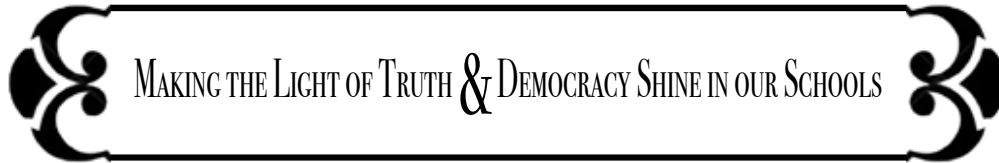


# WASHINGTON'S STUDENT PRESS



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## 2026 Write-Off Contest Rules and Guidelines

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**Central Kitsap High School**  
**March 7, 2026**

Washington Journalism Education Association  
PO Box 24389 Seattle, WA 98124  
[www.wjea.org](http://www.wjea.org)

# 2026 Write-off Contest Details to Note

## **Morning Keynote**

The keynote begins at 9 a.m. and doubles as the write-off presentation for all onsite contests. The keynote will be a moderated discussion with Seattle Times Columnist Naomi Ishisaka. Write-off contestants may take notes and pose questions following the presentation.

## **Post-Keynote**

Write-off contestants will move to a classroom, where they will have up to 70 minutes to write or draw. Advance-submission contestants will move to assigned classrooms for a critique session with one or more of the judges in their category. All other attendees will attend sessions on a choice of topics, presented by journalism pros.

## **IMPORTANT**

Student competing in writing categories must bring their own laptop that can be connected to the Central Kitsap guest wi-fi. There are no computers on site available for student use.

## **PM Sessions**

After lunch, all attendees will attend two learning sessions from a menu of options before the final awards ceremony.

## **Advance Submissions Open Statewide**

Conference attendance is no longer required for students submitting entries in the ADVANCE contests (Layout, Photo, Video & Audio, Sports Feature, Review Writing and Team Project), which are due Feb. 15. Out-of-area students will be able to access the results of the award recognitions at WJEA.ORG by the following day.

**Eligibility.** Advisers must be WJEA members for a student to be eligible to register for a contest. Only one student per school per category may be entered in a competition, with the exception of pairs entering the Layout contests or groups entering the Video & Audio contests.

**Fees.** Contest fees are in addition to the registration fees and are non-refundable. No new contest registrations will be accepted on site. Students who enter advance-submission contests but cannot attend the conference need only pay the contest registration fee, not the conference fee.

**Substitutions.** Names may be substituted in categories for which your school has already registered. If making substitutions on site, be sure to check-in at contest desk no later than 8:45 a.m. No substitutions are allowed for advance submission contests after February 15.

**JEA Compatibility.** Some students will attend the JEA national conventions and compete in the write-offs there. Do NOT assume that JEA's rules are the same as WJEA's. Consult these WJEA rules very closely.

# CATEGORY 01: NEWS WRITING

On-site contest: one participant per school

## HOW IT WORKS

You will listen to the keynote discussion on a newsworthy topic that will last no more than an hour, including a question-and-answer period. You will then move to a classroom, where you will write a news story according to the instructions given by the moderator. You will cover the event as if it were being posted to a school newspaper website to sum up the event the same day. You will have 70 minutes to type the final entry. The final copy should not exceed 350 words.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

News writing style; the inverted pyramid structure; a strong lead that engages readers and summarizes key news; use of facts instead of generalizations; avoidance of subjective commentary from the reporter; use of direct quotes; accuracy; completeness; elimination of extraneous material; elimination of libelous or privacy-invading statements; use of AP style; skills in areas of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc.

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Fact sheet, assignment sheet, rule sheet.

## WHAT THE CONTESTANT MUST PROVIDE

A laptop or tablet that can connect to the local wi-fi system.

