

Southern Association of Student Councils

2008 Comprehensive Awards Program

Entry Instructions

Please read the instructions carefully and completely. Use only the forms provided. Using forms associated with awards programs from previous years may result in disqualification of your entries.

Purpose: In order to meet several worthy objectives, the Southern Association of Student Councils sponsors a comprehensive awards program for its member schools on an annual basis.

Objectives: To provide lasting incentive for councils to strive toward excellence in programming throughout the year. To emphasize areas of concern to councils in the region and to suggest programs in pursuit of solutions to problems within those common areas. To recognize and reward councils as well as individuals who achieve excellence in execution of relevant student council programs.

Awards: In pursuit of the objectives listed above, awards program entries are brought to the SASC Conference by member schools for judging. Presentations to the winning entries are made during the conference. Competition takes place in the following areas:

- ◆ **Outstanding Project (in each of 16 priority areas)**
- ◆ **Advisor of the Year**
- ◆ **Council Member of the Year (in senior and junior divisions)**
- ◆ **Public Speaking (in senior and junior divisions)**

Entry Rules: (Changes from last year's Awards Program are noted in red.)

1. Entries in the SASC Awards Program (**except for Project Entries and Scholarship Entries**) are to be brought to the annual conference and submitted **prior to the end of registration on the first day of the conference.** **Project Entries** may be brought to the conference and turned in at registration **OR Project Entries may be emailed prior to the conference.** (See #4 below for more info.) **Scholarship Entries** are to be mailed by the deadline indicated on the application form.

2. A school may **enter up to five (5) priority areas** of the Best Project Competition. **No more than ONE project may be entered per category; the same project may NOT be entered in more than ONE category.** Projects are eligible only if they were completed since the previous year's conference and if the same project has not won in either of the two previous years. If your council wishes to include pictures as part of the explanation of your project entry, pictures may be scanned or securely attached onto the entry form. The entry is still limited to the space allotted on the form.
3. **Entries must be submitted on official entry forms. These forms can be downloaded from the SASC website at www.sascschools.org.**
4. Project entries may be brought to the conference and turned in at the time of registration **OR project entries may be emailed to Marquita Thomas at marqthomas11@hotmail.com. Projects that are emailed should be submitted electronically between August 11-October 6. Schools submitting projects via email will receive an emailed confirmation once their project entries are received. Please note that entries must be submitted on the SASC project entry form (posted at www.sascschools.org) and that the entry form may be accompanied by no more than ONE page of supporting documentation including any scanned pictures that may be submitted.**
5. Schools submitting Project Entries will receive a participation certificate for each project submitted.
6. Senior and Junior Divisions are available only for Member of the Year and the Public Speaking competitions. Senior Division is defined as entries from grades 10-12. Junior Division is defined as entries from grades 6-9.
7. Students being interviewed in support of an entry for Advisor of the Year and/or Member of the Year may **NOT** also be small group workshop presenters as the two activities may be scheduled concurrently.
8. Any entry not prepared according to the rules will be disqualified. The decision of the judges is final. All awards will be presented at a general session of the annual conference.
9. Winning entries will be summarized and published on the website at www.sascschools.org.

Judging: Judging of the Awards Competition will take place at the SASC Conference each year. Each priority area and special award will have a separate judging panel selected by the SASC Executive Director or designee.

