



Florida Awards of Excellence Call for Entries

The North Central Florida Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists is pleased to announce the Florida Awards of Excellence contest, open to all print (newspapers, magazines), broadcast (television, radio) and online journalists in Florida.

DATES: All entries must have been published or broadcast between Aug. 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009.

FEES: \$35 per individual entry (except “all media” categories).

If you are a member of SPJ, fees are \$20 per entry. Member number is required per entry to get the discount.

Full payment must accompany your entries by the contest deadline or your entries will be disqualified.

For “all media” categories - Public Service, Young Journalist of the Year, Journalist of the Year and Multimedia Presentation of the Year - the fee is \$45 per entry, \$35 if a member of SPJ (again, ID number required). Make checks payable to North Central Florida SPJ.

DEADLINE: Contest entries must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 20, 2009. All entries must be mailed to Amanda Decker @ 6220 NW 43rd St. Gainesville, FL 32653.

- Please send all entries at one time and in one package.
- Questions? E-mail Amanda Decker @ adecker@wcjb.com or call 352-416-0637.

DIVISIONS: For newspapers, there are three divisions based on circulation figures and frequency of publication, according to the latest Editor & Publisher Yearbook. Wire service entries will be judged in the highest circulation class.

- **Division A: Daily under 100,000**
- **Division B: Daily over 100,000**
- **Division C: Non-daily**

When entering a category, please indicate the category number and either A (under 100,000 circulation), B (over 100,000) or C (non-daily). For example, in newspapers,

general reporting, single story category for the largest circulation would be 5-B. You may submit any given article to as many relevant categories as you wish, but must pay entry fee for each additional category.

For television entries, there are also two divisions, based on latest designated market areas as defined by Nielsen Media Research.

- Division A: Pensacola/Fort Walton Beach, Fort Myers/Naples, Tallahassee, Panama City,
- Gainesville
- Division B (top 5 Florida markets): Tampa/St. Pete/Sarasota, Miami/Fort Lauderdale,
- Orlando/Daytona Beach/Melbourne, West Palm Beach/Fort Pierce, Jacksonville

Magazine, radio and online competition are each in one division.

Four categories – Public Service, Young Journalist of the Year, Journalist of the Year and Multimedia Presentation of the Year – are open to all media.

JUDGES: Will be out-of-state newspaper editors and journalists, television anchors and reporters, radio reporters and magazine editors. Decisions by the judges are final.

AWARDS: Judges may select first, second and third place winners in each category. No entries will be returned. Judges may elect to not award a category or a particular place in a category. Each winner (except all media categories) will receive an engraved plaque at the North Central Florida SPJ banquet at the Clarion Hotel in Gainesville on January 23, 2010.

A list of winners will be posted on the chapter's Web site (www.spj.org/northcentralflorida) by late December and also e-mailed to you. Winners of all media categories – Public Service, Young Journalist, Journalist of the Year and Multimedia Presentation of the Year – will each receive a trophy.

Entry format requirements

Please follow these instructions carefully. Entries incorrectly marked or not submitted according to the guidelines will be disqualified. No entry fees will be refunded and no materials will be returned. Photo copies of entry forms are acceptable.

FOR ALL ENTRIES

All entries must include two copies of the entry form. Staple one entry form to the inside left side of a standard 8½ x 11 inch manila folder. Please do not use paper clips, only one staple. Place the other entry form on the front of the folder (taped securely). Make sure you fill in all required information on your entry forms or your entry will be disqualified. Please write clearly on the forms. Entry fees will not be refunded.

Newspapers/Magazines

Staple the entry (one staple) in the appropriate manner on the right side inside the folder. You may fold the entry. Submit tearsheets for layout entries. Date of publication must be included. Printed color PDFs are acceptable, but photocopies are not. For writing entries, tearsheets are preferred, but PDFs and photocopies will be accepted. Date of publication must be included with entry (handwritten OK, but not on entry). Design entries should be neatly folded.

Photography

Entries must include the entire page(s) on which the photo(s) appeared. If prints are entered, proof of publication (photocopies OK) must be attached. Place the entry in a manila folder.

Television

Entries must be in DVD or VHS format. Information relating to the entry may be included as narration at the lead of the tape or DVD. Label each VHS tape or DVD with the name of entry, station and entrants.

Radio

Entries must be in the form of an audio cassette or CD. Information relating to the entry may be included as narration at the lead of the tape or CD. Place the entry inside the folder. To secure the entry to the folder, please fold the folder and place rubber bands around the entry folder.

Online

Entries must include Web address on entry form.