



Arizona Newspapers Association

The 2018 Better Newspapers Contest (BNC) and Excellence in Advertising Contest

The 2018 contest will open on May 1 at 7 a.m. and remain open until midnight June 1. The contest period (publication dates of entries) is May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

ANA's Association code (needed to create an account in the contest system) was emailed to all publishers, editors and ad managers. The code is case sensitive.

If you have misplaced or lost the code, call Julie O'Keefe, (602) 261-7655, xt.110.

Please make a special note of a few new items this year that you should be aware of:

- 1. NO MORE Mail-in entries.** ANA has joined in with the majority of associations that are running their contests as an e-operation only.
The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.
- 2. SPECIAL OFFER:**
All early bird entrants will be entered into a drawing for ONE FREE convention registration. This offer good for only one person per newspaper. Winners will be announced May 16 in the [This Week @ ANA](#) newsletter.
- 3. NEW PRICING FEES:**
 - \$9* / Early Bird – May 1 thru 15, 2018 (*Good only on Advertising categories:1-12; and BNC categories 10-29.)
 - \$10 / Regular Price – May 16 to close of entries on June 1, 2018, at midnight.
 - \$12 / LATE Fee - LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.
- 4. The 2018 contest will now have two separate divisions:**
 - Professional Newspapers
 - College Newspapers/News Organizations

Colleges will still adhere to all the same categories**, rules and pricing structure as set up for the professional newspapers. The General Excellence points they earn will be in their Division 6 only. This is the same rule as for all other divisions as well: no paper competes outside its division.

***Colleges are excluded from competing in Story of the Year, Journalist of the Year and Photographer of the Year.*
- 5. TWO NEW CATEGORIES are in the BNC NEWSPAPERS division.** We have improved the special sections and newspaper supplement or magazine competition. Those entries will now be two separate categories:
BNC #7 - Special Sections
BNC #8 - Newspaper Supplement or Magazine
- 6. NEW CATEGORY in the BNC INDIVIDUAL division.** We added another digital category to meet the changes of today's newsroom :
BNC #22 – Online Coverage of Breaking News

And remember... it's never too early to plan ahead to attend the Annual Meeting and Fall Convention on October 6. Held again at the convenient location of the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie O'Keefe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie O'Keefe
ANA Contest Manager/Comm. Mgr.
j.okeefe@ananews.com
(602) 261-7655, xt. 110



Better Newspapers Contest and Excellence in Advertising Contest

**Early Bird
DISCOUNT, May 1 - 15
\$9 per entry***

*Good on all Advertising
and BNC 10 - 29 categories only.
Late fees will apply after deadline.

NO MORE Mail-ins!

NEW:

PRICING FEES - page 4 & 7
COLLEGE DIVISION - page 2 & 7
NEW BNC category, #8 - page 8
NEW BNC category, #22 - page 9

Accepting Entries May 1 - June 1, 2018

Plan to join the excitement as the winners are announced at the
**ANA Fall Convention/Annual Meeting
and Awards Receptions:**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018

~ Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino | Chandler, Arizona ~

CONTEST DEADLINE:

**June 1, 2018 - Late fees will
apply after deadline**

Co-Sponsor:
Arizona Associated
Press Media Editors



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Instructions and Tips for BNC and Excellence in Advertising Entries

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2. Color mode. Converting your file from CMYK to RGB will reduce the file size.

WHAT PDF FILES DO I SUBMIT?

1. Only submit the pages that contain entry-related content. For example, if your story jumps from page 1 to page 4, only submit tearsheets for page 1 and page 4. We don't need pages 2 and 3.
2. Make PDF files as small as possible.

WHAT IS THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO COLLECT ENTRY FILES?

Collect all PDF files that contain entry-related pages. Extract the page(s) you need, giving each file a clear and descriptive name. Combine PDFs if your entry contains multiple pages. Once you've created all your entry-PDFs, re-distill each file to reduce it to the smallest practical size.

