

It's the first of a new year so it must be time for the 2009-10 KHSJA contest. This mailing contains contest rules, categories, entry blanks and more. They will also be posted on www.khsja.org later in the month.

The deadline for yearbook entries is March 10, 2010; for broadcast entries it's March 17; and the newspaper deadline is March 24. The deadline is the date by which entries must be postmarked or shipped to KHSJA. Our contest's class system is **based on school enrollments. Those numbers are in the rules and on the entry blanks.** Please check with a school administrator to verify your current enrollment. **Broadcast entries can be submitted on DVD or VHS tape although just about every school has converted to DVD and the judges love it.** Just one contest entry per DVD or tape is permitted.

Use of student name lists has reduced the misspelled student names on plaques, certificates and in our contest tab. Please write legibly or type the list on a computer. Use only the official entry blanks. **Entry blanks should always be firmly attached to their entries. Staples are best on newspaper entries. Tape is best for broadcast entries. Paper clips always come off when sorting entries and should not be used.** Staple newspaper entry blanks to the upper right corner of tearsheets. Broadcast entry blanks must be taped to the top of VHS cassettes (not the boxes) or on DVD cases/sleeves. Our judges have noted how easily loose entry blanks get separated from their entries, which complicates their job. When filling entry blanks, please have students write the category number and the category name - accurately. In recent years, some entry blanks have omitted the category number and the student has written the category name inaccurately -- resulting in the disqualification of some entries because the intended category couldn't be determined.

The annual KHSJA convention is set for Wednesday, May 5, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, near the state fairgrounds in Louisville. That's the newly renovated former Executive West hotel. As usual, preconvention events will be May 4. If you have questions, call me at (502) 223-8821 or via e-mail at dgreer@kypress.com. A mailing will follow soon on the annual state convention and awards banquet. And this year, we have PLENTY of room for breakout sessions!