

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The ASNE awards are designed to recognize, foster, and reward the finest writing in daily newspapers and wire services and the most outstanding community service photojournalism. Content may be great events or small happenings.

- In ALL categories except Deadline News Reporting by a Team and Local Watchdog Reporting, entries must be the work of one person.
- All entries must have been published in 2005 and must be postmarked no later than **Feb. 1, 2006**.

GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

Please follow the outlined rules and procedures carefully to ensure that your entry is accepted. Entries that do not conform to these rules may be disqualified.

- **Eligibility:** All daily newspapers and wire services (that serve daily newspapers) in the United States are eligible to enter. Outside the United States, daily newspapers that are headed by an active member of ASNE are also eligible. All entries must be submitted in English.
 - The work of full-time or part-time employees is eligible. The work of freelancers is not.
 - A ranking editor of the organization must sign and submit the entry.

■ **Deadline:** Entries must be submitted by **Feb. 1, 2006**. Only work published in 2005 is eligible. The awards will be presented at the April 2006 ASNE Convention in Seattle.

■ **Team Entries:** Team entries are eligible only for this year's special category, Local Watchdog Reporting, and for Deadline News Reporting by a Team. All other categories accept only work by an individual.

■ **No Multiple Entries:** A news organization can make only one entry in each of the eight categories. An individual cannot be entered in more than one category, with this single exception: A writer nominated for the team award in deadline news reporting can also be nominated in one of the distinguished writing categories (but not in the individual deadline reporting category).

■ **Reprint Rights:** Reprint rights are granted to The Poynter Institute, ASNE, and the publisher of *Best Newspaper Writing* by virtue of entry in this contest. **NOTE:** Winners and runners-up will be asked to supply electronic copies of their text or photographs upon notification of award.

■ **Entry Forms:** Go online to <http://www.poynter.org/ASNE2006> to fill out the form, then print it to include with the items you mail. If you cannot complete the form online, contact Suzanne Martin at ASNE for a paper copy (703) 453-1124; scj@asne.org.

■ **No Fees:** There is no entry fee for the competitions.

■ **Submission:** Entries must be postmarked no later than **Feb. 1, 2006**.

Send articles, photos, and printed entry forms **by mail or carrier** (not by fax or e-mail) to:

ASNE Awards/Jesse Laventhol Prizes
The Poynter Institute
801 Third Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-9981
Phone: (727) 821-9494

The Poynter Institute, a nonprofit educational institution concerned with raising the levels of journalistic excellence, handles administrative aspects of the contest.

■ **Questions:** Please see Frequently Asked Questions at <http://www.asne.org/awards> or contact Suzanne Martin at ASNE (703) 453-1124 or scj@asne.org.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS

2006 Awards

Distinguished Writing Awards

Jesse Laventhol Prizes for Deadline News Reporting

Freedom Forum/ASNE Award for Distinguished Writing on Diversity

Community Service Photojournalism Award

The American Society of Newspaper Editors annually recognizes excellence in the journalistic crafts of writing and photography. ASNE is the premier organization of editors in the Americas. Its activities concentrate on improving the diversity, readership, and credibility of newspapers.

Poynter.

The Poynter Institute | A School for Journalists
801 3rd St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone: (727) 821-9494 Fax: (727) 821-0583
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CATEGORIES

ASNE will present eight awards for work done in 2005. Descriptions of the awards follow, along with the rules for submissions.

Four Distinguished Writing Awards

Cash Prizes: \$2,500. These awards are funded by the ASNE Foundation, with the support of the Society members.

Entries for each of these awards, including the watchdog reporting category, are judged on the basis of style, precision of word usage, structure, descriptive power, narrative skill, and the like. Credibility and attribution will be valued, and credit will be given to concise and efficient writing.

■ **Commentary/Column Writing:** Any writing by an individual that expresses a personal point of view, including columns and other journalistic forms of opinion, but not editorials.

- Minimum of 3 articles, maximum of 5.

■ **Editorial Writing:** Editorials, signed or unsigned, written by one individual, that speak for the newspaper.

