

Contest 09: Newspaper Layout

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please use your available desktop software to create your layout.
- Use whatever size template your school uses for its newspaper (broadsheet, 11 x 17 or tabloid).
- You will design **Page 1** including the flag or nameplate, stories and the available photos and any graphics and artwork that you create.
- Access available photos for this contest on the JEA website under Contests. You may enlarge, crop or reduce photos. You may use as many or as few as you choose.
- You may also create your own illustrations and/or infographics.
- DO NOT include your name or your school name on your entry.
- You will be judged only on the layout elements, but please fill your copy blocks with fill text.
- Write and place headlines directly into the layout.
- With fill text, create and place caption blocks, subheads or other copy of this type. You may create your own pull quotes. Use any style, font and size that you deem appropriate.
- Remember your work is being evaluated on design and layout. Your writing will not be evaluated, but please use correct spelling in elements of any size. Body copy blocks and captions should incorporate fill text for design effect.

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Central High School
1700 W. Olney Ave.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19141
Newspaper: The Independent, Vol. 46, No. 3 (Nov. 5, 2021)

ASSIGNMENT:

In black-and-white or color, design the **front page** for The Independent using any grid or column plan you like and the size template your newspaper uses (i.e. tabloid, broadsheet). **Design a nameplate and design the page to include both coverage topics.**

Use only the Contest 9 photos, stories and information on the JEA website under Contests. Other than provided photos and story ideas, do all of your own work on every aspect of this layout. You will be disqualified if you use images or material other than what JEA provides.

Write actual headlines; create caption blocks with fill text and place them on the layout. You may also create your own pull quotes if you wish.

Fill copy blocks with placeholder text; do not write a story. Use dummy names for photo credits and bylines.

You may use any of the provided photos. You may crop any provided photos to meet your needs. Do not flip photos. You may create your own original artwork by hand or with available computer programs.

Submitting Entries:

- All of the instructions for creating a PDF of your entry and uploading it into the contest system can be found at jea.org/contests.
- Please read all of the instructions carefully.
- Entries must be uploaded by 6 p.m. CDT Oct. 18, 2021.
- Do not wait until the last day! There are NO EXCEPTIONS for entries that do not meet this deadline!

Contest 09: Newspaper Layout

PHOTOS:

For a selection of photos to include, check the JEA website. Download the pictures, crop, size and place them as you wish. You may use Photoshop or a similar program to **ethically** alter the photos. If you use a photo as a photo illustration, as in a graphic, you do not have to include a caption. You are being judged on your layout, not your writing, but use correct spelling and AP style.

HINTS:

Use none, some or all of the data provided. You may organize it into infographics or use it otherwise to enhance your layout.

HEADS UP:

Please check the section “What Judges Will Look For” under your contest. It is a reflection of the judging sheet for this contest.

TOPIC 1: FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

- Each year the Central High School students participate in an all-day event created to give them some in-depth exposure to the fine arts.
- The event was Nov. 1, 2021, and included a series of six 45-minute sessions that students rotated through during the day.
- A week ahead of the event, students received a program with descriptions of the 36 different sessions available. Most were presented by local professional artists or others involved in local theaters, dance studios, museums or art galleries.
- The day’s schedule included two general categories: Performance Art (including presentations in areas such as dance, music, theater and musical theater, magic, mime, storytelling, puppetry, circus arts) and Visual Art (including presentations in areas such as animation, ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, design, crafts, photography, video, film making and architecture).
- Most sessions involved hands-on activities, and students were encouraged to dress in clothing that allowed them to move easily and also get messy.
- The three gyms had live demonstrations for students to observe during their lunch break or as one of their selected sessions. Some demonstrations included glass blowing, theatrical make-up lessons, yarn spinning, a juggler, a violin maker, an advertising food stylist and a vocal coach.
- Local professional artists also set up exhibits of pencil and charcoal drawings, leather work, metal, oil, acrylic and watercolor painting, photography, print making, sculpture and woodworking around the building.
- The AP Art Studio class presented live demonstrations of the various media available at Central High School in the different art classes.
- Lauren Gaither, fine arts department chair, has been running the event for seven years.
- During the lunch break, students were also given time to do some chalk art in the common area in front of the school on the sidewalks and main entrance.
- The final activity of the day was a student showcase in the Central Auditorium. Tryouts were held Oct. 14. A group of graduate students from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia selected the 10 student performances from the 28 acts that tried out.

