

# 2009 STILL CONTEST RULES

## ELIGIBILITY

- Any ONPA member whose dues for 2009 has been paid is eligible to enter the contest. Members who have moved during the course of the year may only enter work done while working in Ohio, except in the case of internships.
- Only photos taken between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009 are eligible. Photographs in a picture story entry taken over a period of time that begins in the year preceding the eligibility date, but extends into the period of eligibility may be entered as long as they have not been entered in the contest in any category before or been published in any fashion prior to January 1, 2009.

## ENTRIES

- The ONPA annual competition accepts only digital entries, including the Ohio Understanding Award. The only exception to this rule are entries for the Best Use of Pictures, which complete newspapers are entered.
- Unpublished photographs are eligible for entry.
- With the exception of illustration categories there shall be no digital alteration of any entry.
- All images must be in RGB mode
- Do not apply any sharpening to images.
- The number of awards in each category past the first place award will be at the discretion of the judges. A category with less than 15 entries can be eliminated at the discretion of the judges.

## NUMBER OF ENTRIES

- No more than 15 entries from any one member will be accepted. A picture story counts as one entry. Picture stories should consist of at least three, but no more than 12 images. Only one image per file is allowed. Ohio Understanding, portfolio and team picture story entries do not count toward individual limits.

## DEADLINE

- All entries must be in the hands of contest chairman David Polcyn by 6 p.m., Friday, January 29, 2010.
- The contest will be judged Friday and Saturday, February 19-20, 2010 in the John S. Knight room at the Akron Beacon Journal.

## ENTRY FEE

- There will be a \$25 fee per person entering. The entry fee is waived for Student members. Please make checks payable to ONPA Inc. and include the check with your entries. Entries not accompanied with the entry fee will not be judged.

## CHECK AND LABEL YOUR DISKS

- Before sending us your disks, verify their integrity by making sure they are readable. ONPA reserves the right to disqualify any disk that is unreadable. Label the disk MAC or PC.

## STAFF OF THE YEAR

- The Staff of the Year competition is split into two categories. One for newspapers over 100,000 circulation one for under 100,000.
- One half of the newspaper's full time staff photographers must enter the contest for the staff to be eligible.
- Points will be awarded to each newspaper according to individual photographer's wins in the still and multimedia contest. 5 points for any 1st place win, 4 points for any 2nd place win, 3 points for any 3rd place win and 1 point for honorable mention.
- Points of photographers that work for more than one publication during the year will be awarded to the publication for whom the image was produced.
- Points accumulated by interns will be credited to the publication they were shot for.
- The staff with the highest point total will be the 2009 ONPA Staff of the Year.

## JAMES R. GORDON

### OHIO UNDERSTANDING AWARD

- The James R. Gordon Ohio Understanding Award is a separate category of the still picture contest. The concept for the competition evolves around the presentation of in-depth projects that do not fall into the standard picture story category.
- Entries in this category should be prepared as any other picture story category. Use our category code when preparing your entries for this category. There is no limit to the number of images for stories in this category.
- Also accompanying the entry should be a statement no longer than 300 words explaining the project, to give the judges a clear understanding of what they are judging.
- The entry may be from an individual or a team effort from one publication.
- These entries are not included in the regular contest; however single photos from the entry can also be entered in the still contest, but in the form of a separate entry.

## PICTURE USAGE

- Anyone may enter his/her publication in the picture usage competition. There are two categories in the competition: Newspapers with a daily circulation under 100,000 and newspapers with daily circulation over 100,000. Weekly newspapers will compete in the under 100,000 circulation category.
- Submit in one envelope, four **complete** newspapers. Entrants must submit newspapers from the following dates: Wednesday, January 21, 2009 and Tuesday, June 16, 2009 plus two issues of your choosing, only one of which may be a Sunday edition.
- Weekly newspapers should submit editions from the week of the required dates above along with two other entries of their choosing.

