

2007-2008 SWADESH DEROY SCHOLARSHIP

BY THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CLUB OF JAPAN

The Swadesh DeRoy Scholarship is an annual scholarship award by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ) that was created in honor of a respected long-time journalist member of FCCJ to encourage and support university students, who are interesting in entering the foreign journalism field.

The FCCJ plans to present three scholarship awards for the 2007-2008 academic year to any undergraduate or graduate student in Japan, or Japanese student enrolled in an overseas journalism program, with an expected graduation date after Dec. 2008. The lump sum gift award is intended to help students further their journalistic pursuits and should be used for such purposes (e.g. language courses, travel, computer purchase, books)

The first place prize will be 500,000 yen, second place prize 300,000 yen and third place 200,000 yen. Additional smaller prizes may be awarded on the discretion of the judges. Entries must be submitted no later than January 21, 2008.

The entries will be judged by a panel of veteran journalists in print, television and photography. Winning entries will be published in FCCJ's monthly magazine *No. 1 Shimbun*.

Please see attached sheet for entry details and background on the FCCJ.

(Students interested in journalism are also invited to apply for the FCCJ's student membership program. Accepted students will be given a limited complimentary membership to the club for one year.)

ENTRY DETAILS

Students can apply by submitting an application form, resume, copy of a student photo ID, and **ONE** of the following (**Please see the accompanying attachment “How to submit a winning entry” for tips and suggestions**):

PRINT: A 800-1,200 word unpublished article in English on one of the following topics:

- Where do Japanese youth get their news and how that’s changing media
- Influence of wide shows and tabloids and how they shape public opinions
- Why Japanese youth aren’t voting

Applicants are encouraged to include photos with their text but not required to do so.

PHOTO: A 200-250 word written introduction about what the photos are meant to convey as a journalistic work and a selection of at least ten 8x10 photos (color or black and white) on one of the following topics with captions:

- Japanese teen culture
- Life in School

Students may also submit a contact sheet or a group of digital photo thumbnails in addition to the photos. Entries must be printed photographs. Digital images on CDs and DVDs will not be considered due to the nature of the judging process.

VIDEO: 1.5 minute – 3 minute television story package on one of the following topics. Video contributions should be in spirit and principle the sole work of one individual although cited assistance from outside sources is permitted.

- What media have the biggest impact on public opinion in Japan and why?
(This may be about the type of media --TV, radio, newspaper, Internet -- or about a specific media organization)
- What technology is the most important to Japanese and why?

**** Entries must be in English****

AWARD: First Prize 500,000 yen
 Second Prize 300,000 yen
 Third Prize 200,000 yen

DEADLINE: **January 21, 2008**

An announcement will be made in early February and awards will be presented at a dinner honoring winners at the FCCJ next March.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Yukari Iwatani Kane, Alan Brender

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The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan is a shadan hojin non-profit organization, established in November 1945, to promote friendship, harmony and mutual welfare among its members, to defend the freedom of the press, and to increase friendly relations between Japan and other countries. The first members were a group of journalists accredited to General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters. The club has since grown to more than 300 working journalists, representing news organizations from around the world. FCCJ is run by an elected board of directors and appointed committees.

2007-2008 SWADESH DEROY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Gender (Circle one): M F

Date of birth: _____ Phone: _____

Current address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Current school: _____

School Address: _____ Status (Undergrad or Grad): _____

Tel: _____ Major: _____

Expected Graduation date: _____

QUESTIONNAIRE

What are your career goals? What kind of journalism or media are you interested in?

Why do you want to become a journalist or involved in media?

What would you spend the award money on if you are selected as a winner?

How did you hear about the scholarship program at FCCJ?

SIGNATURES

I certify that the above information is true and accurate.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO THE ATTENTION OF NAOMICHI IWAMURA AT FCCJ WITH RESUME AND ENTRY MATERIALS TO: The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, Yurakucho Denki North Bldg 20F, Yurakucho 1-7-1, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0006

Submitting a Winning Scholarship Entry

Every year we receive questions from students and their professors about what we are looking for in a winning entry, so this year, we are providing a list of tips. This list is meant to help you write an article, shoot a better video package, or put together a photo portfolio with all the elements that is expected in a journalistic piece. Please know that we still encourage everyone who is interested in journalism to apply, even if you are a non-native speaker of English. In the past, scholarship awards have frequently been given to non-native English speakers. Language can be learned. The most important factor that judges consider is how well students understand the necessary elements that go into an article, video package or photos and present their thoughts in a compelling way.

How to write the winning story

- Keep in mind that this is a feature story, **not** an essay or a school report. First-person features, using one's own experience, are difficult to do well, so unless you are extremely confident in your writing style, try to avoid it.
- Include a paragraph that explains the significance of your story up high – why should readers read your story? Why are you writing this now? In other words, what is the context (relevance) of your story?
- Interview 3 to 5 people, and include at least two quotes – The topics this year give you a lot of flexibility, and you should be able to interview people such as fellow students and professors at your university, even without journalistic credentials. Think about who might say interesting things about the topic you have chosen and the position you are taking and be creative!
- Do some initiative reporting. Would it make sense to conduct your own survey, check out some of the television shows, Internet sites or newspapers that you are writing about?
- Provide background details. Is there any interesting history or trivia about your topic?
- Back up your points with facts. This may require researching books, magazines, newspapers, Web sites and other reference materials.
- Do not start your article with a question. In fact, including questions in your article anywhere is a bad idea in general. Some journalists do it, but it's difficult to pull off. Pose those questions to yourself, but leave them out of the story, and your article will already look much stronger.
- Do not include footnotes. Don't forget that this is a general article, not a research paper. If you are pulling together an idea from several sources, it is okay to generalize and say something like "Industry observers say...", "Experts say..." or "Students say..." If you are quoting a specific media source or a research firm's data figures, say in the article where it's coming from.

- For more detailed tips, go to Poynter Institute for Journalism's Web site www.poynter.org for their list of tip sheets -- http://www.poynter.org/content/content_view.asp?id=31907&sid=2
- Check out the sample feature articles that are attached to get a general idea of how stories should be structured.

How to submit the winning photo entry

For the winning entry, the judges will be looking for how the photographer moves in on the subjects and how well the photographer edits and composes the material to tell a coherent story, among other aspects.

How to put together the winning video package

- Report should be an original work of the applicant and will be graded on visual and editorial excellence.
- Report should aim to answer posed question in English with subtitles or voice-over of Japanese soundbites.
- Report should be 2-3 minutes in duration and include narrator or interviewees in vision at some point.
- Helpers with editing, camera or voice-over work must be noted but credits do not need to appear in report.
- Total spending should be documented.