



www.COLUMNISTS.com
 NATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER COLUMNISTS

2013 Contest Entry Form – Deadline Postmarked by APRIL 1, 2013

This form must be attached to each entry. Fill out form legibly.

1 st place	\$ 300
2 nd place	\$ 200
3 rd place	\$ 100

Rules and Categories Have Been Revised (please read everything carefully)

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____ Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Newspaper/Website _____ Editor _____ Editor’s Email Address _____

II. CONTEST CATEGORY (check one box per entry form)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Print – Newspapers
Over 50,000 Circulation | Print - Newspapers
Under 50,000 Circulation | Online, Blog and Multimedia Columns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. General Interest | <input type="checkbox"/> C. General Interest | <input type="checkbox"/> E. Over 100,000 Monthly Unique Visitors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Humor | <input type="checkbox"/> D. Humor | <input type="checkbox"/> F. Under 100,000 Monthly Unique Visitors |

III. ENTRY INFORMATION

1. _____
 Title of Column _____ Date of Publication _____ Name of Publication _____ URL (if online) _____
2. _____
 Title of Column _____ Date of Publication _____ Name of Publication _____ URL (if online) _____
3. _____
 Title of Column _____ Date of Publication _____ Name of Publication _____ URL (if online) _____

IV. PAYMENT

Member Entry Fee — \$25 Non-member — \$45 Membership with Entry Fee — \$75

- Check (Make checks payable to “NSNC”) Credit Card - Online (www.columnists.com) via Paypal

V. MAILING

Mail Entry packets and Fees to:
 National Society of Newspaper Columnists
 Attention: NSNC 2013 Contest
 P.O. Box 411532, San Francisco, CA 94141

For more information, email director@columnists.com or call (415) 488-NSNC (6762)

Sending via UPS or FedEx? The mailing address is: NSNC 2013 Contest, c/o Luenna Kim, 501 Crescent Way, Unit 5201, San Francisco, California 94134, (415) 722-7030.

VI. General Rules

- Entry packets must be postmarked by April 1, 2013.
- Members \$25 per entry, Non-members \$45 per entry, Annual Membership \$50 per calendar year. Visa, MasterCard and American Express, as well as checks, are accepted.
- This entry form may be photocopied as needed.
- An entry consists of three columns, no more no fewer, published between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2012.
- Format: The columns are to be printed out or photocopied, as they were published, onto 8.5x11 (A4) paper. Word or text documents of columns are NOT acceptable. Original clips are acceptable and may be mounted on that size paper.
- The entry packet includes the columns, check or card info, and the form, completed legibly. Packets may be paper-clipped; no folders.
- A multimedia contest entry should list on the application form the three URLs, which must be valid through July 30, 2013.
- There is no limit on how many columnists from the same publication may enter any category.
- A columnist may enter more than one category, but is allowed to submit only one entry per category. Group authorship is acceptable; all names must be on the entry form. The fee is per entry.
- Supporting documents in general are not necessary but not forbidden.
- Any of the three columns in an entry may not be entered in other contest categories.
- While judges' decisions are final, the NSNC may disqualify winners if rules are found to have been broken. Entries will not be returned. Winning entries may be republished by the NSNC in any media; credit will be given to the author and original publisher.
- Contest fees will not be returned for disqualified entries.
- Prizes: 1st place \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100 in each category with certificates as well. Judges also may select honorable mentions, for which certificates are awarded.
- Finalists will be notified by e-mail. Winners will be announced at the annual NSNC Conference in Hartford, CT, June 27-30, 2013, in the post-conference edition of the NSNC newsletter, and on the NSNC website, columnists.com.

VII. Category Rules

Print. Categories A, B, C, and D: For the contest, the NSNC **now** halves newspaper categories as being above and below 50,000 circulation. The contest entrant can get that figure from the publication's management. Generally, the appropriate statistic is circulation of the section or zoned edition in which the columns appear. If one or more of the columns in an entry ran in an over-50,000 edition, the entire entry must be submitted to the larger category. The NSNC **now** welcomes entries from all periodicals, including weeklies, magazines and specialty publications. Whatever the periodical, note that NSNC judges base their decisions in part on journalism conventions and ethics.

Categories A and C, General Interest -- print, includes columns on any subject, from politics to sports, criticism to hobbies, or mixtures of topics. Items columns, which comprise a series of short takes, are welcome. Columns posted online simultaneously or after print publication are acceptable. Unsigned editorials and the like are NOT acceptable.

Categories B and D, Humor -- print, is broad-based, including columns intended just to entertain, and general or specialty columns that use wit heavily. Items-style or short-takes humor columns are welcome. Columns posted online simultaneously or after print publication are acceptable. Pseudonyms -- or writing credit given to pets etc. -- are acceptable only in print humor columns.

Online. Categories E and F: For the contest, the NSNC halves online categories as being above and below 100,000 *monthly unique visitors*. Columnists can get that figure from the publication's management; bloggers from blog management tools or analytics. The NSNC welcomes entries from two main fields: 1) Newspapers' online editions, Internet journals, aggregator sites, commercial and nonprofit media websites and portals, and so forth. 2) The NSNC also values entries from individuals' personal websites, independent blogs, small-group online journals, community or hyperlocal journalism sites, social network accounts and so on.

Categories E and F, Online, Blog and Multimedia Columns:

- Any kind of column that appears on the Web is eligible -- general interest, humor, specialty, "items" or set of short takes, criticism, politics, analysis, reportage, etc.
- Online columns, blog columns and multimedia columns must be original, new material and not published in print. Their content must not have appeared previously, except for illustrations. Columns that ran *both* online and print must be entered in the appropriate *print* category.
- Authors' names must appear on each column, in the body or in the header, footer or sidebar. Pseudonyms online are NOT acceptable.
- Online columns, blog columns and multimedia columns must have been first uploaded to the Internet between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2010, as documented by visible time-stamp, copyright notice, publication date etc.
- Online comments to a submitted post may be included as supporting documentation.
- The specific Web page address -- the URL or permalink -- of each column in an entry must be listed on the application form and seen in the header or footer of the print-out hard copies. The URL address should remain active through July 30, 2011, so judges and NSNC officials can open them.
- Entrants should note on the form if access might be limited to subscribers or by fee; this makes submitting print-outs crucial. The NSNC does not want to exclude entries, but judges are not expected to pay for online access.
- There is no limit as to how many entries a non-individual site can enter from its columnists, but only one online entry is permitted from each columnist.
- The components of multimedia entries -- video and audio, photo and other illustration, animation and so forth -- must be of formats that can be opened by popular browsers including Explorer, Firefox and Safari. Entrants are cautioned that judges sometimes use older computers and less-than-current software.
- Online judges' first criterion is quality of the work, bound by commonly accepted journalism conventions and ethics. Contestants are referred to the NSNC Code of Conduct on www.columnists.com.
- Online judges' second criterion is how well the entry, overall and individually, honors the three-century history of newspaper columns in tradition, format, spirit and variety.