## PORTFOLIO

- The portfolio competition will be split into small and large market divisions based on daily circulation under or over 100,000. First and second runner-ups as well as Awards of Excellence in each division will be awarded at the judge's discretion.
- Portfolios must contain a news picture, a sports picture, a picture story and pictures from at least two other categories of the entrants choosing.
- **Portfolios are limited to 15 entries (again a picture story counts as one entry) and a total of 40 slides.**
- **An image may only appear once in your portfolio. If an image is included in a picture story in your portfolio it can not also be entered as a single image in your portfolio.**
- Portfolios are judged on the basis of photographic excellence, subject matter, versatility, technical quality, and originality.
- Portfolio images will not be broken down into individual categories. If the portfolio contains an image or story, which the contestant wants to enter into individual categories, separate images must be prepared and entered.
- See instructions for naming your portfolio images on the next page

## STUDENT POY

- The Student POY title will be awarded to the successful candidate based on portfolio. First and second runner-ups will be awarded at the judge's discretion.
- Portfolios are limited to 10 entries (again a picture story counts as one entry). They must include at least one news picture, one picture story and pictures from at least two other categories, all taken in 2008.
- **An image may only appear once in your portfolio. If an image is included in a picture story in your portfolio it can not also be entered as a single in the portfolio.**
- Portfolio images will not be broken down into individual categories. If the portfolio contains an image or story, which the contestant wants to enter into individual categories, separate images must be prepared and entered.
- See instructions for naming your portfolio images on the next page

## FILE NAMES

Each image will be labeled as follows: Category code, underscore, photographer's three initials and first two letters of their work city, underscore, short slug, ending with .jpg All file names are to be in lower case.

**Example:** For a portrait/personality photo: ppy\_jqscodunk.jpg

ppy - Portrait/Personality  
jqscodunk - Photographer's code - entrants 3 initials plus first two letters of work city  
dunk - slug chosen by photographer  
.jpg - mandatory suffix



## CATEGORIES AND CODES

**fea - Feature** - Usually a found situation with strong human interest - a fresh view of an everyday scene.

**fps - Feature Picture Story** - A multi-picture entry of a story, series or sequence on a general human-interest subject.

**gnn - General News** - A picture of a scheduled political, social or cultural event for which advance planning was possible. An assigned and/or scheduled news event. Example: demonstration, funerals, trials and promotional events.

**ill - Issue Illustration** - A photograph conceived to illustrate a particular idea or editorial concept.

**nps - News Picture Story** - A multi-picture entry of a story, series or sequence of a spot or general news event.

**pic - Pictorial** - A picture that exploits the graphic aesthetic qualities of the subject with emphasis on composition.

**pil - Product Illustration** - A photograph that illustrates any product, including clothing and food.

**ppy - Portrait Personality** - A picture of a person that reveals the essence of the subject's character.

**spa - Sports Action** - A photograph that increases understanding and appreciation for individual and team sports. Photographs of competitive events, not practice or informal play. Emphasis is on athletics and the commitment it takes to compete.

**spf - Sports Feature** - An unposed sports-related photo that celebrates the role athletics plays in the lives of amateur and/or professional athletes and fans.

**spno - Spot News (over 100,000)**

**spnu - Spot News (under 100,000)** - A picture of an unscheduled event for which no advance planning was possible taken in the course of daily coverage. Examples: fires, accidents and natural disasters. The category is based on the publications daily circulation.

**sps - Sports picture story** - A multi-picture entry of a story, series or sequence on a sports event or sports related subject.

**tps - Team picture story** - A multiple-picture story team entry by a staff. All team entries will compete in this category. Entries in this category will not count in the entry limits of the participating photographers.

**spoy - Student Photographer of the Year**

**poyo - Photographer of the year** - Large Market (over 100,000)

**poyu - Photographer of the year** - Small Market (under 100,000)

## CAPTIONS

Caption information must be entered in the individual appropriate fields. **You must use proper upper and lower case for all fields.** Images that do not have the caption information entered in the proper fields will be disqualified.

**The caption field should only contain the caption. It should not include any other information. Your byline, publication name and other information are to be entered into the proper field.**

Edit captions so they are brief but comprehensive. Ask yourself if the judges really need every detail in your caption to understand what they are looking at. If the answer is no, then eliminate it.

**If you are unsure of what information should be entered where, download the caption test image at [www.onpa.org/testimage.jpg](http://www.onpa.org/testimage.jpg)**

**Caption:** A brief description of the photo which should not contain your name or publication's name.

**Headline:** Short name or title you give to your entry

**Supp Cat 1:** Full name of category as listed in the rules

**City:** City where image was taken

**State:** State where image was taken

**Country:** Country where photo was taken

**Date:** Date the photo was taken

**Byline or Author:** Your name

**Credit:** Newspaper or copyright holder's name or specify Freelance

## Picture Story and Team Picture Story Entries

A brief overview should precede the caption on the first image of all picture story entries. All images in any picture story category are to be placed into a folder. This folder is to be named using the proper category code, underscore, photographer's code, underscore, followed by a slug for the story. **Example:** fps\_jqscs\_sisters would be the folder name for a Feature Picture Story Entry entered by Joe Q. Shooter working in Columbus with a slug of sisters.

