



Information > AIPA Fall Contest for Newspapers

Advisers: Entries from print and online newspapers may be submitted in this contest. Categories include writing, photography, artwork and layout design. All entries must be submitted online as follows.

Contest deadline: June 15

Winners announcement: AIPA Fall Convention

Rules and Regulations

- 1) The school/publication **MUST** be a member of AIPA to submit the contest. Entries submitted by a non-member school will not be judged. If you aren't sure if you are a member, contact Paula Casey: p.casey@anews.com. You have time to join AIPA before entering the contest.
- 2) Each entry must have been created/published between August and May of the current school year. Any entry published before or after this date will be disqualified.
- 3) Payment must be arranged at the time of submission.
- 4) Most categories allow for up to four entries. Entries may not be submitted in more than one category.

Screening Process

Please check your entries carefully before submitting them. All content materials become the property of AIPA. First place winners may be used for publication purposes.

Due to the large number of entries, please follow this screening process or entries **MAY BE DISQUALIFIED** for the following reasons: --
Entries submitted in the wrong category. Please read thoroughly the descriptions for each category to determine if an entry meets the criteria listed

- Writing and photography entries not outlined in RED on the page. Failure to indicate the specific entry will result in disqualification.
- Incomplete information included with the entry e-mail.
- Entering more than four entries per category.
- Not having been published or posted during the contest period.
- Copyright violation or plagiarized work.
- Submissions received after the deadline.

Remember: You must submit the Membership and Contest Registration Form before you will be eligible. This form is available at azaipa.org as an online submission as well as a PDF.

To enter, follow these steps:

- 1) Fill out the Membership and Contest Registration form found at azaipa.org.
- 2) Request your Google Drive folder using the link to the form also found at azaipa.org. You will receive your folder within a few days.
- 3) Refer to the Category Description, naming each of your entries with category number_school name_ student's full name_ and an abbreviated headline or caption.
Example: N1_ SunriseMountain_ KristyRoschke_Homecoming.
- 4) Upload all entries into the shared Google folder.
- 5) Inside your drive folder, you will find a spreadsheet on which to list each entry.
- 6) Online publications may use the spreadsheet to give the links to live web entries, making sure to include the URL for each entry. *No need for a file upload on live web entries.

NOTE: Online submission is required for all contest entries except General Excellence entries, which must be postmarked by June 15.

Mail (registration form, payment & General Excellence entries only) to:

AIPA c/o Paula Casey
1001 N. Central Ave., Suite 670
Phoenix, AZ 85004-1947

Judging: Judges will follow professional standards and guidelines for each category. Judges may be professionals working in the journalism field or experienced and impartial advisers. Also, please remember that this is strictly a contest and not an evaluation or critique service.

Remember: Contest entries must have been published between August and May of the current school year. Limit four entries per category. Entries may not be submitted in more than one category.

If you have questions, email Jan Carteaux at aipacontest@gmail.com.

Newspaper Category Descriptions > AIPA Fall Contest

N1 - News Story

News stories should report but not interpret events that have news value and timeliness to the publication's readers. The entry may be an advance or coverage story. Subject matter need not relate to school activity. Entries will be judged on news story standards. Focus will be given to strong leads, strong paragraph beginnings, avoiding editorializing and good use of sources. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N2 - Feature Story

All types of features are eligible, except sports features. This can include an informative feature, human interest, personality profile, diversity coverage, environmental, health or science topics. Entries will be judged on timeliness, organization, lead, use of quotes, writing style and form appropriate to story. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N3 - Sports Story

Entries can be a sports news story or sports feature. Sports news stories may include general sports news or sports events and are constructed in news style. Sports features may include personality profile, informative, interpretive (why), and/or human interest features specifically related to sports. Entries are not limited to high school sports. Entries will be judged on organization, lead, use of quotes, writing style and form appropriate to story. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N4 - Editorial

Editorials should represent the opinion of the staff, editors or editorial board on a timely news matter of concern to the school, community, state, nation or world. They may express appreciation, offer interpretation or attempt to deal with problems. They are not personal columns. Editorials are not to be bylined, signed or initialed, or in any way identified as being the opinion of the writer(s). Pro/con editorials may be entered in this category. Entries will be judged on reader interest, appropriateness, clarity of purpose, structure and effectiveness. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N5 - Column / Sports Column

A series of three articles of personal opinion, which carry the byline of a single writer and may comment on any subject of interest (including sports) and/or concern to the readers, or may express dissent from the majority opinion expressed in editorials. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N6 - News or Feature In-Depth Reporting

Entries should concern subjects of a substantive and contemporary nature and go beyond the surface facts, giving the reader detailed background information with interpretation based upon the facts and background information. It can include an analysis to its meaning. It is an elaboration of the WHY. Multiple sources are necessary. Entries will be judged on quality of subject matter, use of sources, thoroughness of coverage and writing style. Entries can be from a newspaper or magazine.