QUOTES:

- “I love the Fine Arts Festival because it gives all of us a chance to learn about a lot of different areas of the arts that we have never been exposed to because our class schedules are so full already. The final event of the day is the best part when we get the opportunity to see how talented so many of our fellow students are. It is unbelievable what people can do that we all just never knew about.” — Brent Quinn, junior
- “My colleagues are also working to incorporate many of the Fine Arts Festival events into their lessons to show students the connection the arts have in so many areas of the curriculum.” — Lauren Gaither, fine arts department chair
- “I loved the Fine Arts Festival my first two years and was disappointed last year when COVID-19 led to virtual school. I know the art department tried its best to still make the event happen virtually with a variety of speakers and performances over Zoom, but it just wasn’t the same as seeing everything live.” — Grace Hardin, senior
- “My favorite part of the day was getting the chance to see all the ways that different fine arts could actually turn into careers for people. I guess I thought you had to actually be an artist or performer to have a career in the arts. I never really thought about all of the other aspects behind the scenes that go into marketing, promotions, set design, public relations and event planning. There are so many different opportunities.” — Ellie White, junior
- “Since this was my first year participating, I had no idea what to expect. All the upperclassmen told me how much fun it was, and it did not disappoint.” — Renaldo Lomara, sophomore
- “At lunch, I used the chalk and wrote the word ‘FLASHBACK’ because I liked the session about poetry. The author read a poem with that title about how we recall events from our past over and over again.” — Janya Jones, freshman
- “I have been dancing for 11 years with The Philadelphia Dance Academy, but not many people at Central have ever seen me perform, so I really wanted to participate in the showcase this year. A few other friends from the Academy tried out with me and we were selected. I study all kinds of traditional dance like tap, jazz and ballet, but contemporary performance is my favorite.” — Theresa Slotz, senior
- “This was by far the best line-up of experts we have ever had. I really don’t know how students were able to select which five sessions to attend from all of the choices provided for them. I am also so very grateful to the fine arts community in the greater Philadelphia area for being so willing to give their time and share their expertise and talent with our students.” — Fletcher Goodwin, principal
- “Teachers in my department coordinated specific lessons with some of the sessions being offered so students could see how the arts and our history go hand in hand. I asked my students to specifically look for ways that visual artists had recorded details of historical events or specific time periods in their work.” — Krista Merriott, social studies teacher
- “I was honored to serve as one of the judges to select the student showcase performers, but I had no idea how difficult it would be. The talent was just stellar. Narrowing it down to a final 10 for the event was quite a challenge for the panel.” — Alexa Fashay, University of the Arts graduate student

TOPIC 2: FALL PLAY

- More than 30 Central High School students were involved in the Drama Club’s production of “Noises Off” Oct. 28-30.
- “Noises Off” plot: This play-within-a-play captures a touring theater group’s production of “Nothing On” in three stages: dress rehearsal, the opening performance and a performance toward the end of a debilitating run. It is filled with slapstick comedy, farce, huge egos and surprises.
- CHS drama teacher Diane Rodriguez directed the show.
- Tickets for performances were \$5 for students and \$8 for adults/\$4 for those 12 and under. Total ticket sales for the three performances was 1,082.
- The actors rehearsed for 10 hours a week for five weeks leading up to the show.

QUOTES:

- “There was one part that was probably the strangest experience I have ever had in theater. At a certain point in the dialogue my pants were supposed to drop. The thought of being in my boxers on stage was a little nerve-wracking, but a lot of the stage fright goes away when you’re thinking about the technical process. The rest of the actors are supposed to be shocked, but since they all knew when it would happen, I decided to try to get that same effect by wearing a different pair of funny boxers for every show to catch them off guard. I bought a pair with bananas on them, one with big red hearts and for closing night I had a special pair made that had my face all over them.” — Adam Trankle, senior
- “A lot of what happened during the performances of “Noises Off” was not intentional. Things move so fast that stuff just happened sometimes like things falling over or people not making entrances exactly on time, but we all just had to go with the flow.” — Shannon Stulce, senior
- “For many of the actors, “Noises Off” was one of the most challenging productions they had been part of due to the lack of vocal communication in Act 2. They had to learn how to perform in a big way with just their movement and faces. But they were amazing, and it is truly one of the funniest shows we have ever performed.” — director Diane Rodriguez