OVERVIEW

Participants have the opportunity to demonstrate understanding of and expertise in using photographic and imaging technology processes to convey a message. Semifinalists record images and then utilize graphic editing software to prepare a single final image as a solution to an on-site prompt. The current year's theme will be posted on the TSA website under Competitions/Themes and Problems.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants are limited to one (1) individual per chapter; one (1) entry per individual.

TIME LIMITS

Entries must be started and completed during the current school year.

LEAP LEADERSHIP RESUME/INTERVIEW

An Individual LEAP Leadership Resume is required for this event and must be submitted at event check-in. Semifinalists will respond to interview questions related to their submitted LEAP Resume for a maximum of five (5) minutes.

ATTIRE

Competition attire, as described in the National TSA Dress Code section of this guide, is required for this event.

PROCEDURE

A. Participants check in their entry and submit a LEAP Leadership Resume at the time and place stated in the conference program.

B. Entries are reviewed by evaluators. Neither students nor advisors are present at this time. A semifinalist list in random order is posted.

C. Semifinalists report to the event area at the time and place stated in the conference program.

☑ The major emphasis for this event is the quality of the images captured, processed, and documented.

D. Each semifinalist must have a digital camera, access to a computer with photo editing software, and a method to transfer the images to the computer for editing (such as a media reader), which they must bring to the second stage of the semifinal round. Semifinalists also must bring two (2) USB flash drives to compete in the semifinalist round of the event. Each USB flash drive should be labeled with the participant's ID number and the name of the competition.

E. During the first stage of the semifinalist round, the event coordinator distributes to each semifinalist the description of the semifinalist assignment and provides specific directions (including the location and reporting time) for the second stage of the event. The coordinator will also provide additional information about any restrictions photographers may have at the property.

F. Semifinalists use the assigned time for the first stage to capture images of conference events and activities that depict the semifinalist assignment. Any type of image typical of responsible news reporting and publication is considered appropriate.

G. Participants capture their images, which must be appropriate for the TSA community, only at officially sanctioned conference locations, as described by the event coordinator. Teams are not allowed to capture images in sleeping rooms, restrooms, restaurants, or elevators/escalators. When the coordinator distributes the semifinalist assignment, further explanation about any additional restrictions at the property will be addressed. **NOTE: Failure to follow instructions from the event coordinator will result in disqualification.**

H. Semifinalists may not disturb any event in progress, enter a restricted evaluation area, interrupt a conference function, or participate in behavior unbecoming of a national participant in any event.

I. For the second stage of the semifinalist round, semifinalists report to the location provided by the event coordinator at the specified time with their camera, images, and computer with graphic editing software installed.

J. During this stage, semifinalists will use graphic editing software (e.g., Lightbox, Photoshop, Fireworks, etc.), to edit their images and select one (1) image they will submit as their solution to the on-site assignment. Semifinalists should edit the image as necessary to achieve the desired result; a copy of the original image and the edited copy must be saved to both USB flash drives.

K. Semifinalists also should prepare a statement, which contains the following information, about the final image:

1. Camera make (Nikon, Canon, Panasonic, Sony, etc.)
2. Camera model (CoolPix, Rebel, 5D, etc.)
3. F-stop at which the photograph was taken
4. Exposure time
5. ISO speed
6. Focal length
7. A brief description of the image, how the photographer interprets it to meet the challenge criteria, and what edits were made to the original image to arrive at the final product should be included. This statement should NOT appear on the same page as the image. The written statement should be no longer than one-half (½) single-spaced typewritten page. The text should be in a san-serif, 12-point font (such as Arial or Calibri) for easy readability. The statement should be saved to both flash drives, separate from the images.

L. Semifinalists will be allowed two-and-one-half (2½) hours to complete the second stage of the semifinalist round. At the conclusion of the allotted time, both USB flash drives (each containing the original image, the final image, and the written statement) are to be turned into the event coordinator for judging.

M. Immediately following the collection of flash drives, each semifinalist will participate in a LEAP interview that will last a maximum of five (5) minutes.

It is essential that students and advisors routinely check the TSA website (www.tsaweb.org) for updated information about TSA general rules and competitive events. This information is found on the website under Competitions/Updates. When students participate in any TSA competitive event, they are responsible for knowing of updates, changes, or clarification related to that event.

REGULATIONS

A. Participants submit their photographic images and required documentation as a single, multi-page PDF document on a USB flash drive at the time and place designated in the conference program.

B. The entry must contain: Five (5) separate images, each no larger than 8" x 10" or no smaller than 3" x 5". Of the five (5) images, two (2) must be color images, two (2) must be black and white images, and one (1) image can be of the participant's choice. Note: Sepia tones, blue tones, or coloring of any type, other than black and white, are counted as color images.

