

YSU

Press Day

TCJA

2008

Newspaper Individual Award Judging Criteria (FORM N4)

2008

To Be Eligible for an Award, entrants must attend Press Day!
All work must be created, written and designed entirely by students.

News article. Must be factual (no editorializing), accurate, well-organized and clearly written, with appropriate attribution.

Feature article. Must be engaging and clearly-written, capturing the essence of the topic or person with intriguing details and colorful questions.

Editorial. Thought-provoking writing that represents the “voice” of the publication; provides fair analysis with emphasis on good research and constructive criticism or advocacy.

Editorial cartoon. Must display a clear message regarding a social or political topic or event and be well-drawn.

Column/Opinion. Thought-provoking writing that reflects the author’s thoughtful analysis and reflection on a topic; may be entertaining.

In-depth/Series. Three or more articles centered on a specific topic; each article must meet criteria of news or feature article as describe above; overall, the series must go into depth of detail to discover important trends.

Photography. A published, non-sports photo with appropriate contrast, balance, framing and composition; must capture the essence of an event or subject.

Sports news article. Must follow general criteria for news article (above); must go beyond game summary, follow standards for sports writing, and avoid overuse of sports jargon.

Sports feature article. Must follow general criteria for feature article (above) with focus on an athlete, team, or sports-related subject.

Sports photography. A published, non-sports photo with appropriate contrast, balance, framing and composition; must capture the essence of a game’s action or outcome, or of an athlete’s performance.

Headline writing. Judged for accuracy to story, creativity, and how well it draws audience into the story.

Review. Evaluation of book, movie, concert, album, play, or other artistic work; must go beyond mere description or summary.

Personality profile. Article about a person reflecting that person’s views, interests, and achievements without adulation.

Advertisement. Must attract audience to the service or product with outstand writing and visual design.

Artwork. Original and attention-getting work of art that conveys a message or feeling relevant and appropriate for the high school press.

Short fiction. Original work of creative writing that conforms to accepted for outstanding fiction (plot, theme, characterization, etc.).

Poetry. Original work of creative writing that conforms to accepted criteria for outstand poetry (compactness of language, creative use of details, etc.).

Front Page Layout and design. Must have outstanding overall visual impact, including descending headline font size, dominant graphics, and appropriate placement of articles, photos, and illustrations. Not judged on content (grammar, style, spelling).

Layout and design/Sectional. Must display exceptional and creative layout of a specific section, such as news, sports, entertainment; judged on strength of visual impact (placement of articles, photos, and illustrations).

Investigative Reporting. An article centered on a specific topic; the article must meet criteria of news or feature article as described above; overall, the article must go into depth of detail to discover important information.

It is possible for no winners to be chosen in a category. In addition, the Press Day board requests a narrative outlining any unique problems faced in the production of the newspaper, including prior review.

Entries must be postmarked by March 28 to be considered for awards.