

PSPA CONTESTS

READY TO ROLL

THE CATEGORIES...

PSPA proudly announces that the 2024-2025 PSPA Student Journalism Contests will inspire everyone once again at colleges and universities across the state. See the timeline below for specifics.

You must register EVERY competitor by the deadlines listed below (all 10 days prior to each regional).

Timeline...

Regional Site/Date Confirmations:

Site - Date - Registration Deadline

Point Park - September 27 - (9/17)

Behrend - October 23 - (10/13)

Bloomsburg - October 24 - (10/14)

Lehigh Valley/Altoona - October 25 - (10/15)

Slippery Rock/York College - Nov. 1 - (10/22)

Temple - December 6 - (11/26)

NOTE: Schools may compete at only one regional. No student may compete in more than one category. Schools may only have up to **THREE** kids compete in each category.

ADVISER TO DO LIST

1. GET THOSE FIELD TRIP REQUESTS IN ASAP. That's vital.

- Upon release of the rubrics, have your students become familiar with them. **Our Best Advice:** Use them as tools to better your whole staff.
- For categories 4Y, 8E, 10L and 11L, students may bring their own DRY color mediums to use (colored pencils, markers, colored ink pens - no paints or spillable mediums allowed.)
- If you have students competing in categories 13YP, 14NP, 15BN, 15BF, 16BL, or 17POD, look over the "Items to Note" below.
- ALL schools must log on to paschoolpress.org to become a member. **MEMBERSHIP IS FREE!**

1Y - Yearbook Caption Writing - Given five candid pictures and background information, students must write five quality captions.

2Y - Yearbook Copy Writing - Given a topic, background information, and quotes, students will have to write a 250-300 word story.

3Y - Yearbook Sports Writing - Given a topic, background information, and quotes, students will have to write a 250-300 word sports story.

4Y - Yearbook Spread Design - Given three different design options, a topic, and a cover, students will have to hand draw plans for a yearbook spread as it might appear in their books.

5N - Newspaper News Writing - Given a topic, background information, and quotes, students will have to write a 250-300 word story.

6N - Newspaper Feature Writing - Given a topic, background information, and quotes, students will have to write a 250-300 word feature story.

7N - Newspaper Sports Writing - Given a topic, background information, and quotes, students will have to write a 250-300 word sports story.

8E - Editorial Cartoon - Students will receive an information sheet on a topic of general interest. After reading the material, students will create a relevant cartoon. Judges will look for a simple and clear editorial statement with evidence of artistic ability and a creative/cunning approach.

9E - Editorial Writing - Students will receive an information sheet on a topic of general interest. After reading the material, students will write an editorial using their ideas to either support or oppose a position.

10L - Literary Magazine Poetry - Students will write an original poem for a literary magazine using a theme and accompanying photo. Title the poem, and clearly indicate lines through identification and the use of margins. Students should: exhibit an understanding of poetry, its conventions, punctuation, and potential; create a setting; convey a tone; connect to feelings; and delve beyond the surface.

11L - Literary Magazine Artwork - Students will receive a poem. After reading it, they will create a drawing relevant to the poem that would accompany it in a literary magazine.

12B - Broadcast Writing - Students will be given six stories that they must convert into broadcast style. The script should examine at least four, be 90-seconds long (give or take five seconds), and adhere to the conventions of broadcast writing.

13YP - Yearbook Photography - Students will submit five pictures: personal profile, academics, anything music, frozen action, and best-in-show. The contest also requires well-written captions for each.

14NP - Newspaper Photography - Students will submit five pictures: personal profile, academics, anything music, frozen action, and best-in-show. The contest also requires well-written captions for each.

15BN - Broadcast Video News Package Up to three students may collectively submit a broadcast news package created after November 8, 2023.

15BF - Broadcast Video Feature Package Up to three students may collectively submit a broadcast feature package created after November 8, 2023.

16BL - Blog To compete here, students must provide the web address that takes us to their best blog created after November 8, 2023. Blog represents an individual event with no teams allowed.

17POD - Podcast To compete here, students must provide the web address that takes us to their best podcast created after November 8, 2023. Podcast entries may be individual or up to teams of three people.

ITEMS TO NOTE...

- You will have to preregister your students. Since registrations vary per different college requirements, we will update you with the full registration process later.
- PHOTO CATEGORIES** (13YP and 14NP), students will have to submit five pix: personal profile, academics, anything music, frozen action, and best in show. Students must include a full caption for each. **Also**, realize that the spring PSPA SJC Finals submission will require a picture taken at the Regional site.

- PAYMENT** - We will send you a purchase order for your total owed shortly AFTER the event. Non-payment may disqualify students from competing in Finals. Note: The cost for each student to compete is \$15 (15BF-17POD at \$15 per team.)
- FOR VIDEO/POD** categories, up to three students may collectively submit work created after November 8, 2023.
- DEADLINE FOR 13YP through 17POD Submissions:** 11:59 PM on October 25. You will submit to the PSPA website once we release the link to advisers around October 1.