## MATERIALS YOU, THE CONTESTANT, MIGHT BRING

OPTIONAL: Writing utensils and paper/notebook for taking notes; print or online dictionary/thesaurus and AP Stylebook; phone or other electronics for reference and/or recording. NOTE: You may use any online resources as well as the recorder on your phone as long as you bring earbuds.

**REMEMBER:** Stay in the room during the contest until your work is submitted. No contestant will be given additional time, regardless of the state the work is in at that time.

## DO...

- type your contestant number on each page of your entry;
- use AP journalistic style for copy editing, grammar, capitalization, etc.;
- prepare entries according to fact sheet and instructions given by the moderator;
- ask the moderator any questions;

## DO NOT...

- type your name or your school's name on your entry;
- leave the room until you have submitted your entry;
- consume food or drink;
- talk to other contestants.



# CATEGORY 02: EDITORIAL WRITING

On site contest: one participant per school

## HOW IT WORKS

You will listen to a keynote discussion on a newsworthy topic that will last no more than an hour, including a question-and-answer period. You will then move to a classroom, where you will write an editorial according to the instructions given by the moderator. Write as if the editorial were being published in a school newspaper or website. You will have 70 minutes to type and complete the final entry. The final copy should not exceed 350 words.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Leads that come quickly to an assertion; focus on a single, manageable proposition; editorial format for lead, body and conclusion; opposing arguments weighed carefully and refuted; facts to support assertion in the lead; arguments fully developed; strong conclusion; accuracy; completeness; elimination of extraneous material; elimination of libelous or privacy-invading statements; use of AP style; skills in areas of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc.

Remember that this should be written in the style of a staff editorial -- not as a personal column.

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Fact sheet, assignment sheet, rule sheet, final copy cover sheet.

## WHAT STUDENT MUST PROVIDE

A laptop or tablet that can connect to the local wi-fi system.

## MATERIALS YOU, THE CONTESTANT, MIGHT BRING

OPTIONAL: Writing utensils and paper/notebook for taking notes; print or online dictionary/thesaurus and AP Stylebook; phone or other electronics for reference and/or recording. NOTE: You may use any online resources as well as the recorder on your phone as long as you bring earbuds.

REMEMBER: Stay in the room during the contest until your work is submitted. No contestant will be given additional time, regardless of the state the work is in at that time.

## DO...

- type your contestant number on each page of your entry;
- use AP journalistic style for copy editing, grammar, capitalization, etc.;
- prepare entries according to fact sheet and instructions given by the moderator;
- ask the moderator any questions;

## DO NOT...

- type your name or your school's name on your entry;
- leave the room until you have submitted your entry;
- consume food or drink;
- talk to other contestants.



# CATEGORY 03: NEWSPAPER FEATURE WRITING

# CATEGORY 04: YEARBOOK FEATURE WRITING

On-site contests: one participant per contest, per school

## HOW IT WORKS

You will listen to a keynote discussion on a newsworthy topic that will last no more than an hour, including a question-and-answer period. You will then move to a computer lab, where you will write a feature story according to the instructions given by the moderator. You will write the story as if it were being published in a school newspaper, website, or yearbook. You will have 70 minutes to type and complete the final entry. The final copy should not exceed 350 words.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Attention-grabbing lead; feature style as opposed to breaking-news style; colorful details; use of direct quotes and anecdotes with substance; copy that appeals to the readers' interest; emotional impact of copy; avoidance of subjective commentary from the reporter; accuracy; completeness; elimination of extraneous material; elimination of libelous or privacy-invading statements; use of AP style; skills in areas of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc.

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Fact sheet, assignment sheet, rule sheet, final copy cover sheet.

## WHAT STUDENT MUST PROVIDE

A laptop or tablet that can connect to the local wi-fi system.

## MATERIALS YOU, THE CONTESTANT, MIGHT BRING

OPTIONAL: Writing utensils and paper/notebook for taking notes; print or online dictionary/thesaurus, and AP Stylebook; phone or other electronics for reference and/or recording. **NOTE: You may use any online resources as well as the recorder on your phone as long as you bring earbuds.**

Please stay in the room during the contest until your work is submitted. No contestant will be given additional time, regardless of the state the work is in at that time.

