



Florida Scholastic Press Association

## Fall 2021 Digital Contests

*Deadline: Submissions are due by 9 p.m. ET on Friday, Oct. 1*

We are excited to announce our Fall 2021 Digital Contests. We welcome member publications to submit up to five entries per category (unless otherwise noted). Each submission costs \$7, which will be billed to your publication after the submission deadline. Non-members will also be invoiced \$30 for an annual membership. Publications with an outstanding balance from the spring may be required to bring their accounts current prior to submitting entries.

We encourage students to use appropriate safety measures and social distancing during the reporting process. No work will be penalized for engaging in distancing measures such as conducting interviews remotely. Entries will be evaluated against submissions statewide, with students eligible to earn All-Florida, Excellent or Honorable Mention ratings. All-Florida winners will be announced at our district workshops throughout the state, with an overall Best of the Best winner for each category announced virtually in November.

Students should belong to the staff under which their work is being entered. **Publications should not submit work under another publication's account.** Middle school publications are welcome to enter all categories, but only middle school students may enter middle school categories.

Highlighted categories will be completed on a quick turn deadline, with specific materials/details available starting at 7:45 p.m. Eastern on Monday, Sept. 27 on the FSPA website.

**01. Yearbook Preliminary Theme Package** — Submit up to five attachments outlining your working 2022 yearbook theme. Can be visual and verbal elements. Can just be notes. The goal here is to get you feedback from award-winning advisers ASAP to help you shape the upcoming book. Submit PDF attachments that includes samples such as drafts of your cover, title page, endsheets, opening, dividers, themed mods, etc. If you are missing some elements, that's fine. We welcome you to provide what you have for timely, actionable feedback. You may also choose to submit a link to your files in a public Dropbox or OneDrive file. (One entry per publication)

**02. Yearbook Student Life Summer Spread** — Submit a double-page student life spread about summer. (Do not submit a 2021 yearbook spread). Submit as a single PDF document.

**03. Deadline Module** — Create a module based on a prompt that will be released on Monday, Sept. 27. Submit a single PDF document.

**04. Middle School Yearbook Spread** — Submit a single content spread (not an opening or divider) created since March. It may be from your 2021 book or a draft of a 2022 spread, but not previously submitted to an FSPA contest. Submit as a single PDF document.

**05. Literary Magazine Spread** — Create a double-page literary magazine spread inspired by this Google image search: *1950s Motor Lodge*. Create original visuals and writing as you see fit. Submit a single PDF.

**06. Deadline Poetry** — Compose a poem based on the prompt that will be released on Monday, Sept. 27.

**07. Multimedia Feature** — Submit a single URL of coverage of a topic relevant to your audience, created since Aug. 1. Include at least three different types of media (text, audio, video, interactive graphics, etc.). *This should NOT be just a video package.* You will submit a single URL.

**08. Entertainment Podcast** — Create a podcast focused on arts and entertainment. Max length: 10:00. Post online and submit a URL link.

- 09. Deadline Broadcast Feature Package** — Produce a max 2:30 package about a topic that will be announced on Monday, Sept. 27. Publish your video to YouTube or Vimeo and submit a link.
- 10. Masterclass** – Present a max 5:00 video to teach a skill important for success in a journalism/media production course. Publish your video to YouTube or Vimeo and submit a link.
- 11. Middle School Event Coverage** — Submit a max 2:30 package that covers a campus event. Publish your video to YouTube or Vimeo and submit a link.
- 12. Broadcast Show Opening** – Submit a new broadcast show opening created since Aug. 1. Be sure to adhere to all applicable copyright laws. Publish to YouTube or Vimeo and submit a link.
- 13. Deadline Editorial** – Write a staff editorial of 500-600 words based on a prompt that will be provided on Monday, Sept. 27. Submit as a PDF.
- 14. News Story** – Compose a written news story about a topic of interest to your campus community. It must have been written after Aug. 1. Submit as a PDF.
- 15. Adviser Nature Photo** – This category is FOR ADVISERS. Submit nature photo taken since Aug. 1. Submit as a JPG. (Free; one entry per publication)
- 16. Newspaper Sports Page** – Submit a newspaper sports page or newsmagazine sports spread created since Aug. 1.
- 17. Academics Photo** — Submit a candid photo of appropriate for use in academics coverage. Submit a JPG.
- 18. Middle School Academics Photo** — Submit a candid photo of appropriate for use in academics coverage. Submit as a JPG.
- 19. Friendship Photo Story** — Submit 3-5 photos along with captions that tell a story about “friendship.” Combine the images into a single PDF file and include detailed captions for each image.
- 20. Deadline Photo Challenge** — Submit a photo based on a prompt that will be announced on Monday, Sept. 27. Submit a JPG.
- 21. Instagram Event Coverage Story** – Create an Instagram story – all published within the same day – that provides coverage of an event. Download the story as a video, then either publish the video to YouTube or Vimeo or save it in a publicly available Dropbox, Google Drive or OneDrive and share the link.
- 22. Hand-Drawn Illustration** – Submit an illustration (max size 8x10 inches) that personifies one or more of the pieces of equipment used in journalism/media classes. Scan and submit as a PDF.
- 23. Snack Food Review Video** -- Make a max 3:00 video in which you review snack food/foods of your choice. Upload to YouTube or Vimeo and submit as a weblink.
- 24. Middle School Snack Food Review Video** -- Make a max 3:00 video in which you review snack food/foods of your choices Upload to YouTube or Vimeo and submit as a weblink.
- 25. Comedy Short** – Submit a max 5:00 comedy short inspired by the documentary style of TV shows such as “The Office” and “Modern Family” but set in a student newsroom. Upload to YouTube or Vimeo and submit as a weblink.