PLACES WON AND JUDGES' DECISIONS

The rulings of the judges are final. Judges reserve the right NOT to make an award in divisions, categories and places. Judges will not award Honorable Mentions.

You will be notified by July 31, 2018 if you have won an award.

This year the judges are your peers from the newspapers of the Utah Press Association.

HOW CAN I GET MORE HELP?

Contact Julie O'Keefe at (602) 261-7655, ext. 110 or at j.okeefe@ananews.com for assistance.

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

ELIGIBILITY

Newspapers entering the 2018 contests must be in good standing and must be current on their dues. Entries are NOT accepted from individuals, only from publishers. All entries must have been published in an ANA member newspaper or news website.

CIRCULATION DIVISIONS:

Beginning 2018, Colleges will compete in their own Division

College

All four-year and two-year schools

Non-Daily Newspapers

Circulation More than 10,000

Circulation 3,500 to 10,000

Circulation Less than 3,500

Daily Newspapers

Circulation More than 25,000

Circulation Less than 25,000

CLEARLY INDICATE WHAT IS PART OF THE ENTRY

When you enter online, please give the title or an identifying name of the piece so the judges can easily find it on the tearsheet you uploaded.

HOW TO MAKE PDF FILES SMALLER

1. Change the resolution to 72 dpi. This can reduce your file size up to 75%. This seldom affects the quality of the file, as most entries will be viewed online.



Instructions for using the online contest system, ACES, for BNC and Excellence in Advertising Entries

Contest rules can be viewed and downloaded at:
www.newspapercontest.com/contests/ArizonaNewspapersAssociation.aspx

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail- in Entries

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ALL ENTRIES must have an entry RECORD logged in the ACES contest system.

HOW DO I CREATE AN ACCOUNT?

Step 1 — Use the link at top of this page to go to ANA's contest home page.

- Select the "Register" tab.

- Create your login profile and password.

Previous accounts and passwords are no longer valid.

- ANA's Association code was emailed to all publishers, editors and ad managers. The code is case sensitive. If you have misplaced or lost the code, call Julie O'Keefe, ((602) 261-7655, xt. 110.

You will then receive a confirmation email, which you need to complete the registration/login.

After confirming the account you will be taken to the "Entries" page.

HOW DO I UPLOAD PDF FILES?

Step 2 — Click on the "Add New Entry" link.

Step 3 — On this page, select your newspaper name. A lot of information will auto-fill. If that information is incorrect, please call Julie O'Keefe at (602) 261-7655, x 110.

Your Division will auto-fill for you based on your circulation.

Fill in the preparer's name.

Step 4 — Select the contest category.

These are drop-down menus for your convenience. This field will clear each time you save an entry, so you must select a category for each new entry. When you select the category, special instructions will appear below it.

Step 5 — If necessary, or required, provide an explanation of your entry. The explanation/cutline box is limited to 3,000 characters. It's a good idea to write your explanation in another program, such as Word, and copy/paste into the explanation box. If a URL is required, fill in the URL box; there is no need to type "http://."

Step 6 — Include the name of the entry. If uploading full-page PDF files, it will be helpful if the entry name matches the headline on the page so the judges can find it easily. If the judges cannot tell what is to be judged, the entry will be discarded without refund.

Step 7 — Include the name of the person or people who should be credited for any award. This is generally the writer, reporter, photographer, graphic artist, cartoonist, etc. It is not necessarily the name of the person submitting the entry nor the person picking up the award at the convention.

Step 8 — Add your file or files. You can drag and drop files or use the "Add files" button to navigate your files. Generally, files should be in PDF format except photos, which should be in JPG format. Other files and URLs may be acceptable as noted in the special instructions. Upload as many files as are necessary to complete your entry but refer to the special instructions for any limitations.