Priority Areas for Outstanding Projects

1. **Academic Incentive Projects**—category includes projects such as scholarships; awards programs or special recognitions honoring academic achievers; awards banquets/breakfasts; quiz and academic bowls; SAT/ACT score recognitions; Academic Hall of Fame; honor rolls, etc.
2. **Best Junior High/Middle Level Projects**—category includes ONLY projects submitted by junior high schools or middle level schools.
3. **Citizenship and Patriotism Projects**—category includes projects such as voter registration; 9/11 Remembrances; Veterans’ Day activities; recognition/care packages for troops; “Mayor for a Day” programs; job shadowing, etc.
4. **Communications Projects**—category includes projects such as newsletters; fliers; brochures; posters; signage; pamphlets; creative publicity; bulletin boards; Stall Street Journal publications; etc.
5. **Community Service Fundraising Projects**—category includes projects that raise money that is donated to charities and/or community organizations—i.e. projects that donate funds to specific charities such as Make-A-Wish, the Red Cross, the United Way, etc.; projects that send money for disaster relief; projects that supply money to buy goods/services that help people in need, etc.
6. **Community Service Outreach Projects**—category includes projects in which your council performs a service for an organization or a group—i.e. hosting a prom for senior citizens; hosting a party for a daycare center; sponsoring a food drive, coat drive; school supply drive, etc. and donating the goods to an organization or charity; sponsoring a blood drive; having council members volunteer to help in a Special Olympics event; having council members participate in a Make-A-Wish wish-granting ceremony; etc.
7. **Environmental Awareness Projects**—category includes projects that are designed to increase awareness of environmental issues in the school or community; “eco-friendly” or “green” projects; recycling programs; etc.
8. **Fundraising Projects**—category includes projects that raise money to be used specifically for your council’s budget; funds used to carry out your own council’s activities (excluding funds donated to charities and community organizations)
9. **Homecoming Projects**—category includes projects associated with the celebration of Homecoming
10. **Leadership Outreach/Mentoring Projects**—category includes projects that focus on training, mentoring, tutoring groups outside your council—i.e. Adopt-an-Elementary-School programs; leadership training in elementary or

- middle schools or within your own school but outside your council; celebrating reading with elementary classes; middle school/high school task forces; peer tutoring programs; assisting other schools in establishing student councils; mentoring/tutoring students in association with an established program such as the Boys' and Girls' Clubs or Big Brothers/Big Sisters, etc.
11. **Membership Motivation and Development Projects**—category includes projects related to the recruitment and training of your council's members such as retreats; planning sessions; leadership skills training programs for council members; awards programs that recognize efforts of council members; celebrations that focus on your council's successes; etc.
 12. **School Family Relations Projects**—category includes projects associated with the faculty, administration, support staff, parent groups, clubs and classes within the school, etc.
 13. **School Service Projects**—category includes projects that benefit the school such as campus beautification, purchase of equipment, handbooks, career seminars, college days, career days, etc.
 14. **School Spirit Projects**—category includes projects designed to build pride and spirit within the school
 15. **Student Support Projects**—category includes projects that emphasize awareness of invisible or exceptional students; education in areas such as teenage pregnancy prevention, suicide prevention, alcohol and drug use/abuse prevention; anti-violence campaigns; anti-bullying campaigns, etc.
 16. **Technology Projects**—category includes projects such as webpage designs; power point presentations; closed circuit TV programs; slide shows; videos; DVD's; CD's; and other publicity projects that are geared specifically for communication from the student council. *A video, CD, DVD, or hard copy may accompany this entry only.*

Advisor of the Year

1. Any advisor who has not previously received this award may be entered as a candidate.
2. A separate entry form is provided for this category.
3. A designated student (who is NOT a workshop presenter) may be interviewed in support of the entry.

Council Member of the Year—Senior and Junior Divisions

1. Any member of a council may be nominated. The member does NOT have to be a delegate to the SASC Conference.
2. A separate entry form is provided for each division in this category.
3. A designated student (who is NOT a workshop presenter) may be interviewed in support of the entry.

Public Speaking Awards

1. Two public speaking awards are given at the conference. One will be given for entries from grades 10-12; the other will be given for grades 6-9.
2. Each member school in attendance at the conference may enter one student in each of the two divisions. Separate entry forms are provided. The entry form and a typed copy of the speech must be submitted at the time of on-site registration.
3. Contestants are to give a 4-5 minute prepared speech on the conference theme. Speeches must be memorized to qualify for awards. There will be a penalty given for speeches that exceed the time limit. Speeches will be judged with the judges using the SASC Speech Evaluation Form which is also posted on the SASC website. No spectators are allowed during the judging.
4. Speech contestants cannot serve as workshop presenters.
5. The first place winner in each division will deliver his/her speech during the awards presentation ceremony. Contestants should bring dress clothes so that they will be prepared to appear on stage if they win.