AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards Contest Rules

1. Description: The AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards Contest (the “Contest”) begins on May 1, 2016 at 12:01:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time and the period for entering the Contest ends on August 1, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. U.S. Pacific Daylight Time (the “Entry Period”). By participating in the Contest, each entrant unconditionally accepts and agrees to comply with and abide by these Contest Rules and the decisions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (“AAAS”) and its independent judging committees, which shall be final and binding in all respects. As outlined in more detail below, there will be two awards for each category, a Gold award worth $5,000 and a Silver award worth $3,500. One winner for each award in each category will also receive reasonable travel expenses to attend an awards ceremony in February 2017 at the AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston, Mass.

2. Entry Fee: There is no entry fee.

3. Individual Eligibility: Only individuals over the age of eighteen (18) years as of August 1, 2015 who are residing and located in a jurisdiction where the contest is lawful are eligible to enter. Employees of AAAS or The Kavli Foundation, or their affiliates, subsidiaries, suppliers, vendors and/or service providers, and their immediate family members or persons living in the same household are not eligible. The Contest is void where prohibited. Individual winners of the 2015 awards are not eligible, and individuals who have won a total of three times are no longer eligible.

4. Eligible Publications: The contest year is July 16, 2015 through July 15, 2016. Submitted publications (“Entries”) must have been originally published, broadcast, or posted online during the contest year. The awards are open to journalists doing work for independent news organizations around the globe. Print articles must be readily accessible to the public by subscription or newsstand sales. The following are not eligible for the AAAS awards: items exclusively concerning health or medical treatment (see the online FAQ for further discussion); items published originally in AAAS publications or produced by AAAS; and items authored by employees of AAAS or The Kavli Foundation.

5. Translation required: If the submitted work was published or broadcast in a language other than English, you must provide an English translation. See the online FAQ for further discussion.

6. How to Enter: Entrants must complete all forms required to submit Entries. A story or series of stories may be entered in one category only. At their discretion, judges and AAAS staff may move entries between categories. Entry limit: Entrants may submit up to THREE entries in all (across one or more categories).

   a. Print Entries: Large Newspaper, Small Newspaper, or Magazine. Each entry can be any of the following: i. A single article. ii. Up to three articles from a thematic series, each clearly designated as part of a series (At least two of the parts must have been published during the contest year. For series with more than three parts, enter only three for judging). iii. A group of three unrelated articles (see online FAQ for more discussion). Submit a link to the online version of the story or upload a file containing the story. Acceptable upload formats are PDF, Microsoft Word, or text (up to 10MB in size). If the online version of the story has changes in content compared to the story in print or does not clearly show...
b. Broadcast Entries – Audio (Radio or Podcast): Entries may consist of either a single story; an entry of three unrelated stories; or a thematic series (submit no more than three parts of the series for judging). Submit a link to an MP3 file of the broadcast. The MP3 file must be accessible throughout the judging period — August 1, 2016 to October 15, 2016 — either through an active URL or an archived link. Additionally, please upload a text transcript of the radio broadcast or podcast, or submit a link where judges can read the transcript online.

c. Broadcast Entries -- Television: There are two Television awards categories: i. Spot News/Feature Reporting: A single segment or series not to exceed 20 minutes. ii. In-Depth Reporting: Programs or segments of more than 20 minutes. An eligible entry for each television award may consist of a single story; a thematic series (submit no more than three parts for judging); or three unrelated stories. Submit a link to a video of the broadcast. The video file must be accessible throughout the judging period — August 1, 2016 to October 15, 2016 — either through an active URL or an archived link. Additionally, please upload a text version of the broadcast transcript or submit a link where judges can read the transcript online.

d. Online Entries: Entries may consist of either a single story; no more than three parts of a thematic series; or a group of three unrelated stories. Entries can come from a variety of digital sources: newspaper, radio, television and online-only sites. You may enter a story in the print category or online category but not both. Online entries can have multiple links but they must be germane to the entry. Submit a link to the entry material. The online pages should be freely accessible throughout the judging period — August 1, 2016 to October 15, 2016 — either through an active URL or an archived link.

e. Children’s Science News: This prize is for work distributed via any medium — print, broadcast or online. The prize recognizes excellence in reporting news on science for children, including young teens up to age 14. Entries will be accepted across all categories: large newspapers, small newspapers, magazines, television, radio, and online. Please follow the relevant print, broadcast or online submission procedures and rules described above. As with the other awards, entries may consist of an individual item, a series (with up to three segments submitted for judging), or a group of three unrelated items.