Step 9 — When you have completed your submission, click the "Save" button. If you click the "Back to list" button, before you Save, you will

lose the entry you just completed. After clicking "Save," you will be automatically directed back to the list of your entries.

Step 10 — To submit another entry, click "Add New Entry." As long as you have not logged out of the system, your newspaper name will still be in place and you can simply start at Step 6 again. You may log out and log back in later to continue adding entries. You will need to select your newspaper name each time you log in.

Step 11 — If you are done submitting entries, please review the list carefully. Make sure you have YOUR newspaper's name selected, and not mistakenly a different paper's name. You may not change an entry, but you may delete an entry and resubmit it.

HOW DO I LOGIN AFTER LOGGING OUT?

After you have created an account you may log in at any time by using the link at top of this page.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT I'VE ALREADY UPLOADED?

Each time you start at login, you will be taken to the "Entries" page, there you will see a list of your entries.

HOW DO I MAKE CHANGES?

Entries cannot be changed/modified once they are saved. However, there is a "Delete Selected" button on the "Entries" page. If you need to make changes/modify an entry - you will have to delete and resubmit it.



Excellence in Advertising Contest - GUIDELINES

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, **the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.**

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

PUBLICATION DATES: Entries must have been published for the first time between **May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018.** Previous entries are not eligible.

WHO CAN ENTER:

a) Competition is open to all Arizona Newspapers Association member newspapers. Entries from non-member individuals are not accepted. All entries must have been published in an ANA member newspaper or news website. Ads must have been published between May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018. Number of entries you may submit in each category is unlimited.

b) **Ads published, produced and sold into multiple newspapers in a group must be submitted by the largest circulation newspaper in the group.**

ORIGINALITY: All advertising entries must be of original creation — conceived, written, designed and sold by employees of the newspaper submitting the entry at the time the material was published. Clip art ads where only a logo is added and there is no use of staff creativity should not be entered as staff prepared. **Entries judged on originality, copy, layout, typography and reader appeal.**

TEAR SHEETS: Submit a **full page tear sheet in PDF format.** You will need to upload a separate PDF file for each single entry.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE: Points earned by winning a place in categories 1-5, 7-9 and 11 count toward a General Excellence determination.

You must enter at least 6 of those categories to be eligible for a General Excellence Award.

Points are:

First Place, 20;

Second Place, 15;

Third Place, 10.

Categories 6, 10 and 12 are excluded.

PLAQUES will be awarded to General Excellence and First Place winners. Certificates will be presented to Second Place and Third Place winners in each category.

IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES: You may enter unlimited entries per category with a fee for each entry.

However, a newspaper may win only one place per category in the Advertising contest.

DISQUALIFICATION: Each entry that you upload will need to have the correct identifying information. Entries without this information may be disqualified.

Contest officials reserve the right to disqualify, without notice or refund, any entry that does not comply with the rules and regulations. †

Judges reserve the right not to make an award in divisions, categories and places. Judges' decisions are final. In the case of a disqualification, all other winning entries may move up a place if available.

DEADLINE Entries must be received online by **4 p.m., Friday, June 1, 2018.** **LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.**

ENTRY FEES/PER ENTRY FOR THE ADVERTISING CONTEST:

\$9/ Early Bird – May 1 thru 15, 2018

\$10/ Regular Price – May 16 to close of entries on June 1, 2018 at 4 p.m.

\$12/ LATE Fee – LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.

We are happy to invoice you, just ask!

When you have finished uploading all entries, you can print out an entry cover sheet that will display the total amount owed for entry fees. Please send the sheet to us along with your check. We are not accepting payments online.

Please make checks payable to:

**ARIZONA NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION
1001 N. CENTRAL AVE., SUITE 670
PHOENIX, AZ 85004-1947**



†To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.

Excellence in Advertising Awards - CATEGORIES

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, **the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.**

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.†

* Categories with a star indicate categories in which points count toward General Excellence and **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR.**

Revenue-Generating Ads

1: BEST BLACK & WHITE AD*

Can be any size ad 10 col. Inches or larger. Entry form may include an explanation of why entry is a winning entry. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with publication date.

