date of the publication and the location of the site (like home page or section fronts such as student activities, news, sports, etc., if applicable)
* Printouts of the Home Page and any other section fronts, if applicable, which include the date and site location. Material from only one date or issue is needed.

V. PUBLICATION DIVISION

1. Newspaper, Small School. (699 students & under). Paper published through journalism class.
2. Newspaper, Small School. (699 students & under). Paper NOT published through journalism class.
3. Newspaper, Medium School. (700-1,199 students). Paper published through journalism class.
4. Newspaper, Medium School. (700-1,199 students). Paper NOT published through journalism class.
5. Newspaper, Large School. (1,200 students & over). Paper published through journalism class.
6. Newspaper, Large School. (1,200 students & over). Paper NOT published through journalism class

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