

# CONTEST RULES

## MINNESOTA NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER ASSOCIATION 2007 PICTURES OF THE YEAR

### ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to all MNPA members in good standing who work or contribute to newspapers circulating in Minnesota in 2007. Photographs must be taken or published in 2007 and have not been entered in prior MNPA POY contests. Photographs in a picture story entry, taken over a period of time that begins before the eligible date but extends into the period of eligibility, may be entered as long as they have not been entered in previous MNPA POY contests.

### MEMBERSHIP FEE/ENTRY DEADLINE

Memberships are included in the POY entry fee. The fee is \$35.00 for professionals and \$20.00 for students. This year entry/membership forms are to be entered online as well as a PayPal account to accept fees. Both are at [www.mnpa.org/about/join](http://www.mnpa.org/about/join). **The entry DEADLINE is Saturday March 29, 2008.** Prior arrangements must be made to pay by check or cash.

### JUDGING

As in previous contests, the 2007 event will feature judging during the MNPA convention. The open judging will allow photographers to hear the judges' comments and to view the entries.

### COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

This year a separate day of judging will take place for the college entries. This will take place on Friday April 11, 2008 in the evening. More details will follow on the exact time and location on [mnpa.org](http://mnpa.org). The top three placings in each of the seven categories of the college contest will be added to the POY contest for judging. The seven categories in the college contest include *General News (cgen)*, *Feature (cfea)*, *Spot News (cspn)*, *Sports Action (cspa)*, *Sports Feature (cspf)*, *Picture Story (cpic)*, and *Portfolio (copy)*. The rules for each category follow the descriptions of the POY categories. The Picture Story category includes news, feature and packages.

### AWARDS

First, second and third place awards will be made along with any honorable mentions the judges feel are merited. A Best of Show will also be awarded from the first place winners. Judges will not be required to give awards in three places if the category has less than 10 entries.

### RESULTS

The winners will be posted at [MNPA.org](http://MNPA.org) and sent to the Associated Press. If time permits winners will be posted at the convention.

### MNPA ETHICS POLICY

Altering the content of documentary photographs through technology is prohibited. This policy does not apply to improving the technical quality of an image; it's acceptable to dodge and/or burn areas and to correct technical defects in a photo (such as minor dust spots) as long as the photographs content is not changed. If it is determined by the MNPA organization that a photo has violated these standards, the photograph will be disqualified. Documentary photographs that are proven to be "set up" or "staged" will also be disqualified. Only photos in the Illustration category do not need to follow these standards.

### ENTRIES SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION

- File names are not slugged properly
- Entries are not in proper format
- Your name or newspaper appears in caption box
- Violating the ethics policy
- Entries miss the deadline
- Multimedia links that do not work

## SCANNING SPECIFICATIONS

-RGB or grayscale JPG files only

-The final image of each entry should be no larger than 12 inches, vertical or horizontal, DPI at least 200

## YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CODE

This year you *do not* have to request a personal identification code. Instead your code will be the first four letters of your last name followed by the first letter of your first name (capitalized). For example, Kyndell Harkness would be “harkK.”

## FILE NAMING SPECIFICATIONS

**Category code\_personal code\_entry # for single category or sequence  
# for multiple (plus one word slug for story/package).jpg**

For example:

Single/portfolio: fea\_harkK\_01.jpg or Story/package: nps\_harkK\_02election.jpg

## FILE INFO SPECIFICATIONS

*\*\*Exact names may differ based on whether you use photoshop or photomechanic\*\**

**Title/Object name:** Same as file name

**Author/ photographer:** Your full name

**Caption:** Enter the caption here. Mandatory for every picture including individual pictures in a picture story. Captions may be projected onto the screen so do NOT include your name or organization in this field.

**PICTURE STORIES:** For the first picture in a picture story enter a short title and a brief introductory caption which summarizes the entire picture story. This overall caption should precede the caption for the first individual picture: the remaining pictures in the picture story should only include the caption for the individual picture.

**Date created:** Date photograph was taken.

**City:** Location image was taken

**State:** Location image was taken

**Source:** Newspaper affiliation

**Headline:** Name of entry. This will be what is used when winning images are posted

## NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Each photographer is allowed a total of 25 entries in single and multiple categories. Portfolios counted as one.