2: BEST COLOR AD*

Can be any size ad 10 col. Inches or larger. Entry form may include an explanation of why entry is a winning entry. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with publication date.

3: BEST PAID AD SERIES (BLACK & WHITE)*

Three or more ads of any size. Ad series must be for one client. Series counts as one entry. Submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

4: BEST PAID AD SERIES (COLOR)*

Three or more ads of any size. Ad series must be for one client. Series counts as one entry. Submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

5: MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF PAID SMALL SPACE*

Any type of display advertising that is no larger than 10 column inches (1x2, 2x2, 2x3, 3x3, 2x4, 2x5, 1x10). Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with publication date.

6: BEST PUBLIC NOTICE SECTION

Judged on prominence, educational outreach to readers and visual appeal. Submit a full page tear sheet with publication date.

7: BEST SPECIAL SECTION*

Special advertising sections published during the contest period (**May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018**). The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, **the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.**

8: BEST ONLINE AD (STATIC)*

Ad must be fixed, with no moving parts. Buttons and banner

welcome. Must be designed by member of newspaper staff. Can be paid or a house ad. Creativity and effectiveness of design and message will be criteria for judging. Upload file OR enter URL. **The URL must remain active and accessible URL until October 7.**

9: BEST ONLINE AD (ANIMATED)*

Ad may be .jpg, .gif or Flash. Must have an animated or dynamic element. Must be designed by member of newspaper staff. Can be paid or a house ad. Creativity and effectiveness of design and message will be criteria for judging. Upload file OR enter URL. **The URL must remain active and accessible URL until October 7.**

10: BEST CLASSIFIED SECTION

Submit one complete classified section from the week of **Sept. 4-8, 2017.** (Monthly newspapers may submit the issue published closest to that date.) Judged on overall design of pages, classification of items, appeal and ease of understanding by reader of how to submit ads.

Non Revenue-Generating Ads

11: BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION AD, SERIES OR SECTION*

Any ad, ad series (combine multiple pages into one PDF) or section promoting a newspaper's circulation, advertising, editorial or other departments. Include explanation if necessary. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with publication date.

12: BEST PRO BONO/PUBLIC SERVICE AD

Any size ad created at no charge for a local nonprofit organization or event. Public service ads sold on SIG, business card or logo pages are eligible. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with publication date.

†To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.



Mark your calendars!
**The 79th ANNUAL MEETING
and FALL CONVENTION**
October 6, 2018 

Workshops and Training Sessions planned throughout the day.

Excellence in Advertising Awards presented at the afternoon luncheon.

Better Newspapers Contest Awards (BNC) presented during the evening reception.

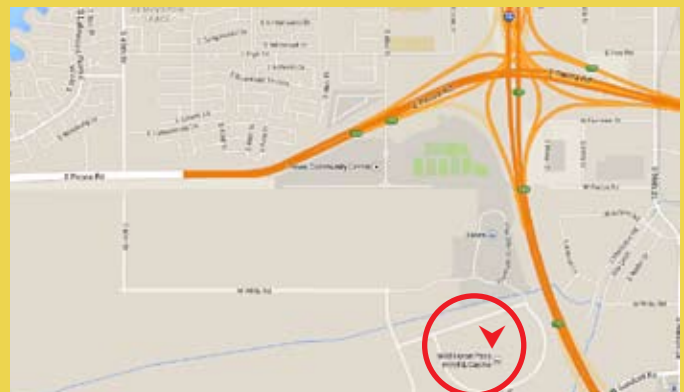


Ideally located, less than 15 minutes south of Sky Harbor Airport and minutes from Tempe, Scottsdale and Chandler.

Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino
5040 Wild Horse Pass Blvd.
Chandler, AZ 85226
All parking and valet is complimentary.

