

Virginia  
**PRESS**  
Association

**2008**  
**Categories for**  
**NON-DAILY**  
**PUBLICATIONS**

Oct. 20, 2008  
November 21, 2008 - Revised

## Engaging readers through WRITING

### Judges WILL consider:

- Effectiveness in establishing a “why-this-is-important-to-you” connection to the reader and community, such as a nut graf.
- Clarity of local context and adequacy of background information.
- Writer’s style and voice.
- Precision and clarity of vocabulary.
- Accuracy, attribution and sourcing.
- Attention to answering all relevant questions.
- Length appropriate to subject and importance.
- Grammar, spelling and consistency of style.
- Effectiveness of alternative storytelling techniques, if used.
- Special circumstances explained on the entry form.

### Judges WILL NOT consider:

- Page design or the story’s placement on the page.
- Content of headlines or other typographical devices associated with the story.
- Photographs or other artwork associated with the story.

### How to enter:

- Submit clippings glued or taped to letter-sized paper, OR printouts from an electronic archive system, OR photocopies of the original clippings, OR full-page tearsheets, OR page proofs no smaller than 11x17. Outline the portion to be judged with grease pencil or marker.
- Printouts of online-only writing are permitted in all categories.
- Do not remove or block out photos or other art.
- If a story continues on the back side of the same tearsheet, mark it “OVER.”
- Affix the entry form to the back of the entry with tape or glue.
- If multiple pages or tearsheets are used, staple them together with multiple staples.
- Pay close attention to the entry limits and to the number of examples required in each entry.

### Maximum entries

|     | Type  | Description and requirements  | Per publication | Per non-daily staffer or team |
|-----|---|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| W01 | <b>Single story or package</b>  | <p><b>Breaking news writing:</b> A single story, or a group of stories published in the same issue, covering a single news event which is unplanned and unanticipated. The event must have occurred no more than 24 hours before the publication’s deadline. Quality of writing and thoroughness of fact reporting will be considered.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> This category is for coverage of events which happened with NO advance warning. If an event had been anticipated enough to allow a publication to have add matter or pages ready to go, it does not qualify for this category. All entries will be reviewed for compliance. If an entry consists of more than one story, all of the stories must have been published on the same date. Coverage of hurricanes or other predicted weather phenomena is <b>NOT</b> considered breaking news. An entry in this category may be included in a general news entry if the breaking news story launched multi-day, continuing coverage.</p> | <b>3</b>        | <b>3</b>                      |
| W02 | <b>Body of work</b>   | <p><b>Business and financial writing:</b> Stories providing insight into the business and financial world, particularly stories which explain or clarify. Both news and feature stories may be entered.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants’ work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>  | <b>3</b>        | <b>1</b>                      |
| W03 | <b>Body of work</b>   | <p><b>Column writing:</b> Writing which is published regularly, under a byline, by a single individual, other than editorials and sports columns. For non-daily papers, “regularly” means at least 17 times a year.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants’ work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>  | <b>3</b>        | <b>1</b>                      |
| W04 | <i><b>This category is not available for non-daily publications</b></i> |   |                 |                               |
| W05 | <b>Body of work</b>   | <p><b>Editorial writing:</b> The writing of opinion which appears on a bona fide editorial page. Editorials may be signed or unsigned.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of a group of three-to-five editorials on the same subject OR three unrelated examples of the entrants’ work. An example may be a single editorial or a package of editorials published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>   | <b>3</b>        | <b>1</b>                      |
| W06 | <b>Body of work</b>   | <p><b>Education writing:</b> For news and feature stories about educational issues and trends from kindergarten through post-graduate and on to continuing education.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants’ work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>  | <b>3</b>        | <b>1</b>                      |