## ZIPPING YOUR IMAGES

Once you have finished preparing your images for submission you will need to zip (compress) the images in a folder titled with your name (ie. kyndellharkness1). To zip on a Mac, hold down the “control” button while clicking on the folder and select “Create Archive for ...” In Windows XP, open the folder you wish to compress and right click on a blank area or the folder, select “new” and then click “compressed (zipped) folder.” **File sizes must be less than 30MB...so if you are entering a large amount of photos you may want to zip two or more separate folders.** On older computers you may need to download a free trial program. These are two of many places to download trial compression programs: PCs: <http://nct.digitalriver.com/fulfill/0018.042#download>,

Mac’s [http://my.smithmicro.com/mac/stuffitstandard/trial\\_standard.html](http://my.smithmicro.com/mac/stuffitstandard/trial_standard.html)

## SUBMITTING ENTRIES

Entries are to be submitted online. The link is <http://murphy.sjmc.umn.edu/mnpa/entry.html>, **Username: mnpa, Password: photos.** The procedure is very basic. Simply click on “choose file”, choose the zipped folder you would like to upload and click “submit image”. On the final days of entering the website my take longer to upload images due to the extra traffic. **Again, file sizes must be less than 30MB.**

## MULTIMEDIA ENTRIES/ CONFIRMING YOUR ENTRIES

After you have submitted your entries via the website please send Renee Jones Schneider ([reneejones@startribune.com](mailto:reneejones@startribune.com)) an email with the number of entries you submitted in each category for confirmation they match what we receive *along with the web links to your multimedia entries.*

## QUESTIONS

Call or email Renee Jones Schneider at [reneejones@startribune.com](mailto:reneejones@startribune.com)/ 612 201 0758

## SINGLE ENTRIES

**\*\*Single category entries cannot be entered in more than one single category\*\***

- (spn)** Spot News – A picture of an unscheduled event for which no advanced planning was possible.
- (gen)** General News – A picture of a scheduled event for which advance planning was possible.
- (fea)** Feature picture – Usually a found situation with a strong human interest, a fresh view of the commonplace.
- (spa)** Sports Action-- Any action photo from a sporting event that cannot be recreated. A play-related photo.
- (spf)** Sports Feature – Any non-action photo from a sporting event.
- (por)** Portrait/Personality –A picture of a that reveals the essence of the subjects character.
- (pic)** Pictorial – A beautiful, graphic image; composition, tonal and color qualities are typically more important than subject matter.
- (ill)** Illustration – A controlled picture, not a found situation, intended to clarify or dramatize a preconceived idea.

## MULTIPLE CATAGORIES

- (spp)** Sports Portfolio – Demonstrate versatility. Submit a maximum of 10 entries, only one of which may be a story or package. A story or package may include no more than 15 images.
- (pac)** Photo Package – Up to six photos that together tell a story or show a sequence or concept. Story is generally not as in depth as a picture story. Include the title of the story/package in the first caption.
- (nps)** News Picture Story – A story based on daily coverage of events. Including breaking news, politics and general news. No more than 15 images per story. For the first picture in the story enter a short title and a brief introductory caption which summarizes the entire picture story.
- (fps)** Feature Picture Story – A feature story that celebrates life with respects for the dignity of the subject. No more than 15 images per story. For the first picture in the story enter a short title and a brief introductory caption which summarizes the entire picture story.
- (mul)** Multimedia Picture Story -- Highlights the use of photography plus audio and /or video in the presentation of web-based stories. Entries in this category will be judged prior to the still contest. ***To submit a multimedia entries, copy the web addresses to the submission/confirmation email as noted above.*** \*Note: We are aware there may be no way to avoid the name of publication and photographer.
- (poy)** Photographer of the Year – Up to 20 entries including at least one picture story (news or feature). It also must include entries from at least four single categories. Sports portfolio is not included as an entry.
- (cpoy)** College Photographer of the Year – Up to 20 entries including at least one picture story. It must include entries from at least four single categories.

## CHECKLIST

1. All photos are properly sized, formatted and named with correct file information and captions
2. Photos are compressed (zipped) into folders (30mb or smaller) titled with your name
3. Compressed folders uploaded at <http://murphy.sjmc.umn.edu/mnpa/entry.html>
4. Confirmation of entries in each category and multimedia web links emailed to [reneejones@startribune.com](mailto:reneejones@startribune.com)
5. Entry form and payment completed at [www.mnpa.org/about/join](http://www.mnpa.org/about/join)