Each room features one king size bed or two double beds, a 40" flat screen TV with premier channels, in-room safe, coffee maker, hair dryer, iron/ironing board and complimentary high-speed wireless internet.

ADA rooms are available based on hotel availability. In room dining is always a phone call away, available 24-hours a day.



Better Newspapers Contest - GUIDELINES

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

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ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

DEADLINE

Entries must be received online by 4 p.m., Friday, June 1, 2018. LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.

BNC CONTEST PERIOD (Publication Dates of Entries)

May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

ENTRY FEES

a) NEWSPAPER CATEGORIES (1 - 9):

A one-time fee covers all entries in Cat. 1 through 9.

COLLEGE DIVISION:

All two-year and four-year schools . . . \$70

NON-DAILIES DIVISION:

Circ. less than 3,500 \$ 70

Circ. 3,500 to 10,000 \$105

Circ. Greater than 10,000. \$135

DAILIES DIVISION:

Circ. less than 25,000 \$150

Circ. greater than 25,000 \$170

(Circulation divisions are based on data in the 2018 ANA Media Directory.)

b) INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES / PER ENTRY (10-29):

- \$9/ Early Bird – May 1 thru 15, 2018

- \$10/ Regular Price – May 16 to close of entries on June 1, 2018, at 4 p.m.

- \$12/ LATE Fee - LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.

Guidelines for BNC Entries

a) Cat. 1, 2, 3 and 5 require complete editions (No ad

inserts / No national affiliate sections accepted).

b) Cat. 4 submitted with only the editorial page(s) or section.

c) Entries must be submitted as PDF, or jpg with the story, column or photo(s) CLEARLY marked.

ENTRIES UNLIMITED FOR INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES[†]

A newspaper may submit as many entries in the individual categories as they choose, at the structured fee, per date, per entry. Entries must come via the newspaper publisher's approval. Separate direct entries from individuals and former employees not accepted unless submitted with permission by the current publisher of the newspaper.

IDENTIFICATION OF ENTRIES[†]

Each entry that you upload will need to have the correct identifying information. Entries without this information may be disqualified. Whenever possible submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION — A letter from the publisher/ editor is required for Category 6, 28 and 29. You may attach a letter to any other entry, describing the entry and/or your community, if you think it will help judges.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE — Newspapers must enter at minimum, Categories 1 through 5 to be eligible for General Excellence Awards. The total points earned in entry Categories 1 through 9 determine General Excellence finalists.

General Excellence winners are determined by point totals from the first eight categories. Points: First Place, 20; Second Place, 15; Third Place, 10; No Honorable Mentions will be awarded.

PLAQUES — will be awarded to first place winners. Certificates are given for second and third place. First and second place General Excellence winners receive plaques.

PHOTOS OF WINNERS REQUIRED — Winners will be notified by July 31, 2018 if they have placed and in which category. You will be requested to send color photos (JPG files preferred) of the writers, editors, photographers, production personnel, etc., responsible for the winning entry. ANA reserves the right to use photos from past winners.

[†]To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.

How do you win Newspaper of the Year?

YOU HAVE TO ENTER BOTH CONTESTS

Although Newspaper of the Year is determined by total points earned in the Excellence in Advertising and Better Newspapers Contests, **you have to enter BOTH contests to be eligible to win.** The more newspaper categories you enter the better your chances.

THE POINT SYSTEM

Winning entries earn points in both the Excellence in Advertising Contest and the Better Newspapers Contest, so publishers should make sure the respective department heads enter both contests. For equity between the contests, there are eight categories in both contests that count toward total points for Newspaper of the Year.

POINTS ARE AWARDED ACCORDINGLY:

First Place, 20 points;
Second Place, 15 points;
Third Place, 10 points.

ONE DAILY WINNER AND ONE NON-DAILY WINNER

Two newspapers will be named "Newspaper of the Year": one daily newspaper and one non-daily newspaper, based on total points earned.

