

CONTEST DATES

Thursday, Feb. 19

Kansas State University
(Linda Puntney, director)
1A-2A, 3A-4A contests
785-532-7822

Wichita State University
(Amy DeVault, director)
1A-2A, 5A-6A contests
316-978-6052

Fort Hays State University
(Andy Stanton, director)
1A-2A, 3A-4A contests
785-628-4448

Pittsburg State University
(Gerard Attoun, director)
3A-4A contest
620-235-4809

Friday, Feb. 20

Emporia State University
(Max McCoy, director)
3A-4A, 5A-6A contests
620-341-5216

University of Kansas
(John Hudnall, director)
3A-4A, 5A-6A contests
785-864-0605

ENTRY DEADLINES

Friday, Jan 23

Manhattan, Wichita, Hays and
Pittsburg sites

Monday, Jan. 26

Emporia and Lawrence sites

SUBSTITUTION

DEADLINES*

Tuesday, Feb. 17 by 9 a.m.

Manhattan, Wichita, Hays and
Pittsburg sites

Wednesday, Feb. 18 by 9 a.m.

Emporia and Lawrence sites

*No substitutions are allowed
on the day of the contest.

2009 Regional Contest Information and Rules

Each year marks a variety of changes for the annual regional and state KSPA competitions. As a result, we encourage you to read the contents of this mailing carefully. Most all of the forms and carry-in contests will be posted on the KSPA website at www.kspa.ku.edu. **These will be posted by December 12, 2008.**

To obtain regional information, go to the website and click on the **Regionals** link. Then click on the location of your regional contest. There you will find the regional contest schedule and registration form for all six sites, assignment of schools, carry-in contests and the regional rules.

The following information will help you (and your students) prepare for the upcoming regional contest. Please note the contest dates, locations and entry and substitution deadlines listed to the left.

Contest Divisions

The KSPA competitions will be divided into three classifications for competition. Enrollment categories 1A-2A will compete as one group. Classes 3A-4A will compete as a group, as will classes 5A-6A.

A minimum of four schools must compete in each division at each regional to have a valid contest. The executive director is authorized by the KSPA executive committee to assign schools as necessary to equalize competition and to ensure that there will be a minimum of four schools involved in each division. Please be sure you check your school's KSHSAA classification to confirm your school is entered in the correct division.

Carry-in contests

Eight carry-in contests will be offered: Advertising, Headline Writing, Infographics, Newspaper Design, Yearbook Layout, Theme Development and Graphics, Feature Photography and Sports Photography. The Broadcast contest will be at the state level only. Specific carry-in topics and instructions will be posted on the KSPA website.

Carry-in contests must be either hand-delivered by the close of registration on the contest date or may be mailed directly to the contest site 48 hours before the contests begin. No faxes please. Advisers are encouraged to FedEx carry-in entries to avoid delays at the registration table and to insure on-time arrival.

On-site contests

Nine on-site contests will be offered: Editing, Editorial Cartoon, Editorial Writing, Cutline Writing, Yearbook Sports Writing, Yearbook Copy Writing, Feature Writing, News Writing and Newspaper Sports Writing. On-site rules and information are included at the end of the document.

Entries

Advisers are urged to complete their entry blanks as quickly as possible and to return them to the director of the contest site where their students compete. Contest locations and directors are listed below.

Emporia State University

Max McCoy
1200 Commercial
Box 4019
Emporia, Kansas 66801
620-341-5216
Fax: 620-341-5547
max@maxmccoy.com

Fort Hays State University

Andy Stanton
Department of Communications
Fort Hays State University
Hays, Kansas 67601
785-628-4448
Fax: 785-628-4075
lastanton@fhsu.edu

Pittsburg State University

Gerard Attoun
1701 S. Broadway
220 Whitesitt
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762
620-235-4809
Fax: 620-235-4817
gattoun@pittstate.edu

University of Kansas

John Hudnall
Stauffer-Flint Hall
1435 Jayhawk Boulevard
Lawrence, KS 66045
785-864-0605
Fax: 785-864-5945
kspa@ku.edu

Kansas State University

Linda Puntney
A.Q. Miller School of Journalism
Kedzie Hall #103
Manhattan, Kansas 66506
785-532-7822
Fax: 785-532-5484
lindarp@ksu.edu

Wichita State University

Amy DeVault
Elliott School of Comm.
Campus Box 31
Wichita, Kansas 67260
316-978-6052
Fax: 316-978-3006
amy.devault@wichita.edu

Each school may enter two entries in each contest. Each student may enter up to five contests; however, no more than two contests entered may be on-site. In the Theme Development and Graphics competition schools may elect to have two teams of two individuals per team, two individuals or one team and one individual compete. The broadcast competition will only take place at the state level.

Contestants will compete by number. If a student identifies himself or herself or his or her school by name or location or uses the wrong number, the entry will be disqualified. Contestants will be given labels with their numbers printed on them. These labels should appear in the upper right hand corner of the student's entry.

