

Student Life Photography



THE ASSIGNMENT

Students can submit any photograph **created since Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024**. A caption is also required.

Yearbook Assignment: Student activity before school starts

Explore what students do before school starts once they've arrived in the building. What are they doing? Who are they talking to? Where are they? Show your readers what kids do before school begins while they are at school.

Submit one photo that shows something unique happening before school, like doing last-minute homework, eating breakfast, hanging out with friends, attending morning meetings for clubs or seeing teachers for homework help.

Of course, this contest expects that you act ethically. **Those ethics mean that you don't pose moments and don't use software or AI to deceive your audience. Consider ways that you can show — using candid, unposed and ethical photojournalism — the focus of the story above.**

Photographers must also submit a real caption with their entry as they would for their publications. A well-researched caption is part of the judging criteria for all photography contests.

SUBMISSION

New in 2024-2025: all contest entries will be submitted through a Google form. A Google account is required to submit the entry. Instructions on how to enter will be posted on the KSPA website and shared with advisers when they are finalized.

SPECIFICATIONS

The image must be uploaded to the KSPA online submission system according to these specifications:

- An image file saved as a JPG
- No single image can exceed 10 MB
- A real, well-researched caption
- The use of AI is not allowed.
- When you submit your photo, you will provide your name, school name and a caption written in AP style with complete sentence(s).
- The image must be uploaded by **Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025 at 5 p.m.**

Failure to follow these requirements may result in disqualification.

REMEMBER: CAPTIONS!

Because this is a photojournalism contest, caption writing is part of the criteria that judges will review from your submission.

DON'T FORGET

No need to pretend that you attend Sunflower High School, our fictional high school used for other contests. Simply caption your photo as you would in your school's publication.

Contest Info

This is a VISUAL category for the KSPA Regional Contest.

Students must not request help or advice from any person other than the KSPA staff at staff@kspaonline.org.

All work must be solely that of the contestant.

SUBMIT YOUR WORK

[Enter submissions here.](#)

Deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 5 p.m.

Failure to follow these requirements may result in disqualification.



Student Life Photography-2025 Regional Entry

Judging Criteria for Student Life Photography

Ratings at a glance	Criteria	Comments <i>(judges are encouraged to leave additional comments here but are not required to for all lines)</i>
Select rating. ▾	<p>STORYTELLING: This image has a strong storytelling quality. It harnesses the power of photography to freeze a decisive moment. Image includes a moment that engages the viewer.</p>	
Select rating. ▾	<p>TECHNICAL: From the settings on the camera to the digital toning of the photo, the image is solid. Photographer uses the correct shutter speed, aperture and ISO for the situation. The levels of brightness, contrast and color balance are well adjusted here.</p>	
Select rating. ▾	<p>CONTENT: Topic is both interesting to the viewer and connects to the prompt. Photographer's effort in planning and research for the photo topic are evident.</p>	
Select rating. ▾	<p>COMPOSITION: The organization of people and objects in the frame is clean and inventive. The image shows attention to avoiding congested backgrounds and portraying a clean central focus for the image. Photographer has chosen the correct angle, distance to subject and lens.</p>	
Select rating. ▾	<p>CROPPING: Smart and focused cropping is evident in this image. The photo is free from unnecessary elements, avoids cutting off key storytelling elements and maintains</p>	

	interesting composition.	
Select rating. ▾	CAPTION: Captions answer the viewer's questions about a photo. This caption should contain clear sentence construction, AP style, active verbs, factual information about the situation and important context. Attention has been given to correct punctuation, grammar, spelling and capitalization.	