The files within that folder should all have the same slug. Only the two digit number following the slug should change. The numbers will dictate in which order the files will be viewed within the story.

**Example:**

fps\_jqscs\_sisters01.jpg

fps\_jqscs\_sisters02.jpg

fps\_jqscs\_sisters03.jpg

etc.

Entrants should substitute the first five letters of the publication's city in lieu of the photographer's code for team picture story entries. **Example:** tps\_dayto\_terror would be the folder name for a Team Picture Story Entry entered by the Dayton Daily News with a slug of terror. The files contained inside would follow suit.

**Example:**

tps\_dayto\_terror01.jpg

tps\_dayto\_terror02.jpg

tps\_dayto\_terror03.jpg

etc

## PORTFOLIO AND STUDENT POY ENTRIES

Your Portfolio or Student POY entry folder should be named using the proper category code, underscore, followed by the photographers code. **Example:** poyo\_jqscs would be the folder name for a portfolio entered by Joe Q. Smith working in Columbus.

The files within the folder should be named as you would if the photo was being entered in an individual category preceded by a double digit number (ex: 01, 02, 03, etc) so that the portfolio can be viewed in the order you wish if sorted by filename.

## PREPARING YOUR IMAGES

All entries must be in RGB mode. Some publications archive photos in CMYK. These images must be converted to RGB before entering as the contest software will not recognize them.

The standard size is ten inches for the longest dimension at 200 dpi. Save and compress the file using Photoshop JPEG baseline standard compression set to 6, or medium. Contest software will not recognize images saved with the progressive format option checked.

## SHIPPING INFORMATION

Send entries in protected envelopes with all postage paid to:

David Polcyn  
4945 Debbie Dr  
Medina, OH 44256-8676  
(419) 521-7218  
dpolcyn@nncogannett.com



# ONPA STILL CONTEST ENTRY FORM

SHOULD AN ENTRY SUBMITTED BY ME BE DECLARED A WINNER IN ANY CATEGORY, I AUTHORIZE THE OHIO NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION TO ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTE THIS ITEM ON MY BEHALF TO BE ARCHIVED IN THE ONPA CONTEST COLLECTION AT THE LIBRARY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND GRAPHICS ARTS AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY. ANY PICTURES THAT ARE ENTERED MAY BE REPRODUCED IN CONNECTION WITH PUBLICIZING THE COMPETITION. THIS RELEASE, HOWEVER, IS NOT AN ASSIGNMENT OF COPYRIGHT.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Your initials & first two letters work city  
PERSONAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF YOUR ENTRY CONTAINS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AND ENTER NUMBER OF IMAGES FOR EACH

<input type="checkbox"/> POY	<input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT POY	<input type="checkbox"/> TEAM STORY	<input type="checkbox"/> OHIO UNDERSTANDING
____ TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES IN PORTFOLIO LIMIT 40	____ TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES IN PORTFOLIO	____ TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES IN STORY	____ TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES IN STORY

PLEASE ENTER THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES YOU HAVE FOR EACH CATEGORY

____ FEATURE - FEA	____ NEWS PICTURE STORY - NPS	____ SPORTS FEATURE - SPF
____ FEATURE PICTURE STORY - FPS	____ PICTORIAL - PIC	____ SPOT NEWS UNDER 100,000 - SPNU
____ GENERAL NEWS - GNN	____ PRODUCT ILLUSTRATION - PIL	____ SPOT NEWS OVER 100,000 - SPNO
____ ISSUE ILLUSTRATION - ILL	____ PORTRAIT PERSONALITY - PPY	____ SPORTS PICTURE STORY - SPS
	____ SPORTS ACTION - SPA	____ TEAM PICTURE STORY - TPS

TOTAL NUMBER OF ENTRIES FOR THIS PHOTOGRAPHER \_\_\_\_\_ (LIMIT 15)

TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES CONTAINED ON DISK INCLUDING ALL CATEGORIES \_\_\_\_\_