

Student Television Award for Excellence

What is the Student Television Award for Excellence?

This initiative of The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences-Pacific Southwest Chapter and the NATAS-PSW Foundation promotes best practices to high school students. It is intended to be an incentive for the pursuit of excellence in television journalism and to focus public attention on outstanding achievements in television produced by high school students. All entries are judged in the Pacific Southwest Region which includes San Diego, Las Vegas, San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Bakersfield and Palm Springs

What kind of work can be entered?

Entries must be submitted as they were originally telecast, cablecast or webcast. There may not be any post-broadcast changes, except edits for time, as noted in the category descriptions below. An entry may be submitted by any student who is currently enrolled in high school, and should be sponsored by the school, after school or school related program where the work was produced. **Entries may be entered in more than one category (for example, an entry may be eligible for Craft Achievement and News).**

Alternatively, the high school or after school program may endorse submissions produced by its enrolled students at public access facilities or community arts centers, thereby verifying the submission as the student's own. **Remember, faculty involvement can be only advisory.** There is no limit to the number of entries a school or after school program may submit in each category.

Who receives the Award?

The Student Television Award for Excellence is presented to the sponsoring high school, after school program, or producing organization, with the individuals involved in the production of the entry receiving certificates.

What are the eligibility requirements?

All entries must have been originally broadcast, cablecast or webcast within the Awards Eligibility Period from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. Applicants must be currently enrolled as a full time student as of the **application deadline, January 18, 2009.**

Does all material have to be original?

At least two-thirds of an entry must consist of original material, unless previously produced material has been given some unique and creative treatment. Entrants must specifically identify and give credit to **all** non-original material included in the entry. This includes music use.

What if my entry is in a language other than English?

Programs in languages other than English may be entered. Judging of these entries is subject to the availability of qualified judges who speak the language of the entry. The NATAS-PSW Foundation recommends that entrants submit either a 100-words-or-less summary of the entry in English or an English translation.

How does the judging process work?

Entries will be judged by panels composed of television industry professionals, and media teachers. Judges may not have a conflict of interest, which is described as having a direct involvement in the production of an entry, or having a personal relationship with a member of the production staff of an entry.

How do I enter my work?

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences-Pacific Southwest and the NATAS-PSW Foundation intends to encourage and foster entries in all-digital format submitted online to **YouTube**. **Please provide us with the entry URL for judging. If a valid URL is not provided, the entry can be disqualified.**

What does it cost to enter?

Each entry requires a processing fee of **\$25.00** payable via VISA, MasterCard, check or money order. This fee is **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Please complete and submit the entry form and send it with payment to the NATAS-PSW office:

NATAS-Pacific Southwest

P.O. Box 80255

San Diego, CA 92138

IMPORTANT!

Entries missing information on the entry form, or which have incorrect fees, or do not follow the guidelines under Student Entry Preparation will be subject to a \$25.00 reprocessing fee for each correction, which requires manual intervention including the addition or deletion of names, or the entry may be subject to disqualification.

THE INTENTIONAL FALSIFICATION of production credits by an entrant will be the basis for disqualification of the entry.

What is the deadline for entries?

All entry forms and processing fees must be received by NATAS-Pacific Southwest no later than January 18, 2009. All Entries must be uploaded and available for viewing by January 18, 2009.

STUDENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE CATEGORIES

1. News

For outstanding reporting achievement in a regularly scheduled presentation of timely news, information and current events. Entries may contain spot news coverage, investigations and feature stories on any newsworthy subject. Coverage of controversial issues is welcome.

Entries will be judged on the basis of editorial content and pictorial coverage which demonstrates awareness of broadcast journalistic standards including accuracy and fairness. Judges will particularly look for well-organized material paying close attention to clearly written narration and appropriate sound bites. Preference will be given to individual pieces demonstrating reporting and field production. Entries may run no more than 5 minutes. In-studio set-up or anchor link work will not be considered as an asset unless it materially contributes to the editorial content of the individual report.

2. Long Form (Fiction and Non-Fiction)

For outstanding achievement in a regularly scheduled or special presentation of a single subject. Entries must run no less than 6 minutes and no more than 10 minutes. If the original presentation ran more than 10 minutes, entrants are permitted to submit two 5 minute unedited segments that best exemplify the total work. Dramatizations or student originated soap operas or plays are permitted.

Subject matter can include (but is not limited to) investigations, examinations of social issues, community affairs, personal relationships, sports, lifestyles, music, performing arts, entertainment, fashion, and historical retrospectives. Concept, content and execution will be important elements in judging the entries. Judges will particularly look for well-organized material paying close attention to clearly written narration and appropriate sound bites.

3. Sports

For outstanding reporting achievement in a regularly scheduled or special presentation of sports news and information. Pieces may run no more than 3 minutes. An individual may enter a compilation of his or her work in this category consisting of no more than 3 unedited pieces totaling 10 minutes in running time ("Composite entry").

In-studio set-up or anchor link work will not be considered as an asset unless it materially contributes to the editorial content of the presentation. Judges will particularly look for well-organized material paying close attention to clearly written narration and appropriate sound bites.

4. Craft Achievement

For outstanding achievement in the technical portions of an entry. Students who wish to enter an entire news program highlighting their on camera performances, graphics presentation, opening animations, and live production aspects, etc. are urged to submit in this category. This category also recognizes individual craft achievement in areas such as camera work, animation, graphic design, special effects, editing, music arrangement or composition, scenic and production design, lighting, directing, and sound. Entries may run no more than 10 minutes. An individual may enter a compilation of several examples of his or her work in this category.