- Minimum of 3 editorials, maximum of 5.

■ **Local Watchdog Reporting:** Outstanding work done by newspapers that holds important local institutions accountable for their actions. The reporting should be investigative in nature, and judges will give preference to work that made a documentable difference in the newspaper's community. The work must be anchored within the community — reports from overseas or national reporting does not qualify.

- Individual or team work will be accepted for this category.
- Minimum of 3 articles, maximum of 5. Each story in a series will count as one of the five — as will sidebars.

- Two supplemental stories may be included beyond the five entered stories to provide context and **must** be labeled as such.

- A nominating letter explaining the work and its impact is welcome.

■ **Non-Deadline Writing:** Any writing by an individual (except commentary or editorials) that is not accomplished on deadline. The submission may be drawn from any section of the newspaper and may include investigative and news-related material as well as features such as profiles, interviews, trend stories, lifestyle, travel, etc.

- Minimum of 3 articles, maximum of 5.

Two Jesse Laventhol Prizes for Deadline News Reporting

Cash Prizes: \$10,000. The Laventhol Prizes are endowed with a generous gift from David Laventhol in honor of his father, Jesse Laventhol, a reporter for newspapers in Philadelphia in the 1920s and 1930s.

Entries are judged for writing and substance in covering breaking news events under deadline pressure. Descriptive power, literary style, depth and breadth of reporting, timeliness, completeness, and perspective will be evaluated.

■ **Deadline Reporting by an Individual:** Newspapers are urged to consider entering deadline stories from sports, metro, national, and foreign desks. This category should not be confined to the big local story.

- Minimum of 1 article, maximum of 3.
- A nominating letter no longer than one page **must** accompany the entry.

■ **Deadline Reporting by a Team:** The submission should consist of a single day's published work by the team.

- Minimum of 1 article, maximum of 3.

- A nominating letter no longer than one page **must** accompany the entry.

NOTE: A writer nominated for individual deadline reporting cannot be entered for the team award.

One Freedom Forum/ASNE Award for Distinguished Writing on Diversity

Cash Prize: \$2,500. This award is funded by a gift from The Freedom Forum.

■ **The Diversity Award:** News and feature writing by an individual that helps readers understand how racial and ethnic diversity are changing their communities. Columns and editorials are not eligible in this category.

- Minimum of 3 articles, maximum of 5.

One Community Service Photojournalism Award

Cash Prize: \$2,500. The award is funded by the ASNE Foundation.

■ **Photojournalism Award:** For compelling work by an individual. This contest will reward a photographer who has an understanding of his/her community and captures the sense of that community with powerful and meaningful images.

- A maximum of 15 prints.
- A letter no longer than one page **must** accompany the entry and must be specific in explaining the photojournalism's effect on the community.

PRESENTATION OF ENTRIES

Writing Awards

■ Submit entries on 8-1/2" x 11" sheets. Each article should be cut into columns and pasted onto 8-1/2" x 11" sheets with no fold-overs.

■ Do not photographically reduce articles.

■ Original tear sheets, rather than photocopies, are preferred for the cut-and-paste mounting.

■ If tear sheets are not available, computer printouts of copy are acceptable, but must be presented on 8-1/2" x 11" sheets.

■ Headline and date of publication must be included and may be typed at the head of individual sheets.

■ Articles for submission must be placed inside a letter-size file folder, with an official entry form stapled to the front of the folder.

■ A nominating letter must accompany entries for the Laventhol Deadline News Reporting awards. Letters are optional for the other writing award categories. All letters should be limited to one page.

Photojournalism Award

■ Photos should be on 8-1/2" x 11" or 8" x 11" glossy paper. (Good quality computer printouts are acceptable.) Do not send prints larger than 8-1/2" x 11".

■ Send no more than 15 prints from the project. All photos submitted must have been published in the newspaper or on the paper's Web site.

■ To establish context, tearsheets **must** be submitted for the entire project, even if they show more than the 15 best or most telling pictures selected.

■ The photographic prints may be submitted in color or black and white, regardless of how they originally appeared.