## DO...

- use AP journalistic style for copy editing, grammar, capitalization, etc.
- number each page in entry
- prepare entries according to fact sheet and instructions given by the moderator;
- ask the moderator any questions;

## DO NOT...

- type your name or your school's name on your entry;
- leave the room until you have submitted your entry;
- consume food or drink;
- talk to other contestants.



# CATEGORY 05: EDITORIAL CARTOONING

On-site contest: one participant per school

## HOW IT WORKS

You will listen to a keynote discussion on a newsworthy topic that will last no more than an hour, including a question-and-answer period. You will then move to a classroom, where you will draw an editorial cartoon according to the instructions given by the moderator, taking a position on the topic. You will have 70 minutes of designing and drawing time to complete the final entry.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

A simple and clear editorial statement; evidence of artistic ability; a novel approach; absence of trite and melodramatic imagery; wit; effective conveyance of a message to a student audience; quality of drawing; simplicity of line.

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Fact sheet, assignment sheet, rule sheet, final copy cover sheet, blank paper for drawing, paper clips or stapler.

## MATERIALS YOU, THE CONTESTANT, MIGHT BRING

Drawing tools such as pencil and eraser, black pen and white-out, rulers, scratch paper, print dictionary/thesaurus, etc. **You may use your phone for reference or as a recorder as long as you bring earbuds.**

**REMEMBER:** Stay in the room during the contest until entry is submitted. No contestant will be given additional time, regardless of the state the work is in at that time.

## DO...

- write your contestant number on each page of your entry;
- write legibly and correct errors VERY neatly and clearly;
- prepare entries according to fact sheet and instructions given by the moderator;
- ask the moderator any questions;

## DO NOT...

- write your name or your school's name on your entry;
- leave the room until you have turned in your entry;
- consume food or drink;
- talk to other contestants.



# CATEGORY 06: HEADLINE WRITING & COPY EDITING

On-site contest: one participant per school

## HOW IT WORKS

You will be given an online multiple-choice test of AP Stylebook rules, stories to edit, and stories that require headlines. You may use electronic reference materials, and on-site contestants may bring and use a print or online dictionary, thesaurus or AP Stylebook. Maximum time for the contest, including the distribution of materials and instructions, is 70 minutes.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Knowledge of AP Style rules, or an ability to find those rules in the materials you bring with you; an ability to identify inconsistent spelling, poor grammar and incorrect punctuation; an ability to identify and flag material that could be libelous or invade someone's privacy; headlines that follow standard headline-writing rules, such as avoiding to be verbs, using appropriate tense and active voice, eliminating articles, etc.; headlines that engage readers and reflect the overall content of the story. NOTE: Prepared contestants will have a basic understanding of libel and invasion of privacy. The Student Press Law Center is your one-stop shop for all publication-related legal issues. Here's a link to information on their website: <http://www.splc.org/page/knowledge-base>

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Test with assignment details and rules, on-site.

## MATERIALS YOU, THE CONTESTANT, SHOULD BRING

Laptop or tablet to connect to guest wi-fi; Optional on-site: print or online dictionary/thesaurus, AP Stylebook. WJEA's AP Style Cheat Sheet is available on [WJEA.org](http://WJEA.org).

REMEMBER: Stay in the room during the contest until materials are submitted. No contestant will be given additional time, regardless of the state the work is in at that time.

## DO...

- *write your contestant number on each page of your entry;*
- *use AP journalistic style for copy editing, grammar, capitalization, etc.;*
- *ask the moderator any questions;*

## DO NOT...

- *write your name or your school's name on your entry;*
- *leave the room until you have turned in your entry;*
- *consume food or drink;*
- *talk to other contestants.*

# CATEGORY 07: NEWSPAPER / NEWSMAGAZINE LAYOUT/PAGE DESIGN

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue

This contest allows up to 3 student participants for this school entry.

