

## The Bob Stevens Memorial Scholarship

### Preparing Your Portfolio

- Entry material should not exceed 36 one-sided or 18 two-sided pages. Plastic sheet protectors are acceptable. All letters and transcripts should be opened and included as part of the 36 pages.
- The pages should be inserted into a three-ring binder designed to hold 8-1/2-by-11-inch paper.
- Some ideas to help you get started on the self-analytical evaluation: *How do you feel about journalism? How did you get started in journalism? What have you had to go through to achieve? What have you contributed to journalism? What are your journalism plans for the future?* The evaluation should be long enough for the judges to reach a decision as to your creative qualifications and short enough not to be redundant (and boring).
- Samples of work should be carefully selected. Provide judges with a good cross section of your best work rather than everything ever produced. Date, name of publication and relevance should be on the page with each sample.
- Include samples showing one or more of the following characteristics. They should be grouped according to what they represent, and these groupings should be labeled.
  - a. Skilled and creative use of media content—writing, production, photography, etc.
  - b. Inquiring mind and investigative persistence resulting in indepth study or studies of issues important to the local high school audience, high school students in general, or society.
  - c. Courageous and responsible handling of sensitive issues—local or societal—despite threat or imposition of censorship.
  - d. Variety of journalistic experiences, each handled in a quality manner—newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, etc.
  - e. Sustained and commendable work with community media.
- At least one issue of your newspaper or magazine or photocopies of relevant spreads from your yearbook (not the entire book) should be enclosed so the judges can see the context of your work. Audio and/or video tapes should accompany an entry that focuses on broadcast work. They should be cued up to the work the judges should view or hear, and should have the entrant's name on the tape case.
- Photocopies of letters, clippings and art are acceptable; however, original prints of photographs should accompany entries based on published pictures.

If you want your portfolio returned, please enclose a self-addressed, padded envelope large enough to hold the entry and bearing enough postage to cover the cost of mailing. The GSSPA and NJPF are not responsible for portfolios not accompanied by return envelopes nor for portfolios lost in transit whether by person or by mail.

### Checklist

- The official entry form.
- A self-analytical evaluation of your “journalistic life,” using your most creative form.
- An action photo of you doing something journalistic—interviewing someone, taking a photograph, designing a page, doing a broadcast standup or talking to your staff.
- Have participated in high school journalism for at least two years.
- An official copy of your transcript.
- Three or four letters of recommendation from your adviser, other teachers who know your leadership and journalistic abilities, and practitioners with whom you have worked. A letter from the principal is desirable, but not absolutely necessary.
- Samples of your work carefully selected to show your quality and diversity of reporting, writing, photography, design, etc.
- A self-addressed, padded, stamped envelope large enough to hold your portfolio, if you want it returned.