Special Spring 2021
National Undergraduate Student Electronic Media Competition
For Work Produced/Aired 8/1/2020-6/5/2021

Rules and Conditions

PURPOSE: Many students were constrained in their creativity and their opportunity to participate in electronic media activities because of limitations resulting from the Covid pandemic over the past year. As conditions improve, students are again getting the opportunity to show what they have learned and what they can do. This competition was created to recognize those students who excel in audio, video, scriptwriting, as well as academic research and writing.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. **All entries must be undergraduate student-produced.** Students who are not members of the National Electronic Media Association may enter the competition and pay the non-member rate.

2. Entries by students who hold a full or part-time, paid position in a professional broadcasting or other media distribution outlet, and which were produced at and for that company/institution as part of the students’ regular job will not be considered an eligible entry unless the full production is student-produced. (A document signed by the production supervisor attesting that only students were involved must accompany the submission.)

3. Student-produced entries completed in fulfillment of college course credit or as part of a co-curricular campus activity are eligible for competition. (College internships at professional entities need to meet the guidelines listed in #2 above.)

4. Faculty and professional staff can act in an advisory capacity only.

5. Entries that won in a previous competition are not eligible. Entries must have been produced/aired between August 1, 2020 and June 5, 2021 to be eligible for this competition.

6. **The contest opens for online submissions on April 21, 2021 and there are two entry deadlines.** Entries submitted before 11:59 pm CDT, May 15, will pay a discounted entry fee. Entries submitted after that date but before the final deadline, 11:59 pm CDT, June 5, will pay the full entry fee. Entry fees with non-electronic payment must be postmarked by the corresponding deadline date.

   ➢ (NOTE: Entry fees WILL NOT be refunded. This includes disqualified entries, withdrawn entries, entries that win awards and entries that do not win awards.)

FEES:

**ENTRY FEES: To qualify for Member Entry Rates, ALL NAMES on the entry must be paid, registered members of NBS-AERho, the National Electronic Media Association.**

- Member entries submitted by May 15.................................$20.
- Member entries submitted May 16-June 5.............................$30.
- Non-member entries submitted by May 15.............................$40.
- Non-member entries submitted May 16-June 5.......................$50.

Non-members who wish to receive discounts on entries, may join NBS-level membership of the National Electronic Media Association’s National Chapter.

**AWARD SHIPPING FEES:** A $15 shipping and processing fee will be assessed for an individual award. A fee of $20 will apply if two or more awards are sent to the same address. (Additional fees may apply if the award is to be shipped outside of the continental United States.)

Fees are used for administrative expenses.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINALISTS AND WINNERS:** Entrants will be notified of an online ceremony to be scheduled in the summer of 2021. Finalists and winners will be identified during the session. The results will be posted on the National Electronic Media Association website the next day.
GENERAL ENTRY PROCEDURES

1. No entry may have won a previous competition.
2. Fill out and print out the entry form before submitting online with the uploaded entry. Entry forms must be completed in their entirety.
3. It will be the entrant’s responsibility to post the entry on an appropriate location that would be accessible by category judges without a password. The sites should not require the judges to download the entries nor special software to review the entries. It is the entrant’s responsibility to check the link after posting the entry. If an entry does not play during a judging session, it will be disqualified. Entries will need to be posted online from the date of submission through the announcement of the results.
4. Each entry must be accompanied with the appropriate entry fee. Online payment may be completed during the submission process using VISA, MasterCard, or PayPal. Payment by check or money order may be done by filling out the online submission form, checking the appropriate payment box, printing out the form and mailing by the appropriate deadline date. One check/money order can be used to cover several entries from the same individual or institution. Checks/money orders that are sent through the US mail must have a postmark no later than the appropriate deadline date. Delays caused by group coordinators, advisors, or university business offices will not excuse the entrant or entrants involved. Groups should plan to submit entry information and payment well before the scheduled deadlines.
5. Entry fees WILL NOT be refunded. This includes disqualified entries, withdrawn entries, entries that win awards and entries that do not win awards.
6. Entries may only be submitted between April 21 and June 5, 2021.
7. We will make every effort to return judges’ comment forms, but we cannot guarantee entrants will receive the forms.
8. Duplicate entries may not win in more than one category.
9. While non-English entries are not explicitly forbidden, our contest judges may not speak languages other than English and may not effectively evaluate the entry.
10. Terms and Conditions of Entry:
   - Submission of any entry acknowledges the right of the National Electronic Media Association to use it for exhibition and publication in any medium.
   - The competition assumes all entries are original and are the works and property of the entrants, with all rights granted therein. In the event that an entrant without such rights submits an entry, the National Electronic Media Association is not liable for any copyright infringement on the part of the entrant and the entry is subject to disqualification.

Entry into a National Undergraduate Student Electronic Media Competition will require entrants to certify:

I certify I have read, understand, and complied with all rules and procedures for the Special Spring National Undergraduate Student Electronic Media Competition.

I affirm I have authority to grant permission to the National Electronic Media Association to use this entry, in whole or part, in promotions, broadcasts or any other program or electronic media produced for, or in conjunction with, the Association, its convention, the awards ceremony, or any other related societal activity.