IN CASE OF TIES

A tie-break system was developed in 2005. If there is a tie in one of the divisions, the newspaper with the most First Place points wins. If a tie remains, then Second Place points take precedence, and, if needed, then Third Place points.

Better Newspapers Contest

BNC - NEWSPAPER Categories 1-9

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

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ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

Categories 1, 2, 3, 5, COMPLETE NEWSPAPERS, submit a complete edition (**exclude** advertising inserts and national affiliate sections).

Category 4, submit only the editorial page(s) or section. All entries must have been published in an ANA member newspaper or news website. Submit full page tearsheet with folio.

DAILIES: Must use dates specified.

*Newspapers not publishing on Sunday should submit the larger of the Thursday, Friday or Saturday newspapers.

NON-DAILIES: Dates are for one edition from the week (Sunday through Saturday) which includes the date.

1: REPORTING & NEWS WRITING EXCELLENCE

What the judges look for: Do the stories show enterprise and originality? Are they well organized? Do they have clarity and carry the reader to the end? Is language and vocabulary effective? Does the publication adhere to news style? Are the ledes effective, do they carry the reader into the story? Do the stories consistently draw relevant connections for readers? Do the stories appear to be balanced and fair? Are multiple sources used?

- 🕒 Thursday, September 7, 2017
- 🕒 Sunday, March 18, 2018*
- 🕒 Any issue from the month of October 2017

2: DEPARTMENTAL NEWS & COPY EDITING EXCELLENCE

What the judges look for: Does the entry demonstrate excellence in all areas of news coverage? Do the stories appeal to a broad range of interests? How well do the stories read — their polish. Judges will make judgments based on the flaws they see as they casually scan through the stories as a reader would. The judges may score an entry with an absence of copy editing flaws higher than one with apparent flaws.

- 🕒 Wednesday, October 4, 2017
- 🕒 Sunday, April 8, 2018*
- 🕒 Any issue from the month of March 2018

3: PAGE DESIGN EXCELLENCE

- 🕒 Sunday, November 5, 2017*
- 🕒 Wednesday, June 7, 2017
- 🕒 Any issue from the month of April 2018

4: EDITORIAL PAGE EXCELLENCE

EDITORIAL PAGE(S) ONLY - DOES NOT REQUIRE ENTIRE NEWSPAPER

- 🕒 Sunday, July 9, 2017*
- 🕒 Monday, December 4, 2017
- 🕒 Any issue from the month of February 2018

5: BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHY

- 🕒 Tuesday, November 7, 2017
- 🕒 Wednesday, June 7, 2017
- 🕒 Any issue from the month of January 2018

6: COMMUNITY SERVICE/JOURNALISTIC ACHIEVEMENT

DOES NOT REQUIRE ENTIRE NEWSPAPER

Community Service and Journalistic Achievement is one category. Entries should show how the newspaper is a part of its community, the effect it has on the community, and the results it generates, through good journalism. Materials submitted can be any number of single stories, investigative or special project stories or series, on various topics. (May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018).

A letter from the editor or publisher describing the newspaper's role in the community is required. You may also submit letters to the editor that show Community Service/Journalistic Achievement.

Scrapbooks are not required. For Category 6, gather full tear sheets and other material, in sequence.

Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

7: SPECIAL SECTION

Up to three special sections may be submitted as separate entries, (create an entry record for each piece), but only one may win a contest placement. Entries must have been produced by the newspaper and may be from any time during the contest period (**May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018**).

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

8: NEWSPAPER SUPPLEMENT OR MAGAZINE

Must be published at least quarterly by the newspaper. There is no circulation requirement for this category. One entry may consist of up to three pieces and will be judged as a whole.

Entries must have been produced by the newspaper and may be from any time during the contest period (**May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018**).

To reiterate, one entry may consist of up to three special sections, newspaper supplements/magazines.

