Middle School Mail-In Competition

Who may enter: Students must be in 6th through 9th grades and be enrolled at a Kansas middle school, junior high, or K-8 building. Advisers of entering students must be members of the Kansas Scholastic Press Association. Each school may have up to 12 entries divided among the 6 contests as they see fit. Cost to enter ALL contests is $12 per school, payable by check to the Kansas Scholastic Press Association. Entries must be postmarked by April 21, 2014. All entries and awards will be judged and placed in mail by May 7 and in your hands by or before May 15. (If you need them sooner, let us know. )The $12 pays for return postage, certificates, and up to two medals for each Superior entry.

Mail entries to

Mary Patrick

KSPA Middle School Contest Coordinator

Maize South Middle School

3403 N. Tyler

Wichita, Kansas 67205

Entries may be submitted in the following categories:

PHOTOGRAPHY

Entries may be either black and white or color. Students who enter this category should submit photos that have appeared in either the newspaper or yearbook within the last year. Photos may be either digitally or traditional film produced and the printing on glossy photograph paper is encouraged. On the back of the photo attach the entry form and a caption. The picture need not be cropped for competition in the same manner as it appeared in the publication.

Judges will look for imaginative subject matter, technical quality, composition, visual impact, story told by photograph, simplicity, cropping, and lighting. Photo does not have to be mounted.

FEATURE WRITING

The feature should be written in ink or on computer and be an approximate maximum of 350 words. It should be one that is appearing in a current yearbook, literary magazine, or newspaper or published within the last year.

Judges will look for attention-grabbing leads, feature style as opposed to news style, colorful details, use of direct quotes and anecdotes, reader appeal, accuracy, and completeness.

LAYOUT

Entries must be student-designed and can be for yearbook, newspaper, or literary magazine. The layout may be designed on computer or on grid paper. Judging will be for the layout only, but do have copy, photos, art, etc. placed on pages or at least marked where they should be. Judges will look for clean layout, effective positioning of elements, evidence of consideration for readers, creative graphic approaches, and a sense of personality or style.

BROADCAST

Broadcast may be video or audio on any topic and should be on a CD or DVD. (VHS or cassette are acceptable.) Include a note indicating the section to be judged if there is more than one. Segments judged should not exceed 3 minutes. Judges will look for audio and visual clarity, use of colorful, clear details, reader appeal, accuracy, and completeness.

HOW TO ENTER:

1. Complete an entry form for each entry you send. (Copy it as many times as you wish up to 12 entries.) It is acceptable to have a team of students create a story, layout, or broadcast although no more than 2 Superior medals will be given for each team if the team is ranked Superior.
2. Attach form securely to back of entry.
3. Mail entries and $12 (check made out to KSPA) to Mary Patrick, Contest Coordinator, KSPA Middle School Mail-In, 3403 N. Tyler, Wichita, Kansas 67205.
4. Entries MUST BE postmarked April 20 if you plan to get them back before school is out.
5. You will receive back the following: all entries with positive, instructive, helpful critiques, certificates for those judged Honorable Mention, Excellent, Superior, and medals for those judged Superior. Contest fees pay for mailings, certificates, and medals.
6. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Patrick at [mpatrick@usd266.com](mailto:mpatrick@usd266.com)

ENTRY FORM

Student name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Type of entry: (circle one)

Photograph Layout Yearbook Layout Newspaper or Newsmag Layout Literary Magazine

Feature Story Broadcast Entry

Adviser name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Adviser e-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I do certify that the work sent is original to the student(s) who created it.

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