Substitutions

If an adviser needs to make emergency substitutions there will be a limit of two changes per school. No category changes will be allowed. The director of the regional contest must be notified at least 48 hours before the contest of any substitutions. Please note the substitution deadlines dates listed on the first page. On both days, the deadline time for substitutions is 9 a.m. No substitutions will be allowed on the day of the regional contest. If labels are not available, contestants should write the number on their entry.

Fees

The fee for each entry is \$10. A \$5 per school entry fee will also be assessed to cover the cost of postage to return entries following the competition. Although it is better if payment can accompany the entry form, rather than to delay submission of the entry form itself, please forward it and send the payment to the site in a later mailing. Payment must be made, however, prior to the time of competition. Checks should be made payable to **Kansas Scholastic Press Association** regardless of the site where the school competes.

Student Supervision

Students must remain on the contest premises where they are competing throughout the day. Advisers must accompany students to the contest site. At the regional level, KSPA will not provide any scheduled activities for carry-in entrants. As a result, unless these students are also competing on site, they need not attend the contest.

Lunch

In addition to the entry fee, each student will be responsible for his or her own lunch. Food service is available on each campus and will be explained by the host school when the entry is acknowledged.

Check In

The director of the contest site where your students will compete will send you additional information on parking, food facilities, location of registration and contests upon receipt of your entry. If you have any questions concerning arrangements, you may contact the director of the regional contest site where your students will compete.

Regulations

The director of each regional contest is authorized to enforce the rules approved by the executive committee. If any adviser violates the rules, his or her students will be disqualified and the principal of the school involved will be notified. Advisers are prohibited from entering rooms where entries are being judged.

Advisers are not to give advice or suggestions on carry-in contests. Student questions should be directed to the KSPA Executive Director.

Awards and Judging

Certificates will be awarded in regional contests to the first, second and third place winners as well as to three honorable mentions. Award winners are then eligible to compete in the state competition Saturday, May 2 at the University of Kansas.

Judges will be journalism faculty members, former high school advisers no longer employed by a school district and professional journalists. Whenever possible, critique forms will be provided with each entry. Judges are encouraged to make comments on all entries. Judges volunteer their services without pay.

Students with special needs

Please be advised that handicapped persons will be given an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from all contests sponsored by or sanctioned by KSPA and the cooperating institutions that act as hosts for the KSPA contests. If you or any of your students need to be so accommodated please let the appropriate contest director know what these accommodations are before Monday, Jan. 26, 2009.

On-Site Contest Rules and Tips

Two entries per category per school are allowed.

Cutline Writing: Students will write cutlines for five photos provided at the contest site. Students may write in pen or pencil. Paper will be provided at the contest site. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and A.P. style manuals. The use of personal listening devices (i.e. iPods), recording devices, personal computers or electric typewriters during the contest is prohibited.

Writing Contests: (yearbook copy, yearbook sports, feature, news, sports and editorial writing contests) Students will write a story based on information provided on a fact sheet. Students may write in pen or pencil. Paper will be provided at the contest site. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and A.P. style manuals. The use of personal listening devices (i.e. iPods), recording devices, personal computers or electric typewriters during the contest is prohibited.

Editorial Cartoon: Students will design a cartoon relevant to the topic provided on the fact sheet. The final entry should be submitted in black ink. Do not place your signature or name anywhere on the entry. Paper will be provided at the contest site. The use of personal listening devices (i.e. iPods), recording devices, personal computers or electric typewriters during the contest is prohibited.

Editing: Students will edit a news story. Students should edit for A.P. style, accuracy, libel, attribution, correct paragraphing, grammar, spelling and redundancy. Correct copy editing symbols must be used. Students should edit in pencil. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and A.P. style manuals. The use of personal listening devices (i.e. iPods), recording devices, personal computers or electric typewriters during the contest is prohibited.

Additional KSPA Awards

If you click on Downloads you will find the High School Journalist of the Year application, the Administrator of the Year application, the Engel award application, the Hall of Fame application and the T-shirt competition information.

Inclement Weather

The snow policy to be followed states that the decision to hold the contest during inclement weather is up to the discretion of the contest director. It is then left to the discretion of each individual school's district to determine whether or not it is sufficiently safe for the students to travel to the contest. The executive board has instituted a NO REFUND policy if the contest is held, but the individual school is unable to attend. It is necessary to do this since our costs are still incurred if the regional is held.

Enclosed with this mailing are the Regional Contest entry form and the All-Kansas Newspaper form.

We sincerely appreciate your support of KSPA and its activities. The on-the-spot contests organized for the regional and state are somewhat unique among state scholastic press associations. Last year approximately 2,300 young journalists competed at six regional sites. We anticipate having your school's students among those who will compete this year.

Sincerely,



John Hudnall
Executive Director