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

This is a contest for layouts and page designs that are completed on any topic in the normal course of newspaper production since the previous WJEA conference. Contestant(s) will submit PDF in advance and should attend (in-person) the 70-minute-or-less small-group critique with a judge. Page design may be double or single page. If double, should be saved as a single PDF. Publication of layout is recommended but not required for entry. Submitted layout will not be checked against published versions, so students are welcome to edit previously published design before submitting. From 1-3 students may be associated with the submitted layout.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Impact of photos; using a dominant element; positioning of headlines, copy blocks and captions; using current design trends; adhering to design rules; using appropriate point sizes for copy, headlines and captions; effectively balancing photos and copy blocks; using creative graphics; effective cropping.

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Most important is to give your PDF entry a numeric filename according to this formula:  
CONTEST#-SCHOOL#.

WJEA has assigned your school a number to use for the contests (see appendix on the last page of this PDF. For example, Mount Si's assigned number is 54. If so, the submission filename for this contest from the Mount Si contestant should be #07-54. If your school is not on the list provided, please write: SCHOOL NOT LISTED on the entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. This form allows you to upload your entry in the appropriate portal. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day.

To create the best possible PDF of your design, it would be best practice to follow the instructions provided by JEA.org, Preparing Your Layouts for Submission, at <https://jea.org/contests/preparing-entries/#design>



# CATEGORY 08: YEARBOOK LAYOUT

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue

This contest allows up to 3 student participants for this school entry

Adviser must be a current member of WJEA

## HOW IT WORKS

This is a contest for layouts and page designs that are completed on any topic in the normal course of yearbook production since the previous WJEA conference. Contestant(s) will submit PDF in advance and should attend (in-person) the 70-minute-or-less small-group critique with a judge. Page design may be double or single page. If double, should be saved as a single PDF. Publication of layout is not required for entry. Submitted layout will not be checked against published versions, so students are welcome to edit previously published design before submitting. From 1-3 students may be associated with the submitted layout.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Impact of photos; using a dominant element; positioning of headlines, copy blocks and captions; using current design trends; adhering to design rules; using appropriate point sizes for copy, headlines and captions; effectively balancing photos and copy blocks; using creative graphics; effective cropping.

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Most important is to give your PDF entry a numeric filename according to this formula: CONTEST#-SCHOOL#.

WJEA has assigned your school a number to use for the contests (see appendix on the last page of this PDF. For example, Mount Si's assigned number is 54. If so, the submission filename for this contest from the Mount Si contestant should be #08-54. If your school is not on the list provided, please write SCHOOL NOT LISTED"on entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. This form allows you to upload your entry in the appropriate portal. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day.

To create the best possible PDF of your design, it would be best practice to follow the instructions provided by JEA.org, Preparing Your Layouts for Submission, at <https://jea.org/contests/preparing-entries/#design>



# CATEGORY 09: NEWSPAPER/ NEWSMAG/ ONLINE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.

This contest is limited to one student entry per school.

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

This is a contest for any photography – **sports included!** – that is completed in the normal course of newspaper or newsmagazine or online news production. The contestant from each school will provide up to THREE examples of their best work. Any subjects relevant to student journalism are acceptable. It is suggested the three photos display a variety of content. Photos may be color or black-and-white or a combination. Contestants will submit digital images in advance and attend the 70-minute-or-less small-group critique. Publication of photographs is recommended but not required.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Variety and imagination in subject matter; appropriateness; imaginative points of view and angles; effective lighting; focus and contrast; a focal point; good composition; visual impact; evidence of overall photographic excellence.

