

2009 Dakotas AP News and Photo Contest Rules

Deadline: Friday, February 13, 2009

Contest Period

The contest period is from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008.

Eligibility

Any news story or photograph written or taken by a regular employee of a North Dakota or South Dakota AP member newspaper and published during the contest period shall be eligible.

Prizes

First-place winners in each photo and writing category shall receive a \$50 cash award. In addition, winners of first, second, third and honorable mention will receive certificates.

Sweepstakes Winners

Judges will select the best story and best photo in the contest for the Sweepstakes Awards. Sweepstakes winners will NOT win first-place awards, and they will not be announced in advance. The two Sweepstakes winners each shall receive \$100 cash awards.

Entry Deadlines

Entries must be in the Sioux Falls AP bureau no later than **February 13, 2009**, to allow time for judging in another state.

Entries should be sent to:

**The Associated Press
330 North Main Avenue, Suite 301
Sioux Falls, SD 57104**

Contest Days

For the Page One category, contest days shall be March 19, 2008 and October 1, 2008.

Entry Fee

Each newspaper will pay a flat fee of \$155 regardless of the number of entries.

Questions

Call Arlene Murphy at 800-952-9911

Photo Contest Rules

Deadline Friday, February 13, 2009

Entries shall be tear sheets, PDFs or clippings of the photos as published, each entry in a separate folder or large envelope with the contest entry label attached to the **outside of the folder or envelope**. Each entry also should be **clearly marked** with the name of the photographer, the name of the newspaper, the size division, the title, and the category. Labels are provided in this packet for your convenience. Make additional photo copies as needed.

*Note: Originals are NOT required for judging. Judging will be done from the tear sheet. Entries shall be judged as much as possible on the photo itself and not on the quality of newspaper reproduction.

Each entry shall include only one photo. A sequence of photos may not be entered as a single entry. Each newspaper may enter a TOTAL of 20 photos, spread among the three categories as desired.

Judging Criteria:

- Difficulties encountered and the conditions under which the photographer worked.
- Dramatic quality achieved covering a story where unrehearsed action is obvious.
- Importance or interest of the story the picture illustrates.
- Technical quality inherent to the photo. Quality of newspaper reproduction shall not be considered.

Photo Categories

Large (16,001 circulation and greater)

News
Sports
Feature

Medium (6,001-16,000 circulation)

News
Sports
Feature

Small (Up to 6,000 circulation)

News
Sports
Feature

Remember, each newspaper may enter a total of 20 photos divided among the three subject categories as the newspaper sees fit.

Newswriting Contest
Deadline Friday, February 13, 2009

Each entry shall be submitted in the form of a tear sheet, clipping, PDF or photocopy inside a letter-sized manila folder or large envelope with the contest label affixed to the outside. Each entry also should be **clearly marked** with the name of the writer, the name of the newspaper, the size division, the title and the category. Labels are provided in this packet for your convenience. Make additional photo copies as needed. Total entries from each newspaper may not exceed 30 items.

Size Divisions

Large (16,001 circulation and greater)
Medium (6,001-16,000 circulation)
Small (Up to 6,000 circulation)

Categories

Spot News

Spot news refers to coverage of a spontaneous event. Entries will be judged on writing excellence and the story's thoroughness and effectiveness.

General News

General news means planned coverage of a known event or issue. Entries will be judged on writing excellence and the story's thoroughness and effectiveness.

Sports

Coverage of sporting contests, issues or individuals. Entries will be judged on writing excellence, organization and impact.

Editorials

Entries should be limited to state and local issues. Supportive material to illustrate the effectiveness of the editorial or background matter relating to the topic may be submitted with the entry. Entries will be judged on quality of writing, regard for reader concerns, editorial initiative and courage.

Page One Makeup

Each newspaper may enter up to three front pages -- two from the dates specified in the contest (March 19, 2008 and October 1, 2008) and one other front page from any day of the contest year. Entries will be judged on eye appeal, use of typography, use of pictures and stories, readability and presentation of news.

Feature

Entries will be judged on subject, originality, quality of writing and impact. The entry package may include photos.

Questions

Call Arlene Murphy at 800-952-9911