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

9: NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

Judges will visit the newspaper's website on a predetermined date and choose the best based on the following criteria: news content, design and presentation, interactivity and connectivity to other sites of interest. **Site must be accessible, provide password for access past any existing paywall. Password must remain accessible and active until October 7.**

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

†To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.

Better Newspapers Contest

BNC - INDIVIDUAL Categories 10 - 26

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

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ALL ENTRIES must have an entry RECORD logged in the ACES contest system.

All entries must have been published in an ANA member newspaper or news website, between May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018. Stories continued to another page count as one entry.

Any number of individuals from a newspaper may enter. There is no limit to the number of entries from each individual. Entries in all categories are to be submitted as PDF or JPG files.

Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

Individual entries accepted only with permission of publisher. If a writer/photographer is a former employee of a member newspaper, the current publisher of that newspaper where the work was published must sign and submit the entry form. Entries not accepted directly from individuals.

HEADLINES

10: BEST HEADLINE

In recognition of the editorial skill and judgment necessary to write a headline that draws the attention of the reader to a particular article. Judging is based on effectiveness of a headline (and subhead, if used) to engage the reader. In this individual category only, each author is charged a single entry fee and may submit unlimited headlines that he or she has written. Submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

STORIES

11: BEST NEWS STORY

This category is defined as the coverage of a single news event, planned and anticipated, or breaking, or spot news. The entry may include side bars published by the same writer in the same edition as the general news story. Entry will be judged on quality of writing, thoroughness of fact and continuity of thought.

12: BEST SUSTAINED COVERAGE OR SERIES

This category is defined as a series or package of stories (Min. 3 - Max. of 8) on the same subject that combines the elements of news and/or feature writing. The series can be published in a single issue or a sequence of issues. The bulk of the series must have been published during the contest period. Entries will be judged on quality of writing, ability to hold readers' interest, enterprise, impact and thoroughness. Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

13: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

For a story or series of stories that demonstrates the newspaper's ability to obtain hard-to-get information, facts and details and put them in compelling story form. Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

14: BEST SPORTS STORY

This category is confined to a news story dealing with a sports subject or personality. Entry judged on the quality or writing.

15: BEST TEAM, SPORT OR SPORTS BEAT COVERAGE

This category is defined as a series or package of (3-8 stories) sports stories covering a specific school, team or sport. Will be judged on quality of writing and completeness of coverage. Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

16: BEST SPORTS COLUMN

You may submit 1 to 3 columns illustrating excellence in writing and clarity of expression in a sports column. Submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

17: BEST FEATURE STORY

This category is defined as a single story in which the writer stresses the elements of feature writing. Entry will be judged on impact, quality of writing and ability of the writer to hold the readers' interest.

18: ENTERPRISE REPORTING

This category is for stories demonstrating creative ideas, innovative approach, initiative and reporting that goes beyond routine. Judging will be based on writing, style, enterprise and ability to hold readers' interest. Entry may be a single article or up to 3 parts in a series. Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio.

19: BEST COLUMN, ANALYSIS OR COMMENTARY

This category includes any byline, serious, issue-oriented commentary column that appears as a regular feature of the newspaper. Entries judged on quality of writing and style, and effectiveness of presentation.

20: BEST COLUMN, FEATURE OR CRITICISM

This category includes any general interest byline column that appears as a regular feature of the newspaper. Entries judged on effectiveness, originality, quality of writing, and style of writing.

21: BEST MULTIMEDIA STORYTELLING

Awarded for quality presentation of a single story or series, incorporating text, images and interactive elements. You must include the URL of the multimedia story. **The URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.**

22: ONLINE COVERAGE OF BREAKING NEWS

Submit coverage of a single breaking news event within a 24-hour news cycle. May include any multimedia or supplement coverage with social media elements (Twitter or Facebook); video, audio, *continued on page 10*

†To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.