☑ Read the General Rules and Regulations section in the front of this guide for information that applies to all of TSA's competitive events.

C. Each image submitted should include a word-processed statement no longer than one-half (½) page in length (word processed in a san serif, 12-point font [such as Arial or Calibri] for readability) with the following information:

1. Camera make (Nikon, Canon, Panasonic, Sony, etc.)
2. Camera model (CoolPix, Rebel, 5D, etc.)
3. F-stop at which the photograph was taken
4. Exposure time
5. ISO speed
6. Focal length
7. A brief description of the image, how the photographer interprets it to meet the challenge criteria, and what edits were made to the original image to arrive at the final product. This statement should NOT appear on the same page as the image.

D. Subjects for each of the images may include (but are not limited to) action shots, still-lifes, product shots, portraits, special effects shots (composites, successive printing, ghost images, sandwiching, silhouettes, etc.), wildlife, landscapes, etc. All images submitted for judging must be the sole work of the individual participant; this includes images used in special effects photography. Participants should include in the image statements detailed information about the process/special effects applied to the image. Any image submitted that combines images must have the unaltered images included in the Resources/References section of the entry.

E. Each image (none larger than 8" x 10") must be included in the single, multi-page PDF document.

F. The written statement about the photo should immediately follow the image in the document.

G. Submitted images must be the work of one (1) student.

H. Recognizable individuals selected and pictured in the images must give their written consent before the images can be used in this event. (See Photo/Film Consent and Release form.) Should a consent form be deemed unnecessary, it should be replaced with a written statement to explain and verify that no consent was needed or included. All consent forms must be included in the single, multi-page PDF document as described below. **NOTE: If consent forms are missing, the entry will not be judged.**

I. The single, multi-page PDF document containing the required images and word processed statements must be submitted on a USB flash drive labeled with the name of the competition (PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGY) and the participant's ID number.

J. The single, multi-page PDF document should be a finished size of 8½" x 11" and should have the pages in this order:

1. Title page with the event title, the conference city and state, and the year; one (1) page
2. Table of contents; pages as needed
3. Color Image #1 – a single color image no larger than 8" x 10" and no smaller than 3" x 5"; one (1) page)
4. A written statement about Color Image #1 containing the information detailed in Regulation C); one (1) page
5. Color Image #2 – a single color image no larger than 8" x 10" and no smaller than 3" x 5"; one (1) page
6. A written statement about Color Image #2 containing the information detailed in Regulation C); one (1) page
7. Black and White Image #1 - a single black and white image no larger than 8" x 10" and no smaller than 3" x 5"; one (1) page)
8. A written statement about Black and White Image #1 containing the information detailed in Regulation C); one (1) page
9. Black and White Image #2 - a single black and white image no larger than 8" x 10" and no smaller than 3" x 5"; one (1) page)
10. A written statement about Black and White Image #2 containing the information detailed in Regulation C); one (1) page
11. Student's Choice Image – image should be no larger than 8" x 10" and no smaller than 3" x 5"; one (1) page
12. A written statement about Student's Choice Image containing the information detailed in Regulation C); one (1) page
13. Consent forms—should a consent form be deemed unnecessary, it should be replaced with a written statement to explain and verify that no consent was needed or included; pages as needed
14. List of resources and references used. Photos used in special effects photos (composite images, ghosted images, etc.) are to be placed in this section and should note the associated photo; pages as needed

All prints used in Photographic Technology should be appropriate for viewing at the national TSA conference. Any entry that includes images depicting inappropriate or unacceptable behavior results in disqualification.

K. LEAP Leadership Resume (see Forms Appendix or TSA website)/Interview — Students document, in the LEAP leadership resume (see resume template), the leadership skills that they have developed and demonstrated while working on this event.

Semifinalists will respond to questions about the content of their resume as part of their LEAP interview. The LEAP Leadership Resume/Interview guidelines and other resources can be found on the TSA website.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is based on points earned for the required images and documentation, the LEAP requirements, and the semifinalist round during the on-site portion of the event. Scores on required images and the documentation portfolio determine the twelve (12) semifinalists. Points earned through the on-site event determine the final ranking. Please refer to the official rating form for more information.

STEM INTEGRATION

This event aligns with the STEM educational standards noted below. Please refer to the STEM Integration section of this guide for more information.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

TSA AND CAREERS

This competition connects to one or more of the career areas featured in the TSA AND CAREERS section of this guide. Use *The Career Clusters* chart and the *TSA Competitions and The Career Clusters* grid as resources for information about careers.

CAREERS RELATED TO THIS EVENT

Advertising or public relations executive
Graphic designer
Photographer
Publisher
Sales manager