|     |                                |  |          |          |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|----------|----------|
| W07 | <b>Single story or package</b> | <p><b>Feature story writing:</b> For stories in which the writer emphasizes such techniques as narrative and drama. The quality of writing and ability of the writer to hold reader interest will be considered.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of one example of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| W08 | <b>Single story or package</b> | <p><b>Feature series or continuing story:</b> A series or group of stories on the same subject, utilizing the elements of feature writing.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Must begin or end within the contest year and the stories must not span more than 12 months. May not be entered in more than one annual competition.</p>  | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| W09 | <b>Body of work</b>            | <p><b>Feature writing portfolio:</b> This category is for a body of FEATURE work produced by a single writer during the contest year.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> An entry consists of three (3) stories which may or may not be related. Double-bylined entries or staff entries are not permitted. Stories submitted as part of the portfolio competition may also be entered in the appropriate category in the writing division of the contest. However, all three pieces may not be entered together into another category.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| W10 | <b>Single story or package</b> | <p><b>General news writing:</b> The coverage of a single news event, which may or may not occur within a limited amount of time. The coverage of events which take place over an extended period of time is included in this category. Quality of writing and thoroughness of fact will be considered.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> A single entry consists of one or more stories reporting the same event, so long as the event begins or ends during the contest year and the stories span no more than 12 months. An entry in this category may not be entered in more than one annual competition. Any stories offered in this category may not appear in any other category except spot news writing. An entry in the breaking news category may be used as part of an entry in this category if the spot news story is the first story in ongoing, multiple-day coverage.</p> <p><b>Maximum of 12 stories per entry,</b> including sidebars.</p> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| W11 | <b>Body of work</b>            | <p><b>Government writing:</b> For news and feature stories about all aspects of local, state and federal government, including the armed forces and government agencies. Coverage of courts, law enforcement and justice is <b>not</b> a part of this category.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| W12 | <b>Body of work</b>            | <p><b>Health, science and environmental writing:</b> For news and feature stories about medicine, science, technology and the environment.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>  | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| W13 | <b>Single story or package</b> | <p><b>In-depth or investigative reporting:</b> One or more stories on the same subject that demonstrate initiative and thoroughness in research and/or investigation, and the ability to convey the results to the reader.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> A series of articles must begin or end during the contest year and must span no more than 12 months. An entry may not be submitted in more than one annual competition.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| W14 | <b>Single story or package</b> | <p><b>Personal service writing:</b> One or more stories on the same or related subjects, providing advice, information or instruction that helps readers improve the quality of their lives.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of one example of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| W15 | <b>Body of work</b>            | <p><b>Public safety writing:</b> The coverage of law enforcement, criminal justice, non-spot emergency services and related issues. An entry in the breaking news category may be used as part of an entry in this category.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story; a package of stories published on the same day; or a multi-day package covering a trial or extended event. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>   | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| W16 | <b>Body of work</b>            | <p><b>Sports column writing:</b> Any writing that regularly appears on the sports page under a regular heading and a byline. This may include opinions, observations, or elements of an interview.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.</p>  | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |

|     |                     |   |          |          |
|-----|---------------------|---|----------|----------|
| W17 | <b>Body of work</b> | <b>Sports writing portfolio:</b> For news, competition or feature writing on sports subjects. Columns may not be part of a portfolio.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of three examples of the entrants' work. An example may be a single story or a package of stories published on the same day. Entries with fewer examples will be disqualified.. | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
|-----|---------------------|---|----------|----------|

## Telling stories through PHOTOGRAPHY

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Judges WILL consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectiveness in capturing the defining moment and telling the story.</li> <li>• Effectiveness in cropping or framing to create context and/or draw the reader's eye to the most important part of the picture.</li> <li>• Artistic ability.</li> <li>• Technical ability.</li> <li>• Sensitivity.</li> <li>• Special circumstances explained on the entry form.</li> </ul> | <b>Judges WILL NOT consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size of the published photograph.</li> <li>• Quality of presswork or other production issues outside the photographer's control.</li> <li>• Content of headlines or other typographical devices associated with the entry.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

