



## Contest Rules

Above the Fold is a contest for middle school students. Groups will develop the front page of a newspaper with articles featuring top stories from their communities, cartoons, editorials, and photos during the week of November 5-13, 2012. When combined, **Above the Fold 2012** entries will encapsulate exciting and newsworthy events from “one week in Vermont.”

### Eligibility & Guidelines

- Entrants must be in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade or any combination there of (including home school and library groups) and must be a legal resident of the United States.
- Groups may be made up of three or more middle school students.
- A teacher’s class may have multiple entries, but each group of 3 or more students must be clearly designated to distinguish from other groups.
- Only one entry per group will be accepted; all subsequent entries will be disqualified.
- Each submission must include the contest entry form.
- Submissions are online only and may be made through [vpt.org](http://vpt.org).

### Format & Illustrations

- All news stories must be factual, entertaining, engaging, accurate, considered “top news,” and be the original work of the entrants.
- Graphics may include photograph, comics, and statistical graphs and must be eye catching.
- There must be a mix of different reporting types (hard news, soft news, feature, editorial, statistical, etc.)

### Judging & Awards

- Entries will be judged on newsworthiness, originality, creative expression, storytelling and integration of text and illustrations. All decisions of judges are final and not subject to appeal or review.
- Winners will be announced during the week of January 7, 2013.

### Rights Associated with Contest

- Your entry to the contest constitutes your agreement to allow your entered materials and your name, school, city and state to be published online, in print, on-air and in local newspapers without any fee or other form of compensation.
- Permission of parents/guardians is needed for students to be publicly recognized and must be obtained by educator in order to enter the contest.

**Deadline for receipt of entries is:  
Friday, November 30, 2012**