Better Newspapers Contest

BNC - INDIVIDUAL Categories 10 - 26, continued

continued from page 9

photos or photo galleries, partial or full web pages, through which the story was developed and ultimately produced for web presentation. Entries must include URLs or screenshots. Judging will be based on timeliness of initial news bulletin and extent of coverage; interactivity; use of headlines, photos, graphics and video; and creative use of technology. Whenever possible, submit ONE PDF of multiple pages combined, showing publication dates on folio. URLs must remain active and accessible until October 7.

PHOTOS / Submit full-tear sheets 21 – 24

23: BEST NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

This category includes photographs of general news value that are planned or unplanned. Entries judged on quality of photograph, composition, emotional impact and completeness. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with the photo's cutline and publication date in the folio.

24: BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

This category is defined as any single photograph related

to a sports subject. Entry judged on quality of photograph, composition, emotional impact and completeness. Submit a full page PDF-tear sheet with the photo's cutline and publication date in the folio.

25: BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH

This category includes any single photograph that demonstrates elements of feature photography, captures the essence of an individual personality or one that represents a portrait story. Entry judged on quality of photograph, composition and emotional impact. Submit ONE PDF, with the photo's cutline and publication date in the folio.

26: BEST FEATURE PHOTO LAYOUT OR PHOTO STORY

This entry is defined as any series of photographs in any one issue on any subject. Entry will be judged on quality and effectiveness of presentation as well as layout, captions and text in telling the story. Submit multiple pages combined into ONE PDF, with the photo's cutline and publication date in the folio.

BNC - INDIVIDUAL BEST of the YEAR Awards

*Categories 27 - 29

*Colleges are excluded from competing in Best of the Year Awards.

SPECIAL ATTENTION! NO MORE Mail-in Entries

The ACES contest system can accept entry files up to 100MB. Entries larger than 100MB should be uploaded to Google Drive, Drop Box, issuu.com, etc., or your own hosting site, BUT, **the URL must remain active and accessible until October 7.**

ALL ENTRIES must have an entry **RECORD** logged in the ACES contest system.

All entries must have been published in an ANA member newspaper or news website, between May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018. Stories continued to another page count as one entry.

Best of 2018 Categories

27: STORY OF THE YEAR*

All the first-place entries in categories 11 to 18 will automatically compete for outstanding story of the year.

28: PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR: DAILY AND NON-DAILY *

Candidates must be nominated by the Publisher, Managing Editor or Editor. Nomination must include a letter explaining why candidate should be chosen. Each entry should include 10

to 12 samples of the nominee's work. Submit full tear-sheets combined into ONE PDF, whenever possible, with publication date in the folio.

There is no limit to how many nominations can come from a newspaper. All entries will be judged by a panel of at least three industry professionals. Judging based on creativity, quality and impact. Published during contest period. Published during contest period: May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

29: JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR: DAILY AND NON-DAILY*

Candidates (including editors, columnists, reporters, special section editors) must be nominated by the Publisher, Managing Editor or Editor. Nomination must include a one page letter explaining why their candidate should be chosen Journalist of the Year. Each entry packet should include 10 samples of the nominee's work (no sidebars, please), Submit full tear-sheets combined into ONE PDF, whenever possible, with publication date in the folio.

There is no limit to how many nominations can come from a newspaper. All entries will be judged by a panel of at least three industry professionals. Judging based on creativity, quality and impact. Published during contest period: May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

DEADLINE:

Entries must be received online by 4 p.m., Friday, June 1, 2018.

LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY APPROVAL ONLY AND LATE FEES WILL APPLY.

\$9 / Early Bird – May 1 thru 15, 2018

\$10 / Regular Price – May 16 to close of entries on June 1, 2018

\$12 / LATE Fee (by approval only)

***To ensure that all entries receive an opportunity to be judged, contest officials reserve the right to combine entries from varying divisions. Contest officials also reserve the right, without notice or refund, to disqualify any categories/divisions with insufficient entries.**