## PREPARING PHOTOGRAPHS FOR SUBMISSION

Submit images as JPEGs in either RGB color or Grayscale for black-and-white. Best practice would be to follow national JEA guidelines, though this is not required. JEA offers instructions for formatting images for contests, including the addition of metadata, which allows for a caption: <https://jea.org/contests/preparing-entries/#photo>

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Please give each JPEG entry a numeric filename according to this formula: CONTEST#-SCHOOL #-ENTRY LETTER ((a,b or c) for each photo entry category.

WJEA has assigned your school a number to use for the contests (see appendix on the last page of this PDF). Add the letter of the entry we allow up to 3 entries per contestant for each photo contest, so you'll add a, b or c to the end of each filename. For example, Mount Si's number is 54. If so, the second newspaper photo submission from the Mount Si contestant would be named #09-54-b. If your school is not on the list, please write SCHOOL NOT LISTED on your entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. This form allows you to upload your entries into the appropriate portal.



# CATEGORY 10: YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHY

ADVANCE SUBMISSION DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.

This contest is limited to one student entry per school.

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

This is a contest for any photography – **sports included!** – that is completed in the normal course of yearbook production. The contestant from each school will provide up to THREE examples of their best work. Any subjects relevant to student journalism are acceptable. It is suggested the three photos display a variety of content. Photos may be color or black-and-white or a combination. Contestants will submit digital images in advance and should attend the 70-minute-or-less (in person or via Zoom) small-group critique. Publication of photographs is not required for entry.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Variety and imagination in subject matter; appropriateness; imaginative points of view and angles; effective lighting; focus and contrast; a focal point; good composition; visual impact; evidence of overall photographic excellence.

## PREPARING PHOTOGRAPHS FOR SUBMISSION

Submit images as JPEG images in either RGB color or greyscale for black-and-white. Best practice would be to follow national JEA guidelines, though this is not required. JEA offers excellent instructions for formatting images for contests, including the addition of metadata, which allows for a caption: <https://jea.org/contests/preparing-entries/#photo>

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

WJEA has assigned your school a number to use for the contests (see appendix on the last page of this PDF). Add the letter of the entry we allow up to 3 entries per contestant for each photo contest, so you'll add a, b or c to the end of each filename. For example, Mount Si's number is 54. If so, the second newspaper photo submission from the Mount Si contestant would be named #10-54-b. If your school is not on the list, please write: SCHOOL NOT LISTED on your entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. This form allows you to upload your entries into the appropriate portal. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day.



# CATEGORY 11: SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.

This contest is limited to 1 participant per school

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

Your entry is a previously published or not yet published Sports Feature. If previously published, it ran between March 2025 and February 2026 in your student media or is written, but not yet published. This can be submitted as a PDF as it appeared on the yearbook or newspaper page, uploaded to the appropriate portal in the contest submission form; or in text format as a PDF without added graphics. In the case of the latter, please include a list of graphics, photos and side-bars that would accompany the feature. **The piece will be judged on concept, writing content and style only. Word count: 350-500 words.**

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

Attention-grabbing lead; feature style as opposed to breaking-news style; colorful details; use of direct quotes and anecdotes with substance; copy that appeals to the readers' interest; emotional impact of copy; avoidance of subjective commentary from the reporter; accuracy; completeness; elimination of extraneous material; elimination of libelous or privacy-invading statements; use of AP style; skills in areas of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc.

## ON SITE CRITIQUE SESSION

For contest participants attending in person on March 7, there will be a critique session with one or more of the judges in this category. They will discuss strengths and areas for improvement in the submissions and will address questions posed by student participants.

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

WJEA has assigned your school a number to use for the contests (see appendix on the last page of this PDF). For example, Mount Si's number is 54 and this is Contest #11: The entry code should look like this: #11-54. If your school is not on the list, please write: SCHOOL NOT LISTED on your entry form. Please make sure the entry code on the upper right of each entry page you upload, unless your school isn't listed. A number will be inserted for you in that case.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. This form allows you to upload your entries into the appropriate portal. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day.