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|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>How to enter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit entries as clippings mounted on 11x14 poster board, except as noted in individual categories.</li> <li>• Photographic prints are not permitted.</li> <li>• Unless noted otherwise, each entry consists of a single image.</li> <li>• Cutlines must appear on the front of the entry with the photo.</li> <li>• Credit lines may be blacked out at the entrant's discretion.</li> </ul> | <b>Maximum entries</b> |                                      |
|   | <b>Per publication</b> | <b>Per non-daily staffer or team</b> |

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|-----|--|----------|----------|
| G04 | <b>Breaking news photo:</b> Photos of an unscheduled, unplanned news event. The ability of the photographer to capture the essentials of the news story in a single picture will be considered.  | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G05 | <b>Feature photo:</b> Photos which can stand alone as expressions of non-news feature subjects.  | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G06 | <b>General news photo:</b> Photos of a planned news event. The ability of the photographer to capture the essentials of the event in a dramatic presentation will be considered.   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G07 | <b>Personality or portrait photo:</b> Photos which capture the essence of an individual personality or present a portrait study.   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G08 | <b>Photo-Illustration:</b> Photos, especially those taken in a studio, in which the photographer is able to control all factors and may even be creating the content of the picture. This would include photos of home decor, food, clothing, health, leisure, entertainment, jobs, consumer concerns, issues that affect the family or personal relationships, theme covers, etc. Pictures which have been electronically enhanced or modified by the photographer are included in this category. | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G09 | <b>Pictorial photo:</b> Photos which attract reader interest exclusively because of their artistic quality and their ability to convey a feeling.  | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G10 | <b>Picture story or essay:</b> A series of three or more pictures that tells the story of an incident or episode in any field of endeavor. The entry must include the captions and story, if applicable, although the text is not considered by the judges.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit TEARSHEETS ONLY. Do not mount tearsheets on any kind of board. Tape the tearsheets together, horizontally, in the order of presentation.  | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G11 | <b>Sports news photo:</b> Photos of any sports event or sports action.   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |
| G12 | <b>Sports feature photo:</b> Sports photos other than event-related photography.   | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> |

