



2011 STN Challenge

Rules for Submission

Are you ready for a real CHALLENGE? Feel the pressure as your team races against time to make the deadline! The 7th Annual STN CHALLENGE will test your skills, at any level. There's no time to waste! Once the topic is announced your team only has 6 days to turn it into a story. The winning entries will be announced via the STN website. Take the STN CHALLENGE!

High School categories will be awarded winners in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and, if applicable, Honorable Mention. Middle School will be awarded winning places based on the number of entries and at the sole discretion of STN and the judges.

The rules for submission of STN Challenge entries are outlined in this document and in the document titled STN General Contest Rules & Regulations. For an outline of STN Rules and Regulations that apply to all STN contests visit www.studenttelevision.org. Entries that do not adhere to all the rules and regulations are subject to loss of points and/or disqualification by the judges. All decisions by the judges and STN are final.

- This year there are FOUR Challenge categories: **High School News Feature**, **High School Sports Feature**, **High School Film** and **Middle School Spot Feature**.
- High School affiliates may enter one team in each category, with no more than 4 students on a team. Individual students may participate in one CHALLENGE or the other, but not both. High Schools may not enter Middle School contests.
- Middle School affiliates may enter 2 teams in the Spot Feature category, with no more than 4 students on a team. Individual students may participate on one team or the other, but not both. Middle Schools may not enter High School contests.
- This contest is Pre-Registration ONLY. You must know the names of your team members in order to register. Teams must sign up and commit to the Challenge before the contest begins. The deadline to sign up your team is October 13, 2011 at 5pm Pacific time.
- Each entry costs \$15 and must be paid with a credit card at the time of submission. This fee is not refundable should you decide not to enter the CHALLENGE or if you miss the deadline or if registered team members are not available for any reason.

- News, Sports, Film and Middle School entries should not exceed 3 minutes in length.
- All interviews and/or video footage must be shot by the team, during the contest period. No file footage or “fair use” footage from other media outlets may be used. No part of a story or project previously produced may be used.
- Advisers may not shoot, write or edit any part of a challenge entry. This is a hands-off contest and must be 100% student produced.
- Challenge prompts will be announced on the STN Website at 6:00 am Pacific Time on October 14, 2011. Entries must be submitted online, using the STN Upload System at www.studenttelevision.org, by 5:00 pm Pacific time on October 19, 2011.*
- Only affiliate advisers may access the STN Upload System. No students!
- Contest entries are subject to United States Copyright Laws and may be disqualified or lose points for disregarding these laws. Please refer to our copyright policies at www.studenttelevision.org.

*Technical difficulties are not an excuse for missing the upload deadline. Give yourself enough time to overcome any last-minute problems that may arise when preparing your entry. If you're experiencing repeated problems or are having issues with your uploads, then please contact the contest coordinator immediately at contests@studenttelevision.org.

Judging The Challenge

The STN Challenges are judged by professionals from within the television news industry. All decisions by STN and the judges are final. The judges will score points in the following applicable categories: camera/direction, lighting, audio, natural sound, editing, drama/human interest, storytelling/script writing, creativity, journalistic integrity/courage, acting/talent, and followed directions. Winning entries should meet the following criteria:

- Excellent content, tells a story.
- Excellent production values.
- Strong connection to the topic.
- Overall impact and professionalism.

Entries must be submitted online by 5:00 pm Pacific time on October 19, 2011.