

2009 South Dakota Associated Press TV Contest Rules and Entry Form
Deadline: Friday, Jan. 23, 2009

Station: _____

City: _____

Entry Title: _____

Name(s) of entrant(s): _____

Eligibility

The contest is open to all commercial and noncommercial television stations receiving the South Dakota Associated Press broadcast wire. Out-of-state stations may enter and there is no requirement that stories involve South Dakota. Advisories were sent on the Monday following the weeks chosen for best newscast, sportscast and weathercast, and stations must choose a show from that Monday-Sunday in 2008: March 10-16, June 2-8, Sept. 29-Oct. 5, Dec. 1-7. All other entries must have aired in the 2008 calendar year.

Categories, Entry Limit, Maximum Length (check one):

- ___ **1. Series:** Multi-part reports from a regularly scheduled newscast; three; 30 minutes total.
- ___ **2. Documentary:** A one-time special broadcast examining a single issue or event; one; 60 minutes.
- ___ **3. Spot News:** For quality in reporting a breaking story within 24 hours of the unscheduled event; three; 10 minutes.
- ___ **4. General Reporting:** Coverage of a planned event during a regularly scheduled newscast; three; 10 minutes.
- ___ **5. Investigative-Enterprise:** In-depth reporting that results in a story that otherwise would not have been reported; three; 10 minutes.
- ___ **6. Newscast:** For best single newscast based on news judgment, writing, editing and presentation from one of four contest weeks; one; 30 minutes.
- ___ **7. Sportscast:** For best single sportscast based on selection of material, writing, editing and presentation from one of four contest weeks; three (each from a different person); 5 minutes.
- ___ **8. Sports Story:** For the best single sports story; three; 5 minutes.
- ___ **9. Best Video:** Best use of video in a story with considering on the "eye" of the photographer and not necessarily the subject matter; five (each from a different person); 5 minutes.
- ___ **10. Feature:** For excellence in news or sports feature material contained within a regularly scheduled newscast; three; 5 minutes.
- ___ **11. Writing:** For best use of the written word to convey a single story to the listener or viewer (script must accompany the entry); three.
- ___ **12. Spot Weather:** For best coverage of a breaking weather event outside of a regular newscast (can be taken from any day throughout the contest year; include in-studio anchors, field reports and multiple updates on a major weather event; can be a duplicate of a story entered under Spot News); three; 10 minutes.
- ___ **13. Weathercast:** For the best-produced weather segment based on content, delivery, graphics and clarity from one of four contest weeks; three (each from a different person); 5 minutes.
- ___ **14. Web Site** (http://_____): Criteria include graphics, design, ease of use, information, usefulness and whether it's up to date (judges are asked to log onto the sites at least three different days to judge them and place particular emphasis on whether the site is updated); one.
- 15. Overall Excellence:** For the most complete general news service during the year, based on the quality of each station's entries in all of the above categories.

Verification

"To the best of my knowledge, all materials submitted in the South Dakota Associated Press Broadcasters Association news contest by my station are authentic and were originated by this station unless otherwise indicated."

News Director's name: _____ News Director's signature: _____

Format: Use standard DVDs that can play in a player or computer and put all entries for a category on one disk.

Entry Fee

The fee is \$20 for each entry. Each story/newscast/sportscast/weathercast is considered a separate entry.

Prizes

A plaque will be awarded for one first place in each category and certificates will be awarded for two honorable mentions in each category, though judges can deviate from that based on the entries. One television station will be chosen to receive an Overall Excellence Award, based on the quality of its entries.

Deadline: Please deliver or mail this form, DVD and \$20 check per entry by **Friday, Jan. 23, 2009** to:

The Associated Press
330 North Main Ave., Suite 301
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-332-3111

Packaging Instructions

Please follow this checklist when packaging your entries. Remember, the categories are judged by AP members in another state, so it's important that the judges are able to separate entries by category.

1. Be sure all DVDs are clearly marked with the station's call letters, category, title of the entry and names of the entrants. Remember that DVDs could become separated from the entry forms so we need to be able to identify them.
2. Fill out a separate entry form for each entry. Make as many photocopies of this form as you need. Do not combine entries on a single form because your entries may be divided among several judges.
3. Please leave the entry forms flat and put them all together in your package so we can easily sort and make copies. Please do not staple the pages together or wrap the forms around DVDs with rubber bands (it slows down the process on our end.)
4. Ship or deliver all your entries to AP in a single box. If some entries are mailed separately they could become lost.

Questions: Carson Walker cwalker@ap.org or Arlene Murphy amurphy@ap.org in Sioux Falls, 605-332-3111.