## Connecting with the community through PRESENTATION and DESIGN

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|---|---|--|
| <b>Judges WILL consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectiveness in establishing a connection to the reader and community through appropriate selection and placement of stories, photographs, graphics, artwork, and alternative storytelling devices.</li> <li>Typography and the publication's design style.</li> <li>Organization and visual flow of pages and sections.</li> <li>Effectiveness of headlines and other typographical devices.</li> <li>Effectiveness in controlling story lengths and jumps.</li> <li>Effective use of news hole.</li> <li>Special circumstances explained on the entry form.</li> </ul> |   | <b>Judges WILL NOT consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of presswork and other production issues beyond the newsroom's control.</li> <li>Placement or content of advertising.</li> </ul> |
| <b>How to enter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit fullpage tearsheets, complete copies of the publication or other materials as directed.</li> <li>When multiple tearsheets are required, staple them together with multiple staples and attach the entry form to the back of the last tearsheet with tape or glue.</li> <li>When multiple full copies of the publication are required, bundle them with string or rubber bands and attach the entry form to the back of the last copy with tape or glue.</li> </ul>   |   | <b>Maximum entries</b>   |
| M01   | <i><b>This category is not available for non-daily publications</b></i>   |  |
| M02   | <b>Editorial pages:</b> Judges will consider overall appearance, including typography, layout, pertinent pictures, artwork and features. This competition includes op-ed pages. If an op-ed page was published on a contest date, it must be included in the entry.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of all pages of this type published on the submitted dates.<br><b>Submit three dates of your choice from within the contest year.</b>   | <b>One entry per publication in each of these categories</b>   |
| M03   | <b>Front page:</b> Judges will consider overall appearance, use of headlines and their relationship to the importance of each story, use of headlines and their relationship to other headlines on the page, selection and use of pictures and artwork, and the variety and importance of news on the page.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of the front page for the submitted dates.<br><b>Submit three dates of your choice from within the contest year.</b>  |  |
| M04   | <b>General makeup:</b> Judges will consider the general appearance and makeup of the entire newspaper. Key elements are departmentalization, special pages, use of headlines in relationship to the importance of the story and to page makeup, selection and use of pictures and artwork, packaging of related stories and general typography.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit complete issues for the submitted dates. DO NOT include advertising inserts.<br><b>Submit three dates of your choice from within the contest year.</b> |  |
| M05   | <b>Headline writing:</b> Considers the display type that conveys immediate information and draw readers into stories. Headlines, subheads, captions and abstracts are examples of the items judged in this contest.<br><b>Requirements:</b> An entry consists of clippings of five stories and the "big words" accompanying them. Entries may be submitted in the names of one or two persons. No "Staff" or "Team" entries allowed.  |  |
| M06   | <b>Lifestyle or entertainment pages:</b> Judges will consider overall appearance, including typography, layout, selection and use of pictures and artwork, and comprehensive coverage of lifestyles, entertainment, food or family news and features.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of all pages of this type published on the submitted dates.<br><b>Submit three dates of your choice from within the contest year.</b>   | <b>One entry per publication in this category</b>  |
| M07   | <b>Page design:</b> Judges will consider creativity, use of graphic elements, use of color and the relationships of all elements in creating an effective page design. This category is for individual designers of pages.<br><b>Requirements:</b> An entry consists of <b>five (5) pages</b> (or groups of pages on a single subject published on the same day) designed by an individual editor or page designer.   | <b>Three entries per publication; one entry per designer or editor</b>   |
| M08   | <b>Special sections or special editions:</b> Entries will be judged on the basis of writing quality, depth of coverage, selection and use of pictures or artwork and continuity of design.<br><b>Requirements:</b> An entry consists of ONE special section. Entries should be news-driven, NOT ad-promotion-driven.  | <b>Three entries per publication in this category</b>  |
| M09   | <b>Sports pages:</b> Judges will consider makeup and general appearance, comprehensiveness of coverage, selection and use of stories and pictures, and local appeal. Specialty publications may enter pages or sections of this type in category M10.<br><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of all pages of this type published on the submitted dates.<br><b>Submit three dates of your choice from within the contest year.</b>   | <b>One entry per publication in this category</b>  |

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| M10 | <p><b>Specialty pages or sections:</b> For recurring themed pages sections published at least once a quarter but no more often than twice a week. Examples would be food sections, home and garden sections, etc. Non-dailies and specialty publications enter business, financial and agricultural pages in this category. Specialty publications enter sports pages in this category</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> An entry consists of three complete same-theme sections published during the contest year.</p>   | <p><b>Three entries per publication in this category; each must be on a different theme</b></p> |
| M11 | <p><b>Combination-picture-and-story:</b> A combination of text (in addition to cutlines) and at least three pieces of art (photos, illustrations or both) that tell a story. This may be the work of a reporter, an artist and/or a photographer. The writing, photography, artwork and presentation will have equal weight in the judging of this category.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Submit folded tearsheets only. Board-mounted entries and/or prints will not be accepted (Non-daily and daily circulation divisions). Entries must be submitted in the names of all those who contributed to the package. Work entered in this category may also be submitted in the appropriate categories of the writing, photography, artwork and presentation divisions of the contest.</p> | <p><b>Three entries per publication in this category</b></p>                                    |