7. Entry Deadline: As noted above, all entries must be received during the Entry Period to be eligible. AAAS is not responsible for late, lost, or misdirected entries that are not received in a timely manner, or are lost due to computer or electronic malfunction or other error, or due to inaccessibility of the Internet or portions thereof.

8. Automated Entries Prohibited: No mechanically reproduced, incomplete, forged, software generated or automated multiple entries will be accepted.

9. Representations: By submitting any Entry to the Contest, entrants hereby represent and warrant that they (a) have the necessary rights to do so, and (b) are the author, creator, or producer (or co-author,
co-creator, or co-producer, if so identified) of the Entry. Entrants further grant to AAAS and its affiliates, subsidiaries, licensees and assignees, permission to reprint in a booklet of winning entries and online at aaas.org/sjawards.

10. Privacy: Information provided to enter the Contest will not be sold to third parties but may be shared as may be necessary for the purposes of conducting and judging the Contest and awarding prizes. AAAS, its affiliates, and companies supplying prizes (or parts thereof) in connection with this Contest may from time to time contact entrants via email concerning the Contest, and each entrant consents to receiving such communications via email.

11. Winner Selection: Independent judging committees select the winning entries based on scientific accuracy, initiative, originality, clarity of interpretation, and value in fostering a better public understanding of science and its impact.

12. Prize Details: Two awards will be given in each of the Categories, a Gold award worth $5,000 and a Silver award worth $3,500. One winner for each award also will receive reasonable travel and hotel expenses to attend the awards ceremony in February 2017 in Boston, Mass., and claim the award. Entrants agree that, if they win, they will attend the ceremony unless AAAS agrees in its discretion to waive this requirement, typically only in exigent circumstances or circumstances beyond a Winner’s control. In cases of multiple authors or producers, only one person’s travel expenses will be covered. The approximate retail value of the trip is $1,500 for U.S.-based winners and $2,500 for international winners. The value may vary based upon the point of departure and fluctuations in airfare and hotel accommodations.

13. Prizes are not transferable and not assignable. Winners shall be solely responsible for all taxes and fees or costs associated with any prize, including but not limited to any federal or state or other income tax, ground transportation (except as expressly stated above), meals (except as expressly stated above), gratuities, personal expenses and any other expenses not expressly specified herein. International winners of the award shall solely be responsible for obtaining any passports or other travel documents that may be required.

14. Limitations of Liability: AAAS assumes no liability, and shall not be liable, for typographical or other errors in the offer or administration of the Contest including, without limitation, errors in the printing or display of the offer and official rules, selection, notification and announcement of the Category Winners, or distribution of the prizes. AAAS is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by internet users or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Contest and assumes no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to any systems associated with the Contest. Winners expressly agree that AAAS shall have no liability whatsoever concerning or in any way related to their travel.

15. Release: Acceptance of a prize constitutes the prize winner’s permission for AAAS to use prize winner’s name and likeness for advertising and/or promotional purposes worldwide and in all forms of media in perpetuity without further compensation or authorization. Participants agree that AAAS and its
affiliates, and their officers, employees, agents and representatives (collectively, the “Sponsoring Entities”), shall not be responsible for any losses, damages or injuries of any kind resulting from participation in the Contest or from Participants’ acceptance, receipt, possession and/or use or misuse of any prize. Participants also agree that the Sponsoring Entities have not made and shall not in any manner be liable for any warranty, guarantee, or representation, whether express or implied, with respect to any prize, including without limitation, the prize’s quality or fitness for a particular purpose. AAAS reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any individual who is found to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Contest or the Site, to be acting in violation of these Contest Rules, or who otherwise takes actions that do or are intended to disrupt or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest. AAAS also reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any entry containing any obscene, offensive or otherwise inappropriate comments or other matter.

16. Governing Law: All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules shall be governed and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York without regard to the choice of law provisions thereof.

17. Name of Winner: For the name of winners, refer to aaas.org/sjawards or send, within six months from the end of the Entry Period, a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: SJA Contest Administrator, AAAS Office of Public Programs, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington DC 20005. Washington and Vermont residents may omit return postage.