# CATEGORY 12: VIDEO REPORTING

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.

This contest may be entered by a team of up to 4 students.

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

All entries should have been broadcast at school or in the community from March 2025 until February 2026. All entries must have been produced by students and originally broadcast or disseminated through a campus student medium. Submit only one entry, You may name up to four students who worked on the broadcast for the award. It is acceptable for these students to also compete in an individual onsite or advanced submission contest. **Length of submission: 1:30 to 2 minutes; News content: Must contain a reporter's voiceover, recorded shots and sound bites.**

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

- Well-lit, well-composed shots edited together to tell a coherent visual story
- Consistent and appropriate audio levels
- Engaging writing for the ear/eye
- Natural and professional delivery on camera and/or in reporter track

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Most important is to give each the entry a numeric filename according to this formula: CONTEST#-SCHOOL#. For example, Mount Si's number is 54 and this is Category12.:

#12:54. The list provided at the end of this booklet contains most school names. If your school isn't listed, please write: SCHOOL NAME NOT LISTED on the entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this Write-off Contest sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. Insert your entry link into the appropriate space. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day. Submission deadline: Feb. 15, 2026.



# CATEGORY 13: PODCASTING

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.  
This contest may be entered by a team of up to 4 students.  
Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

All entries should have been broadcast at school or in the community from March 2025 until February 2026. All entries must have been produced by students and originally broadcast or disseminated through a campus student medium. Submit only one entry, You may name up to four students who worked on the broadcast for the award. It is acceptable for these students to also compete in an individual onsite or advanced submission contest

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO HEAR

- timely topic of interest and appropriate for a campus audience;
- a profile, information to raise awareness, an issue or a commentary;
- includes at least one outside source and voice other than the moderator/narrator/host;
- Length between 5 and 15 minutes

## PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

Submit a URL linking to one pre-recorded **mp3** podcast (usually) featuring a narrator/storyteller with audio enhancements with a total running time of 5 to 15 minutes.

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Most important is to give each the entry a numeric filename according to this formula: CONTEST#-SCHOOL#. For example, Mount Si's number is 54 and this is Category 13: #13-54. The list provided at the end of this booklet contains most school names. If your school isn't listed, please write: SCHOOL NAME NOT LISTED on the entry form.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: **<https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>**. Insert your entry link into the appropriate space. Please remember that the contestant should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site that day.



# CATEGORY 14: REVIEW WRITING

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue.

This contest may only be entered by one participant from your school.

Adviser must be a current WJEA member.

## HOW IT WORKS

Participants will review the 2024 Academy Award Winning Short Documentary (40 min.), **The Last RepairShop** produced by Breakwater Productions. The film can be accessed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtrrkgKXtZ4>

and may be viewed at any time prior to the submission deadline, **February 15**. That is also the last day your teacher can submit the WJEA Contest Registration form with names of all participants. **The form must also include the uploaded submissions for all contests, including this one.**

## MATERIALS WJEA WILL PROVIDE

Students are asked to use the contents from **THE OFFICIAL PRESS KIT** as a source for information and quotes. Although it is ok to look at other material about the film, please do not repeat or quote from other sources outside of the information in the kit.

## WHAT JUDGES ARE LOOKING FOR:

- clear expression of opinion supported with examples (author shows instead of tells);
- use of colorful details;
- well-organized flow with smooth transitions and a strong lead;
- proper citing and spelling of names, as well as formatting of composition titles;
- accuracy; completeness; use of AP style;
- skills in areas of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc.;
- word count: 350-400.

## ON SITE CRITIQUE SESSION

For contest participants attending in person on March 7, there will be a critique session with one or more of the judges in this category. They will discuss strengths and areas for improvement in the submissions and will address questions posed by student participants.

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Please refer to the submission instructions on page 12 of this booklet for details.