**Joe Humphrey | FSPA Evaluations Coordinator | [fspacontests@gmail.com](mailto:fspacontests@gmail.com)**

# How to submit entries:

1. Go to <http://betternewspapercontest.com>
2. In the top menu, select "Contestant Login"
3. Select the "Contestant Manager" tab and "FSPA Fall 2021 Digital Contests" on the left menu (It's near the bottom).
4. Then, on the right menu, select your publication. They are listed by school, publication. If your organization is not listed, skip down on this page to the "HELP! I can't access the database" section.
5. The password is the same you used in the spring. If you did not enter last spring or cannot remember your password, see the "HELP! I can't access the database" section of these instructions below.
6. You may be asked to update your contact information, change your password or more. You may also be asked to read and agree to the terms of use. Hit submit once you have done all of that.
7. For first-time users, after uploading a few entries, you may receive an email asking you to confirm your email address. You will be unable to upload additional entries until you've completed this important security step. We strongly suggest you make an effort to clear this hurdle ASAP because there will be no extensions granted for entries and sometimes that email can get caught by a spam filter. School email addresses are especially prone to getting these emails stuck and sometimes advisers need to resort to a Gmail address that will let that email through.

## HELP! I can't access the database...

• If you are unable to log-in, send an email with the subject line DATABASE to [fspacontests@gmail.com](mailto:fspacontests@gmail.com). Make sure your name, your publication name and your email address are included in the message, along with an explanation. Again, provide us with specific information here so we can help you! You WILL receive a response within 24 hours, and most likely significantly faster. DO NOT use the help feature on the website, which goes to our vendor.

## Navigating the entry form

1. Once you've logged in successfully, go to "My Contest" in the top menu and select "submit entry."
  2. Select GENERAL for "Division"
  3. Then select the category you want to enter.
  4. Under headline or title, provide a headline or description to identify the entry.
- Each category lists the submission file type.

-- For text-based entries, do not submit Word docs. Use PDFs.

-- For photo entries, submit a JPG unless otherwise noted. If an entry requires multiple photos, make sure to upload all of them within the same entry.

-- For design entries, submit a PDF. For categories requiring a double-page spread, please try to export your two pages as a "spread" so that the pages face on the document.

-- Broadcast and multimedia entries must be uploaded to a service such as YouTube, SchoolTube or Vimeo and submitted as a web link.

**Who should be credited:** Enter the names of up to five students. If more than five students contributed to an entry, enter "Staff" for the entry name. Entries also require you to respond to a reCAPTCHA. Once you have uploaded the maximum allowable number of entries in a category, it will disappear from the drop-down menu. Five entries are allowed in most categories, though some (as noted) allow fewer.

## THIS IS IMPORTANT!!! Managing Entries

Once you've uploaded content, you can view and edit your entries at any time by going to the top left menu "my contest" and selecting "manage entries." This screen will allow you to see all of your entries at a glance. You're able to click on any file you uploaded to review it or any link you provided to test it. On the right side of each submission, select "edit" to change an entry; "disable" if you wish to keep an entry in the database but not submit it and "delete" to eliminate an entry from the database.

**NOTE: Once we have confirmed your entry, you can only DISABLE it. So if you submit something and decide you no longer wish to enter it, you would need to click DISABLE. If you delete a category entry, that category will reappear in the pulldown menu on the page where you submit entries.**

Please make sure you test the attachments and links to ensure the content is viewable by judges.

## Billing

You can track your entry fees by using the Calculate Entry Fees button. Once all entries are submitted, we will create a digital invoice on our membership website ([fspa.wildapricot.org](http://fspa.wildapricot.org)).