



NEW ENGLAND

SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

Headquarters, Boston University
College of Communication
640 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

NESPA

News

Volume 18 No. 1 Fall, 2012

Dates, deadlines this year

Friday, Oct. 26

Registration deadline for workshop on coverage.

Saturday, Nov. 10

Workshop on coverage from 2-4 p.m. at Boston University.

Friday, Jan. 11

Entries are due for special fall contest on localizing.

That day, nominations for the Robert Baram Award, the Freedom to Write Award and the Award of Professional Recognition are also due.

Friday, March 29

Annual publication and production contest deadline. Details will be in the winter newsletter.

Friday, May 3

New England Scholastic Press Association's 65th annual conference at Boston University.

July 1, 2, 3 and 5

Course on How to Advise a Scholastic News Publication at Boston University.

For updates

Please visit <http://blogs.bu.edu.nespa>

Fall workshop to be about coverage

Learn more about ways
to make assignments, compile a source list
and conduct thorough research

Planning, organizing and presenting excellent coverage will be the focus for the New England Scholastic Press Association's Fall Workshop.

Open to advisers, editors and staffs, the program will be Saturday, Nov. 10 from 2-4 at Boston University's College of Communication.

Among the topics the workshop will address are

- general principles to keep in mind when making assignments
- scheduling for a year, an issue, a broadcast and online
- coordinating coverage among scholastic media so as to make the most of each one
- systems for beats and the pros and cons of beats
- compiling and maintaining a list of news sources in school and in the school community
- conducting interviews
- techniques of assigning news and sports briefs, spot news, speaker stories, profiles of individuals, reviews, wrap-ups and photos.

Mission of NESPA

The New England Scholastic Press Association aims to foster excellence in scholastic journalism.

This Association encourages high standards in student journalism, supports the interests of students and teachers in the student press in the New England states, and fosters a closer relationship among students and advisers interested and engaged in student journalism.

There will also be opportunities to ask questions and explore particular areas of interest, along with sharing useful ideas and approaches from a variety of school settings.

Tuition is \$25 per person.

The deadline for enrollment is Friday, Oct. 26.

Please see application, page 2 of this newsletter.

Inside: See information about contests, membership



Scheduling site visits

Site visits present opportunities to address particular areas of interest.

They are opportunities to work with an experienced scholastic journalism professional on particular aspects of journalism.

Topics of recent site visits have included

- staff organization
- managing the business side
- scheduling and motivation
- news and feature fundamentals
- design
- sports writing
- legal basics and ethical concerns

To arrange for a site visit email Helen F. Smith, the NESPA's executive director, at phsmith@igc.org or helenfs@bu.edu, or call 617-353-3478.

How to cover the school community

A workshop for advisers, editors and staff at Boston University Saturday, Nov. 10 from 2-4 p.m.

Yes, I will attend the workshop. Please send me details about directions and room location.

Your name _____

Name of your publication _____

Your position on the publication _____

School name _____

School phone _____

School address _____

your email _____ your phone _____

Please send tuition fee of \$25 per person to Helen F. Smith, NESPA executive director, Boston University, College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215 by Friday, Oct. 26. phone: 617-353-3484 e-mail: phsmith@igc.org or helenfs@bu.edu

Take this opportunity to join NESPA

school name _____ phone () _____

address _____ e-mail _____

publication or production name _____

adviser(s) name(s) _____

editor(s) in chief _____

Mail check for \$50 for each publication or broadcast unit to Helen F. Smith, executive director, NESPA, Boston University, College of Communication 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215

How staffs can honor professionals

**NESPA gives awards
to individuals who provide
exemplary support
to school journalists**

Staffs and advisers can nominate individuals who contribute significantly to New England's scholastic press for three special awards.

The Robert Baram Award honors a distinguished adviser from this region who has helped students raise their sights and their standards in the practice of school journalism.

The award is named for the late Robert Baram, founder and for 46 years the executive director of the Association.

Consideration for the award is based on an adviser's

- contributions to the cause of ethical, thorough and articulate scholastic journalism in the adviser's school and community; and

- support for school journalists in all facets of their efforts to present credible and useful material to their audience.