# CATEGORY 15: TEAM PROJECT

ADVANCE SUBMISSION – DUE FEB. 15

In-person attendance not required if distance is an issue

Adviser must be a current WJEA member

This contest may be entered by a team of up to four students

## THE CONCEPT

Your team will create a two-page spread or multimedia web story package which answers the following question: How do the people in your school and community serve the places where they live? What are the problems, and what are the ways people in the community are identifying and working to find solutions? Focus on strong local journalism that focuses on important or under-examined issues your communities face. Your story package will have the opportunity to be published on the WJEA blog and beyond.

## HOW IT WORKS

Students will work as a team of up to four students. The team will create an online multimedia news package or two-page spread for posting to their own school's news website or publishing in print publications. The comprehensive online news package/podcast/broadcast or spread should include a main story with photo(s) that are captioned and credited, and two or more of these or similar elements: audio, infographics, interactive reader feature, links to related information, pull quotes, sidebar, slideshow, social media coverage, video (b-roll/nat sound), video story package. If doing a spread, it may include a QR code or interactive element leading beyond the page.

## WHAT THE JUDGES WANT TO SEE

- overall package provides comprehensive look at an issue that members of your community are tackling;
- print package goes beyond the text to enhance reader's experience;
- each element is captioned and credited as needed;
- multiple layers of coverage beyond just text (photos, videos, pull-quotes, polls, etc.);
- Broadcast: Steady camera work; free of glitches, jump cuts; interesting, focused and varied shots; logical sequencing; video/audio follows appropriate broadcast conventions (b-roll, interviews, sound quality, lighting, framing); general broadcast style evident (short sentences, present tense, conversational tone).
- General Conventions: Written material follows AP style; contains few convention errors (spelling/grammar); copy focuses on a clear, interesting, central, specific angle; journalistic writing (accuracy, balance, clarity/ conciseness, objectivity and timeliness.)

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Be sure that the adviser has added the contestant name(s) to this sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yknhj23s>. Insert your entry link or PDF into the appropriate space. Please remember that the contestant(s) should attend the critique session in person, but will not be disqualified if unable to be on site.

To create the best possible PDF of your design, it would be best practice to follow the instructions provided by JEA.org, Preparing Your Layouts for Submission, at <http://jea.org/wp/home/awards-honors/write-off-contests/preparing-layout-entries/>

## SUBMISSION FILENAMES

Most important is to give each the entry a numeric filename according to this formula: CONTEST#-SCHOOL#. For example, Mount Si's number is 54 and this is Category15.: #15-54. The list provided at the end of this booklet contains most school names. If your school isn't listed, please write: SCHOOL NAME NOT LISTED in that space on your entry.



# APPENDIX: Past participant school numbers

*You'll need this number for advance-submission entry filenames. This list is based on past participation. If your school is not listed, please write "SCHOOL NOT LISTED" on official contest submission form and your school will be assigned a number.*

