

ONPA Monthly Still Clip Contest Rules

The ONPA monthly clip contest is now entered and judged online. Photos entered into the contest must have been published in print or online on your school or newspaper's website.

Entry preparation: Make sure all photos are cropped to 10 inches on the longest side at 200 dpi with a .jpg extension. Files should be approximately 1-2 megabytes in size.

File names must start with a two-digit category code to designate the category, (01-07), followed by an underscore to give a name of the photo, followed by an underscore, and then the photographer's three initials. For example: A sports action photo by John J. Smith should be read: 04_fumble_jjs.jpg.

A picture story by John J. Smith would be named 07_kids01_jjs.jpg, 07_kids02_jjs.jpg, etc.

Caption requirements: All photos must contain the original caption in the description or caption field using Photoshop or Photo Mechanic. Your byline should be entered in the author or photographer field. Your publication name or school attended (for student entries) should be entered in the credit field. The publication date is to be placed in the keywords field. Entries without proper content in each of these four fields will be considered incomplete and withdrawn from the contest. Photographers must remove their name and publication from the caption/description field since judges will be able to read this field while judging. That content is to be placed in the author and credit field.

Uploading: To upload files, use the uploader widget on the Clip Contest page on the ONPA website.

Entries will be accepted from the first of the month following publication through midnight on the 15th. After this deadline, the system will be closed until the first of the next month and no further entries will be accepted. Using the online upload tool, multiples can be submitted at one time without zipping by pressing shift or command and clicking on all the files you wish to enter for the month.

Entry Limits: Photographers are limited to nine entries per month. Should a photographer upload more than nine entries, all entries after the first nine will be disregarded. A story counts as one entry. All photos without a proper file name will be disregarded. Once a file is uploaded, it cannot be modified or removed. (Should you have an issue, please reach out to the clip chairs.)

Category Numbers & Definitions:

Spot news: (01) – A single picture of an unscheduled event for which no advanced planning was possible. Examples: res, accidents and natural disasters.

General news: (02) – A single picture of a scheduled political, social or cultural event for which advance planning was possible. An assigned and/or scheduled news event. Examples: Demonstrations, funerals, trials and promotional events.

Feature: (03) – A single human-interest photo.

Sports Action: (04) – A single picture that emphasizes action in competitive events, not practice or informal play.

Sports Feature: (05) – An unposed sports related photo. Sports related portraits should be entered in the portrait category. Examples: Participants or fans reacting to action on the field of play.

Portrait: (06) – A single picture of a person that reveals the essence of the subject's character. This can be news, sports, or feature in content.

Story: (07) – A photo story, essay or sequence of any subject matter.

Illustration: (08) – A single created picture, not to be a found situation or portrait. Intended to clarify or dramatize a preconceived idea. This would include illustrations depicting food, fashion, industrial or editorial topics. This category will be judged quarterly but clips must be entered in the month published.

ONPA uses the following structure for awarding points in the Monthly Clip Contest:

50 points for 1st place

40 points for 2nd place

30 points for 3rd place

10 points for HM

2 points just for entering

Questions concerning the contest can be directed to [Jeremy Wadsworth](#) or [Rebecca Benson](#)