

Individual Student Contests



Categories and guidelines

There is a \$2 fee per entry for individual student contests. Unless otherwise noted, entries are limited to **THREE per staff, per category**. Staff members should work with their fellow staffers and adviser to select the three best individual pieces from your staff per category. Entries that do not follow guidelines properly will be disqualified.

*Categories marked with an asterisk require the original artwork/photograph to be submitted with a published copy.

+Entries will be accepted from newspaper/newsmagazine and yearbook students in categories marked with a plus sign.

Judging procedure

Individual categories are designed to recognize outstanding achievement by individual staff members. The best entry deemed by judges will be recognized as All-Georgia. Other top entries will be designated Superior.

Please note the descriptions and outlines for all categories. Some categories require the submission of more than one piece of work. All entries will be judged on accuracy, completeness, fairness, creativity, clarity, precision and appropriate form.

BROADCAST

For the following categories, please submit the entry on DVD. Include only the individual entry on the recording. Please do not submit the entire TV program.

1. News Package

One news story (versus sports coverage or feature stories) produced by a broadcast student may be submitted. Entries will be judged on news value, reporting/writing and format.

2. In-depth News/Documentary

This category is for documentary-style packages with emphasis on research, interviewing and analysis.

3. Feature Package

Acceptable feature package types include human interest, descriptive, personality profiles, informative and how-to stories.

4. Production

This category includes non-news pieces that are heavy in production qualities. Acceptable entries include music videos, mini-movies, TV shows or PSAs.

5. Sports Package

This category can include both broadcast sports news and sports feature packages.

LITERARY MAGAZINE

For the following categories, please submit the page from the 2009-10 literary magazine containing the work. If the magazine has not been printed by the contest deadline, the adviser must certify the material submitted will be included in the final literary magazine by signing the individual student entry form.

6. Poem

Original poems with the author's byline may be submitted.

7. Short Story

Original short stories with the author's byline may be submitted.

8. Artwork*

Original artwork, not including the cover design, may be submitted. Submit one copy of the literary magazine page containing the art and one copy of the original artwork.

9. Cover Design*

This category includes hand or computer-generated artwork or photography used on the literary magazine cover. Submit one copy of the literary magazine cover and one copy of the original artwork.

10. Photograph*

Original photographs shot specifically for literary magazines are acceptable. The photograph's content and technical quality will be considered by

judges. Submit original photograph with one copy of the magazine page containing the photograph.

11. Spread Design

Submit one spread from the literary magazine. Please include all pages that comprise the spread.

NEWSPAPER/NEWSMAGAZINE

For the following categories, please submit a copy of the entry as it appeared in the published newspaper or newsmagazine from the 2009-10 school year, pasted onto an 8.5x11 sheet of paper.

12. News Story

News stories should report but not interpret events that have news value and timeliness to the publication's readers. This category includes advance and follow-up stories.

13. In-depth News Story

Stories should be in-depth and interpretive, characterized by the use of background information and should inform or instruct the reader. The elements "why" and "how" should be examined. Stories may lack the timeliness of news stories and may lack dependence on a specific news event.

14. Feature Story

Acceptable feature story types include human interest, descriptive, informative and how-to stories.

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15. Feature Profile

Feature stories focusing on one individual's life, accomplishments, story, etc.

16. Column

Columns must carry bylines or other writer identification and appear in every issue or on a regular basis. A series of columns throughout the year stapled together is considered one entry. All columns (entertainment, humor, etc.) that are not sports columns or editorial commentary (see below) may be entered in this category.

Exactly two columns by a single writer qualify as one entry. Single column entries will not be accepted.

17. Opposing Viewpoints Column

Opposing Viewpoints Columns represent the opinions of two writers on a singular topic.

18. House Editorials

House 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. In addition to providing the viewpoint of the staff, editorials provide facts and reasoning behind the opinion. House editorials are not bylined, signed or initialed, or in any way identified as being the opinion of a writer(s).

Exactly three house editorials qualify as one entry. Only one entry per staff accepted.

19. Commentary (Op-Ed Columns)

Commentary, or op-ed columns, should represent the opinion of the writer on a timely news matter of concern to the school, community, state, nation or world. The writer should provide facts and reasons to back up their opinion. Commentary should be bylined or otherwise identified as being the opinion of a particular writer(s).

Exactly two columns authored by the same writer(s) qualify as one entry.

20. Critical Review

Reviews should present opinions, observations and evaluations of films, books, television programs, recordings, concerts, plays, restaurants and other things of interest to the paper's market.

21. Sports News Story

Sports news stories should report but not interpret events that have news value and timeliness to the publication's readers. This category includes advance and follow-up stories. Please note separate category for sports game coverage.

22. Sports game coverage

On-the-spot coverage of a single sports event (i.e., game, match or meet).

23. Sports Feature Story

Stories may include human interest, personality profiles, informative and interpretative ("why") features related to sports topics.

24. Sports Column

Columns must be related to sports, carry bylines or other writer identification, and appear in every issue or on a regular basis.

Exactly two columns authored by the same writer(s) qualifies as one entry.

25. Headline Writing

Headlines should accurately reflect the content of stories without repeating the lead, and should draw readers into the story. Please include the articles for which the entries serve as headlines.

Submit at least three headlines written by the same student.

26. Caption Writing

Captions should contain sufficient information about the people and

action in the photograph, without stating the obvious. Please include the photographs.

Submit captions for three photographs, all written by the same student.