01	Anacortes High School	40	J.R. Rogers High School
02	Arlington High School	41	Jenkins Jr/Sr High
03	Auburn Adventist Academy	42	Kamiakin High School
04	Auburn High School	43	Lake Roosevelt Jr/Sr High
05	Auburn Mountainview HS	44	Lake Washington High School
06	Ballard High School	45	Lakeside Middle School
07	Bellarmino Prep School	46	Lakeside School
08	Bellingham HS	47	Liberty High School
09	Bethel High School	48	Lindbergh High School
10	Brier Terrace Middle School	49	Marysville Getchell High School
11	Capital High School	50	Marysville Pilchuck High School
12	Cascade High School	51	Mead High School
13	Central Kitsap High School	52	Mercer Island High School
14	Central Valley High School	53	Mount Baker Middle School
15	Centralia High School	54	Mount Si High School
16	Chief Kitsap High School	55	Mount Spokane High School
17	College Place High School	56	Mountlake Terrace High School
18	College Place Middle School	57	Nathan Hale High School
19	Concordia Christian Academy	58	North Creek High School
20	Deer Park High School	59	North Thurston High School
21	East Valley High School	60	Olympia High School
22	Eastlake High School	61	Puyallup High School
23	Ellensburg High School	62	Renton High School
24	Emerald Ridge HS	63	Roosevelt High School
25	Enumclaw High School	64	Rosalia High School
26	Ephrata High School	65	Seattle Preparatory School
27	Ferris High School	66	Sedro-Woolley High School
28	Freeman High School	67	Shorewood High School
29	Garfield High School	68	South Kitsap High School
30	Gibson Ek High School	69	Squaticum HS
31	Glacier Peak High School	70	Stanwood High School
32	Grace Academy	71	Steilacoom High School
33	Grandview High School	72	Timberline High School
34	Granite Falls High School	73	Todd Beamer High School
35	Hanford High School	74	University Prep
36	Hazen High School	75	Walker High School
37	Henry M. Jackson High School	76	Wenatchee High School
38	Highline High School	77	West Seattle High School
39	Inglemoor High School	78	Woodinville High School

# URL Shortener, Branded Short Links & Analytics

Welcome to the original link shortener — simplifying the Internet through the power of the URL since 2002.

You can use branded domains for fully custom links, track link analytics, and enjoy other powerful features with our paid plans.

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## Your Recent Links:

! No links yet in your history

 Shorten a Link

 Generate QR Code


📌 Long URL \*

Paste long URL here

 Domain

tinyurl.com



 Alias (optional)

Add alias here

Must be at least 5 characters

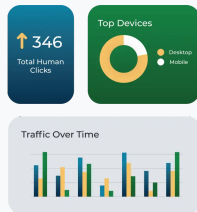
Shorten Link

*By clicking Shorten Link, you agree with our [Terms of Service](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and [Use of Cookies](#).*

# TinyURL Plans Include:

## Detailed Link Analytics

Stay on top of your links' performance and get insights into the clicks you earn and people you reach.



## Fully Branded Domains

Customize every part of your links with branded domains — say goodbye to default link shortening!



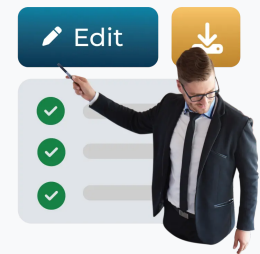
## Bulk Short URLs

Scale your communications with our API, and create thousands of unique short links in the blink of an eye.



## Link Management

Take full control of your links: search, edit, and manage thousands at a time from a convenient dashboard.



# Link Shortening Done Quick and Easy

Our URL shortener is not only among the first-ever link shorteners on the Internet — it's the best out there.

Shorten links for social media, blogs, SMS, emails, ads, and almost anything both off- and online.

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Tracked**

**Fully Custom  
Links**

## Clicks

We don't believe in making you suffer for your success: track as many clicks as you earn with our Pro plans!

## Detailed Link Analytics

Get actionable, detailed insights into your social media, emails, ads, and any other platforms where click-through matters.

## Branded Domains

Links shortened using your own custom domain are more professional,



Create short links that put your brand front-and-center! Attaching your brand domain to TinyURL is quick and intuitive.

## Bulk Short URLs

Need tons of unique, rule-based links quickly? Shorten several links in a single go using our platform or API.

## Link Management

Worried about finding one or two essential links in a tide of thousands? We solve that with intuitive management features.

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and more  
clickable.

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per month

**24 years** of shortening  
URLs

**30,468,820,910** TinyURLs  
created

## Frequently Asked Questions

What Is a URL Shortener? 

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How Does a URL Shortener Work? 

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What Are the Benefits of Using a Short URL? 


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What Is a Custom URL Shortener? 

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How Do I Shorten a URL for Free? 

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How Do I Know Your Service Is Reliable and Scalable? 

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Can I Use a Domain I Already Own? 

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