## Analyzing and explaining the news through ART

|  |  |  |                                   |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <p><b>Judges WILL consider:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectiveness in establishing a “why-this-is-important-to-you” connection to the reader and community.</li> <li>Clarity of local context and adequacy of information.</li> <li>Artist’s style and voice.</li> <li>Accuracy, detail, precision and clarity.</li> <li>Accuracy, attribution and sourcing.</li> <li>Grammar, spelling and consistency of style.</li> <li>Special circumstances explained on the entry form.</li> </ul> |  | <p><b>Judges WILL NOT consider:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page design or the art’s placement on the page.</li> <li>Quality of presswork or other production issues beyond the artist’s control</li> </ul> |                                   |
| <p><b>How to enter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit entries as tearsheets or clippings. If entries are smaller than a sheet of letter-size paper, they should be taped to a page of that size.</li> <li>These categories are for original artwork, not collages created from work done by others.</li> </ul>   |  | <p><b>Maximum entries</b></p>  |                                   |
|  |  | <p><b>Per publication</b></p>  | <p><b>Per staffer or team</b></p> |
| G01  | <p><b>Editorial cartoons:</b> For original artwork used to express an opinion, give insight or provide commentary on issues of local, state, national or world importance.</p> <p><b>Requirements: This is a portfolio category.</b> An entry consists of three (3) cartoons published during the contest year. Entries containing any other number of cartoons will be disqualified. Attach all three cartoons to a single entry form. <b>One competition group for non-daily publications.</b></p>   | <p><b>3</b></p>  | <p><b>1</b></p>                   |
| G02  | <p><b>Illustrations:</b> For original artwork (other than photographs or editorial cartoons) used to enhance the appearance of a page and/or the readability of news or feature content. Feature section covers, thematic works or mood-setting art are examples. The enhancement or decoration of a photograph with PhotoShop, Illustrator or other software does not meet the requirements for this category.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of a tearsheet, including the accompanying story, if any. Attach each illustration to a separate entry form.</p> | <p><b>3</b></p>  | <p><b>3</b></p>                   |
| G03  | <p><b>Informational graphics:</b> For original artwork (other than photographs or editorial cartoons) which is used to tell, explain or clarify a story through the use of maps, charts, diagrams or other graphic devices.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Each entry consists of a tearsheet, including the accompanying story. Attach each graphic to a separate entry form.</p>  | <p><b>3</b></p>  | <p><b>3</b></p>                   |

## Utilizing new techniques through MULTIMEDIA projects

### Judges WILL consider:

- Effectiveness in establishing a “why-this-is-important-to-you” connection to the reader and community.
- Clarity of local context and adequacy of information.
- Accuracy, detail, precision and clarity.
- Accuracy, attribution and sourcing.
- Effectiveness and quality of the various media utilized.
- Special circumstances explained on the entry form.

### Judges WILL NOT consider:

### How to enter:

- Submit the materials listed with each category.

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|-----|--|--|
| S01 | <p><b>Multimedia news report:</b> For news-based multimedia projects employing print, broadcast, webcasts, podcasts, web pages and/or other media.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of the print portions; VHS cassettes, CDs or DVDs of TV segments (if any), not entire newscasts; CDs or cassettes of radio broadcasts (if any); and CDs or URLs for access to the internet portion (if any). Each entry consists of at least a print portion and one other medium. If URLs can be provided for all of the non-print portions, that is preferred. If login to the site is required, the entrant will provide a login and password.</p>       | <p><b>Three entries per publication in these categories; work produced by partnering broadcasters is permitted</b></p> |
| S02 | <p><b>Multimedia feature report:</b> For feature-based multimedia projects employing print, broadcast, webcasts, podcasts, web pages and/or other media.</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b> Submit tearsheets of the print portions; VHS cassettes, CDs or DVDs of TV segments (if any), not entire newscasts; CDs or cassettes of radio broadcasts (if any); and CDs or URLs for access to the internet portion (if any). Each entry consists of at least a print portion and one other medium. If URLs can be provided for all of the non-print portions, that is preferred. If login to the site is required, the entrant will provide a login and password.</p> |  |
| S03 | <p><b>Online slideshow:</b> For slideshows utilizing still photographs and produced in Flash, Soundslides or other web tools. Photographs may duplicate those submitted in other categories of the contest. Submit URLs for accessing the entry. If login to the site is required, the entrant will provide a login and password.</p>  | <p><b>Three entries per publication</b></p>  |
| S04 | <p><b>Online video:</b> For web video produced by a publication staff member and posted on the publication's web site. Videos may duplicate those submitted in other categories of the contest. Submit URLs for accessing the entry. If login to the site is required, the entrant will provide a login and password.</p>  | <p><b>Three entries per publication</b></p>  |