N7 - Review Writing

Reviews should present opinions, observations and evaluations of films, books, television, recordings, concerts, plays, restaurants and other things of interest to the publication's readers. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N8 - News, Feature or Sports Photo

Photos in this category should be non-portrait photos based either on on-the-spot coverage of an event that had news value and timeliness or on the drama and emotion characteristic of features. Each photo must include a caption. Photos may be in color or black and white. Photos will be judged on the impact of the photo and the quality of the photo as printed. Up to four (4) entries may be submitted. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N9 - Portrait

A posed photo related to news, feature or sports story. Photos may be shot using studio elements including lighting and backdrops, or may be shot in natural conditions. Each photo must include a caption. Photos may be in color or black and white. Photos will be judged on the impact of the photo and the quality of the photo as printed. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N10 - Editorial Cartoon

This category includes only editorial cartoons, which appear on the editorial opinion page. It makes a point and delivers commentary or opinion. Entries should be artwork created to present an editorial point of view. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N11 - Original Artwork

This category includes original artwork, either drawn by hand or created on a computer by a student. Comic strips can also be included in this category. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper, magazine or literary magazine.

N12 - Graphics and Artwork

This category includes original artwork, comic strips, photos, texts, art illustrations, charts, graphs or diagrams. Entries may be created by hand or computer. Entries will be judged on visual technique and impact. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N13 - Information Graphic

This category includes a chart, graph, or diagram created by hand or computer that is used to supplement written content or in place of written content. Entries should give the reader information in a visual form. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N14 - Newspaper Front Page

Each entry should contain a nameplate and shouldn't include advertising. Entries will be judged on subject matter, design and overall use of space. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N15 - News Magazine Front Page

Each entry should contain a nameplate and shouldn't include advertising. Entries will be judged on subject matter, design and overall use of space. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N16 - News Page or Spread

Content on these entries is restricted to news. Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Advertising may or may not be included on these page(s). Entries will be judged on subject matter and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N17- Feature Page or Spread

Content on these entries is restricted to features, and may be one significant story, a package of related stories, or diverse feature stories. Advertising may or may not be included on these page(s). Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Entries will be evaluated for subject matter and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N18- Sports Page or Spread

Content on these entries is restricted to sports. Advertising may or may not be included. Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Entries will be evaluated for subject matter and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N19 - Editorial Opinion Page or Spread

Content on these entries is restricted to editorials, opinion writing and personal columns. Content may include an editorial, columns, bylined opinion, polls, surveys, letters and cartoons. The masthead is normally on an opinion page. No advertising should appear on the editorial page but may be used on an opinion page. Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Entries will be evaluated for subject matter and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N20 - Entertainment Page or Spread

Content on these entries is restricted to features and news dealing with entertainment (music, plays, movies, reviews). Advertising may or may not be included on these page(s). Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Entries will be evaluated for subject matter and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N21 - Story Package

Content on these entries should be based on one significant topic built around a dominant story packaged with or without a secondary story; dominant art and possibly secondary art; and may include other quick reads. The package may start on one page and jump inside, or it may start/finish on the same page. This does not need to be a true spread or full-page design. Entries will be evaluated for content and design. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N22 - Photo Story Page or Spread

A photo story includes the use of several photos on a related theme to tell a story. It must include a headline and captions and may or may not include copy. All photos must include captions. Entries can be a single page or a two-page cohesive spread. Judging will be on the overall impact of the photos, caption writing and layout. Entries can be from an online or print newspaper or magazine.

N23 - Original Web Design

The entire website from a design perspective is evaluated. Must be original work. Sites that are based on established publisher templates do not qualify unless significant design modifications have been made to the template.

N24 - Multimedia Online Package

Package should tell a single story published to the web and may include video, text, still photos, graphics and/or animation.