27. Editorial Cartoon*

Original artwork serving as news commentary. Each editorial cartoon counts as a separate entry.

28. Sports Photograph*+

Any non-portrait photo directly related to sporting events may be entered.

29. News Photograph*+

Photos in this category should be non-portrait, non-sports photos of on-the-spot coverage of an event that has news value and timeliness.

30. Feature Photograph*+

Photos should be non-portrait, non-sports photos that create a special effect or entertain, appeal to the emotions and accompany a feature story or stand alone on a page with a cutline.

31. Photo Essay*+

This category is for descriptive stories told through numerous photographs. Submit the full page, including the headlines, copy, photos and captions along with the original photographs. The entry will be judged on the quality of the photographs, copy and layout. Please include the names of all students who worked on the photo essay.

32. Information Graphic*+

This category includes artwork or information graphics used to enhance any news, feature or sports article. Submit tear sheet showing how the graphic was used with the original.

33. Illustration*+

This category is for hand-generated

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artwork created by a single student. Non-editorial cartoons from newspapers are accepted in this category. Illustrations that are part of information graphics should NOT be entered in this category.

34. Photo Illustration*+

Photo illustrations (photos manipulated for artistic purpose or to illustrate an idea) fall into this category. Submit tear sheet showing how the graphic was used with the original.

35. Double-truck layout/design

Centerspread layouts will be judged on content, design, originality and overall use of space.

36. Advertising Design*

This category includes student-designed and student-written advertisements. Judging will be based on originality, creativity, design, appeal and perceived effectiveness. Submit the entry on its tearsheet

from the newspaper (or a copy of the yearbook page on which it falls) and designate the ad in red ink with neat markings.

YEARBOOK

For the following categories, please generate a printed page from the 2008-09 yearbook containing the work. The adviser must certify the material submitted will be included in the final yearbook by signing the individual student entry form.

+Please note entries from yearbook students will also be accepted in categories 28-34.

37. Yearbook Story

Entries can include year-end recaps, school events or other standard yearbook stories. Stories should use creativity, but still follow basic journalistic writing standards.

38. Special Interest Story

This category includes specially-reported stories highlighting a specific issue, person or event unique

to the school year. Stories should use creativity, but still follow basic journalistic writing standards.

39. Spread Design

One or two pages may be submitted. Layouts will be judged on content, design, originality, creativity and overall use of space.

40. Cover Design

Only original, student-produced designs may be entered. Company-designed covers will not be accepted. Judges will consider use of color, design elements and relationship to the book's theme.

Only one entry per staff accepted.

41. Theme Development

Submit all theme-related pages, including the cover, endsheets, title page, opening, closing, divisionals and examples of other pages that highlight the yearbook's theme. Awards will recognize the staff.

Only one entry per staff accepted.

How to submit entries

- Unless otherwise noted, each GSPA member STAFF may submit THREE entries per category. Please check with your fellow staffers and adviser before submitting your entry.
- Each writing entry must be clipped out of the publication it appeared in and pasted neatly on a sheet of unlined 8 1/2 x 11 white paper. Please place only one story, column, etc. to each sheet. For large entries, fold the entry to fit the entry form. Entries for magazines and overall design may be oversized. Do not submit a disc copy.
- A story, photo or illustration may be submitted in only one category.
- *Original photographs and drawings should accompany the entries in the categories indicated with an asterisk. Digital photographs should be printed at the highest quality possible. Do not submit a disc copy. Attach a copy of the printed version of the entry including the cutline and showing how the photo or artwork was used. The printed version may be pasted on the same board as the original, or it may be on a separate paper or board and attached to the originals.
- Broadcast entries should be submitted on DVD, clearly marked with student's name, story title and name of program/school.
- Make copies of the entry form, fill it out and attach one entry form to each entry.
- Entries that do not include the \$2 entry fee will not be judged. Please indicate on the entry form if the fee is being paid with the staff's overall contest fees.
- GSPA is not responsible for items lost in the mail. Use of a certified mail delivery service is recommended.
- Due to the volume of entries received, GSPA cannot return entries.
- Good luck!

Official Entry Form

GSPA Individual Student Entry 2010

PLEASE NOTE -- There is a \$2 fee per entry for individual student contests, and entries are limited to THREE per staff, per category. Staff members should work with their fellow staffers and adviser to select the three best individual pieces from your staff per category. Entries that do not follow guidelines properly will be disqualified.

Story/student Information:

Headline/Title: _____

Publication name: _____ Issue date: _____

Student name: _____

Phonetic Spelling of name: _____

(for announcement at GSPA Awards Ceremony if entry is selected as superior)

Year: Senior Junior Sophomore Freshman

Name of Publication/Program _____

School _____ City _____ County _____

Media type: Newspaper/newsmagazine Literary Magazine* TV Program Yearbook*

*Submissions from works that are in the process of being published may be entered.

Which category are you entering? (Please list the category exactly as it appears in the guidelines).

Category # (required): _____ **Name of Category** _____

Adviser's Certification:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this is the work of the student named and/or this work is in the process of being published.

Adviser's signature: _____ Date: _____

Adviser's name (Please print): _____

Entry Fee: I have enclosed the \$2 fee with my entry.
 The entry fee is included with the overall contest fees for my staff.

Please attach this form to your entry and return to: GSPA Contests, Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, 120 Hooper Street, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-3018.

POSTMARK DEADLINE: MARCH 6, 2010