I EXPRESSLY AFFIRM I POSSESS OR HAVE BEEN GRANTED COPYRIGHT AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL MATERIALS USED HEREIN. PROOF OF SUCH COPYRIGHT AUTHORIZATION IS SUBMITTED WITH THIS ENTRY FORM. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO PROVIDE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FOR COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS PRODUCTION WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION. I ALSO EXPRESSLY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE NATIONAL ELECTRONIC MEDIA ASSOCIATION FOR ALL COSTS, EXPENSES, LEGAL FEES, CIVIL OR CRIMINAL FINES RESULTING FROM ANY ACTION BY A THIRD PARTY ON THE BASIS OF COPYRIGHT VIOLATION OR PLAGIARISM.

I HAVE READ THE CLARIFICATION OF COPYRIGHT RESPONSIBILITY (POSTED ON THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE UNDER THE COMPETITION/AWARDS BUTTON), I UNDERSTAND AND WILL COMPLY WITH THOSE SPECIFICS AS WELL AS OTHER COPYRIGHT LAW.

Entry fees WILL NOT be refunded. This includes disqualified entries, withdrawn entries, entries that win awards and entries that do not win awards.

I also understand that a thorough critique by judges is not the primary purpose of this competition.
SPECIFIC ENTRY PROCEDURES AND INFORMATION BY MEDIA

AUDIO AND VIDEO COMPETITIONS

1. Competition entries will be judged on production quality but may have been created for any type of electronic distribution (radio, TV, cable, internet streaming, closed circuit, in-house group playback, etc.) unless a specific medium is specified. Entrants may be asked to identify intended distribution mode on the entry form.

2. Submissions must have been produced or played during the period of August 1, 2020 – June 5, 2021.

3. Where applicable, entries must be accompanied with evidence of copyright permission for such things as network news footage, movie clips, copyrighted scripts, unlicensed music, and music videos.

4. Productions must contain at least 50% originally produced material [as opposed to stock footage or segments produced by anyone other than the eligible entrant(s), etc.].

5. All production entries must be complete programs, complete program segments, or complete packages as described for each entry category unless specifically stated in the category description. Do not send edited montages of programs, stories, packages or segments or demo reels. (If you post a one-hour program on a website that only allows shorter postings, break the program into segments and submit links for all segments.)

6. A description of the intended audience and production goals/objectives will be required for creative entry categories which are indicated with a double asterisk (**) on the category description page of the National Electronic Media Association website.

7. If the entrant produced the program under a grant or other subsidy, which provided professional production services and/or non-student personnel services, the entrant must submit signed letters from such production company(s) which indicate that the entrant had sole creative decision-making responsibility during the production.

8. In addition to your submission, we are asking for a link to a 15-20 second representative segment of your entry. If you are a finalist, this tease may be used to identify your entry during the national awards show.

JUDGING: All entries will be judged by media professionals. Entries will be judged based on technical quality, originality of ideas and achievement of any stated category criteria. The judges have the authority to determine that no entry is suitable as a winner in a category. We do not guarantee that productions will be played in their entirety.

SCRIPTWRITING COMPETITIONS

1. The script must have been completed between August 1, 2020 – June 5, 2021. Scripts which won in a previous competition are not eligible for this competition.

2. Adaptations of existing television or radio programs will NOT be accepted except in the “Spec Script” category. Commercials, promotional announcements, public service announcements and news stories are not accepted in any category. This competition is for full-length scripts only. No skits or excerpts will be considered.

3. Scripts must be typed in the appropriate industry standard format for radio or television. Scripts will be accepted for alternative delivery options (internet streaming, closed circuit, in-house training, etc.) but script format should follow the most appropriate industry standards for radio or television. Do not include treatments, character sketches, scene descriptions, etc. While radio and TV scripts may compete in the same categories, the submission should be clearly specified whether it is intended for radio or TV style production.

4. Each script entry must begin with a one-page cover that includes the title of the script, name of the competition category, competition category code, and a brief description (one or two paragraphs) describing the script content.

JUDGING: Entries will be judged based on originality, plot and character development, and overall presentation. Attention to grammar and spelling will also be taken into consideration by the judges. The judges have the authority to determine that no entry is suitable as a winner in any category. Scripts may not be read in their entirety.

ACADEMIC PAPER COMPETITION

1. Academic paper entries may be on any communications or media related issue.

2. All papers will be judged on the basis of overall quality, academic excellence, style, and clarity.

3. All entries must have been written between August 1, 2020 and June 5, 2021. Papers which won in a previous competition are not eligible for this competition.

4. Entries must be formatted for standard 8½ x 11 pages. Entries must be word-processed in letter quality print using Times Roman or Times New Roman 12-point type. All academic papers entries must follow the Publication Manual of either the APA or the MLA.

5. By submitting your entry, you hereby grant permission to the National Electronic Media Association to use the paper in any publication (print or electronic) produced for or in connection with the Association, including its conventions, promotions, and awards ceremonies.

6. Judges have the authority to determine that no entry is suitable as a winner in the competition.