

Schools named as Let Freedom Ring Schools in 2009 must re-apply to be considered for this year's selection. We encourage schools with student media policies categorizing those media as forums for student expression or open forums and those operating as forums by practice even if they do not have a policy stating such to enter.

First round questions for the

First Amendment Press Freedom Award

To apply, a school must submit three questionnaires – one from a student, one from a teacher and one from an administrator. Please submit eight (8) sets of your entire entry, collated and stapled as individual sets.

Name of school _____

School address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

School phone _____ Date _____

Name of person completing form _____

Circle which is applicable: Student Teacher or Administrator

Signature _____

Types of journalistic publications at your school:

___ Newspaper

___ Newsmagazine

___ Yearbook

___ Student-run broadcast

___ Student-run news Web site

___ Student-run literary magazine

___ Other (You must specify) _____

List any media in the school where students do not make final decisions over content or editing

Please submit your entries to: First Amendment Press Freedom Award
Journalism Education Association
103 Kedzie Hall Manhattan, KS 66506-1505 Phone: 785.532.7822
Deadline: Dec. 1, 2009

First Amendment Press Freedom Award

Circle your choice: **Yes, No or Don't know** (should be avoided or explained)

1. Does your school actively protect First Amendment rights, including artistic expression by students and faculty?

Yes No Don't know

2. Does your school promote and support teaching of the First Amendment through classroom instruction and activities?

Yes No Don't know

3. Does your journalism curriculum include instruction in press law and ethics?

Yes No Don't know

4. Has any school administrator or faculty member required student journalists or a publication adviser to submit content for prior review before publication? (Prior review is NOT the same as having a journalism teacher or media adviser coach students during the process and thus must read content.)

Yes No Don't know

5. Is there an expectation that student journalists or publication/media advisers will allow a school administrator to read stories or media content, especially those deemed controversial, before publication?

Yes No Don't know

6. Do students, who are encouraged to first consult with their adviser, then make all final content decisions for student media before publication or broadcast?

Yes No Don't know

7. Does your school remove Internet filters to allow for journalistic use?

Yes No Don't know

8. Has an administrator or faculty member ever held your publication and not allowed its distribution? Briefly explain the circumstances:

Yes No Don't know

9. Has a student been punished by the school within the past year for the content of a home Web site or an off-campus publication?

Yes No Don't know

10. May student faces and names be used on your online student publications Web site?

Yes No Don't know Names but not faces

Faces but not names No student-run Web site

11. Subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions for distribution of the publication, would students be able to report on a student walkout during school hours?

Yes No Don't know

12. Would students at your school be able to report on clubs possibly considered controversial, such as for a gay and lesbian group?

Yes No Don't know

13. Is there a published board of education policy establishing your student-run publications/media as forums for student expression?

Yes No Don't know

14. If there is no published board of education policy, are your student-run publications/media outlets operated as public forums by practice?

Yes No Don't know

15. During the past year, has your publication been restrained from distribution other than time, place, manner restriction?

Yes No Don't know

16. Is your publication able to endorse political candidates if editors choose to do so?

Yes No Don't know

17. Has any administrator or faculty member disciplined any publication student for a viewpoint he or she published or wanted to publish in the last year?

Yes No Don't know

18. Has any advertisement or potential advertisement been blocked by an administrator or faculty member in the last year?

Yes No Don't know

19. Have you allowed sources to read stories before publication in which their quotes appear? (It is OK to verbally check quotes with sources.)

Yes No Don't know

20. Have you ever attempted to file a Freedom of Information Act request with your school or community?

Yes No Don't know

If yes, were you able to get the information you requested?

Yes No Don't know

21. Has any student publication editor been dismissed or disciplined for publishing, attempting to publish or recommending a position on a topic?

Yes No Don't know

22. Has your publication/media ever been told there are any "off-limits" topics that cannot be published or broadcast?

Yes No Don't know

If yes, what were they?

23. Has any adviser been dismissed or fired, or threatened with dismissal or firing, because of a topic the publication covered or proposed to cover?

Yes No Don't know

24. Has the journalism program faced removal from the curriculum because of threats based on coverage or proposed coverage of any topic?

Yes No Don't know

25. Does your school system's administration publicly support the responsibility of student publications/media to truthfully inform community citizens?

Yes No Don't know