## Public service: **VPA award for journalistic integrity and community service**

The Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service was established in 1949. The award stresses editorial leadership as well as community service above and beyond a member's circulation area. Entries will be judged on evidence of a significant effort beyond the member's routine scope; the initiative of the member; use of editorials in connection with the project or projects; and results--what was accomplished?

The period covered by the contest is January 1, 2008, through November 30, 2008. A project may have been started prior to the contest period but must have been completed within the specified 11-month period.

No story, editorial or other exhibit may be included in more than one annual entry. For example, a story that was part of a 2007 entry may not be included in 2008.

Each entry must include a one-page statement of objectives and results of its community service projects. Each entry is limited to **one campaign or public service project**. A total of 10 additional pages of supporting statements, letters, etc., can be submitted. Each publication may submit three entries in this category.

All clips and tearsheets must be mounted on 8.5-by-11-inch sheets of copy paper or card stock and placed in a standard three-ring binder. Oversize entries will not be accepted. Clippings or tearsheets larger than the mounting sheet must be attached so that they may be unfolded for reading and judging.

There will be three awards:

Specialty publications

Non-daily publications

Daily publications

**Category code: P01**

At least three entries must be received in a group to warrant an award. Selection by the judges will be final.

The fee in this category is \$15 per entry.

## Public service: **D. Lathan Mims award for editorial leadership**

The D. Lathan Mims Award is named for the late D. Lathan Mims, former editor and general manager of the Harrisonburg Daily News-Record and an active participant in the Virginia Press Association. He was president of VPA in 1974. Mims believed that newspapers and their editors should be active, caring parts of the community they served. He believed that a newspaper should support those things which would make the community a better place in which to live and oppose those which detract from the quality of life.

This award is intended to promote Mims' vision of the role of the editor. It will be made to an individual writer of editorials, signed commentaries or editorial page columns, working for a specialty or non-daily member of any size or a daily member with circulation of 40,000 or less. Criteria for judging include skill in writing; clarity of position; fairness in handling of issues; appropriate use of pertinent facts; and vision of the community's needs, both present and future.

The period covered by the contest is January 1, 2008, through November 30, 2008.

Entries must consist of at least five but no more than 20 pieces of opinion writing on subjects of significance to the member's local community. These items do not have to be part of a single project. In fact, an entry showing the writer's stance on or response to a variety of issues is encouraged.

The entries must include a typed, two-page, double-spaced statement of the member's goals for community service through editorial leadership and how the writer's efforts aid in meeting those goals. This statement must be signed by the publisher. The statement should include results achieved through the editorial leadership of the writer and his/her member during the contest year. Entries would be enhanced by the inclusion of news articles and/or published letters to the editor illustrating the effects of the writer's editorial leadership.

All clips and tearsheets must be mounted on 8.5-by-11-inch sheets of copy paper or card stock and placed in a standard three-ring binder. Oversize entries will not be accepted. Clippings or tearsheets larger than the mounting sheet must be attached so that they may be unfolded for reading and judging.

No story, editorial or other exhibit may be included in more than one annual entry. For example, a story that was part of a 2007 entry may not be entered in 2008.

At least three entries must be received to warrant an award. Selection by the judges will be final.

Entries must include a photograph and biography of the nominee. The fee for this category is \$15 per entry.

There will be one award.

**Category Code: P02**