The Freedom to Write Award honors school administrators who actively inspire students and faculty to use journalism as a way to participate more fully in a democratic society.

In addition, the Association honors professors and members of the professional press with Awards of Special Recognition.

Please send nomination materials to Helen F. Smith, executive director, New England Scholastic Press Association, College of Communication, Boston University, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215 by January 11, 2013.

Winners receive their awards at the annual conference on the Boston University campus.

National student video competition open for entries

Students who create videos about election-related topics can win an award of up to \$1,000 in value, according to information from the project coordinators.

Engage in Democracy 2012 Student Journalism Challenge, a non-profit project supported by the Media Arts Institute, asks K-12 students in the United States and its territories to create two-minute videos about election topics for the chance to win an award valued at up to \$1,000.

Participating students will be tasked with sharing video stories from their communities that address one of six topics relevant to the 2012 presidential election:

- **Voter Turnout**
- **Jobs and the Economy**
- **Education Reform**
- **Health Care**
- **Energy and the Environment**
- **Immigration.**

Entries will be by region and

grade category.

Three national winners will each receive an award worth up to \$1,000 in value.

Project leaders are seeking videos that are accurate, fair, interesting and informative.

Students can submit their entries at www.engage2012.org.

The competition will close at midnight November 5, 2012. Winners will be announced December 21, 2012.

To increase participation in their schools and communities, students will also have the opportunity to become Student Ambassadors as part of the project's Student Ambassadors Program.

The 10 Ambassadors from around the country who motivate the most students from their schools and community organizations to participate in the challenge may each receive an award worth up to \$500 in value.

The project has garnered support from several high-profile

organizations, including YouTube, the ABC News digital division, The Newseum, The Poynter Institute, The Harnisch Foundation, Adobe, Baruch College of The City University of New York, the Student Press Law Center and the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication.

Leaders and educators from the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication, the Media Arts Institute, Baruch College and the Alliance for Excellent Education founded the Engage in Democracy 2012 Student Journalism Challenge.

Educators from the University of Oregon, Baruch College, the Media Arts Institute and student leaders from the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication are administering the project.

More information about the Engage in Democracy 2012 Student Journalism Challenge is available at www.engage2012.org.

Special Fall Contest on Localizing

Works must have been created between September 1 and December 31, 2012

Chose a topic, find a local angle and present it. That's the challenge of the New England Scholastic Press Association's Special Fall Contest.

The key is to show how issues and events that affect people in New England, the United States or around the world affect people in your own school.

Possibilities for topics range from AIDS awareness to eligibility requirements for athletes to food safety to state and local elections to user fees.

Among the topics winners have written about—and that could still be great choices this fall are

- Cape Cod traffic tie-ups
- Facebook and the college admissions process
- a graduate on a professional sports team
- local industry
- members of the military coming home on leave

- public protests
- SAT scores and their significance

- school lunches
- sleep deprivation
- swine flu
- weird New England weather.

Winners will be notified by April 1 and results will be announced at the annual spring conference.

In addition, the winners are announced in the summer issue of NESPA News.

Preparation of entries

Please send in the broadcast or published work with the entry form and fee by Friday, Jan. 11.

Send in the web link to each online entry on the entry form below.

Limit of three entries per medium.

Each entry must have been broadcast or published between September 1 and December 31, 2012.

Yearbook entries must have been

created during this same period.

Online entries must remain live on your site through May 3, 2013.

Print media please send complete page, unmounted tear sheet on which entry appears.

Tape a filled out copy of the entry form to the upper right corner of the back of EACH entry.

Broadcasters please send DVD or podcast.

Please include \$5 for postage and handling for each entry you want returned.

Entry fee: NONE for NESPA members in good standing as of May 4, 2012; \$3 per entry for non-members.

Where to send your entries

Send entries to New England Scholastic Press Association, Helen F. Smith, executive director, Boston University, College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215.

Special Fall Contest entry form 2012

Entry title _____ Date published/aired _____

Broadcast, print, print/online, or online only publication name _____

URL/WWW address for online _____

Student(s) name(s) to be recognized _____
(in full and clearly, please)

School full name _____

School address and phone (in full) _____

Adviser's e-mail _____ Adviser's signature _____