

Middle East and North Africa Specialty Group of the AAG Student Awards Competitions Annual Conference in New York City

2012 Paper Competition Guidelines:

The Middle East and North Africa Specialty Group of the Associations of American Geographers (AAG) invites submissions for its Student Paper Competition. These competitions are open to any student who presents a paper about the physical or human geography of the Middle East or North Africa at the AAG Annual Conference meeting in New York City, February 24–28, 2012. Awards in the amount of \$300 will be presented for the winning paper in each of the three categories: Ph.D., Master's, and Undergraduate. The committee reserves the right to not award a prize if a paper of excellent, prize-winning quality was not submitted. The winners will be announced at the Middle East Specialty Group New York meeting of the AAG. Entries will be judged by the awards committee members of the Middle East and North Africa Specialty Group. Please see the guidelines below:

1. The papers must be received by January 12, 2012 and the winners will be announced at the Middle East Specialty Group at the annual AAG meeting in New York.
2. **LEVEL OF COMPETITION.** Awards will be given at three levels assuming that submissions are of acceptably high quality: Undergraduate, Masters and Ph.D. The student must be a current member of the Middle East Specialty Group. There will be a maximum of three awards of \$300 each, one per category.
3. **PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS.** Applicants for the Undergraduate or Graduate level awards must present their papers at the Annual AAG Meeting. A copy of the approved abstract from the conference must be provided.
4. **THEME.** The paper must focus on a physical or human geography of the Middle East and North Africa theme that is clearly related to the discipline of **Geography**. The paper must describe work **completed** by the student and in the case of multiple student authors, only the principal author is eligible for an award.
5. **FORMAT.** The text of the paper is limited to twelve double-spaced (not including figures and tables), typed pages. Do not use a font size smaller than 12 point and there should be no margin less than one inch on the page. All information must be properly referenced, with references listed alphabetically as "References Cited" at the end of the paper. An Abstract is required. The abstract must not exceed 250 words and should be placed at the beginning of the paper, immediately following the title and author's name and just before the main text. The abstract may be single-spaced.
6. **COVER LETTER.** A cover letter from the student must accompany the submitted paper. The letter must clearly state that the paper is being submitted for the Student Paper Competition of the Middle East Specialty Group. The cover letter must include the author's full name, address, day and evening phone numbers, e-mail address, college or university where the student is enrolled, the department of the "major" and whether the paper is being submitted at the Undergraduate, Masters, or Ph.D. level.
7. **LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT.** A letter of endorsement must accompany the approved abstract, submitted paper, and cover letter. A faculty member who is a current, paid-up AAG member, who is advising the students, has read the paper and supports its submission for competition, must write this letter.
8. **SUBMISSION PROCESS.** One complete electronic copy of the paper, cover letter, accepted AAG abstract, and endorsement letter must be submitted in Pdf or MS Word format. Applications should be submitted via email (the quality of the text and figures must be maintained). Clear black and white copies of any color figures are acceptable. **QUESTIONS.** For questions regarding the Student Paper Competition please contact Dr. William Rowe, Awards Committee Chair, Louisiana State University, rowe@lsu.edu and his phone number is (225) 578-6077.

2012 Student Travel Awards Competition Guidelines:

Listed below are the guidelines for 2012. Applicants must follow these submission guidelines.

1. The application must be received by January 12, 2012 and the winners will be announced at the Middle East Specialty Group at the annual AAG meeting in New York City.
2. **LEVEL OF COMPETITION.** 3 awards will be given at \$200 per student for their participation at the meeting.
3. **COVERED EXPENSES.** Awards are intended to help cover the student travel costs for attending AAG meeting in New York, February 24-28, 2012.
4. **ELIGIBILITY.** Applicants must be a current member of the Middle East Specialty Group. Students must attend AAG meeting and present their papers (including illustrated papers) at the Annual AAG Meeting to be eligible for this award. The student who won other Middle East Specialty Group Paper Awards is also eligible for this grant.
5. **FORMAT.** A copy of the approved abstract to the AAG must be provided and it should clearly show the name of the student. The presentation must focus on a physical or human geography of the Middle East and North Africa theme that is clearly related to the discipline of **Geography**.
6. **COVER LETTER.** A cover letter from the student must accompany the submitted application. The letter must clearly state that the application is being submitted for the Student Travel Grant Competition of the Middle East Specialty Group. The cover letter must include the author's full name, address, day and evening phone numbers, e-mail address, college or university where the student is enrolled, the department of the "major".
7. **LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT.** One endorsement letter must accompany the submitted application. The letter must clearly state that the individual submitting the application is indeed a student, and must confirm that the applicant will attend the coming Annual AAG meeting.
8. **SUBMISSION PROCESS.** One complete electronic copy of the cover letter, AAG accepted abstract, and endorsement letter must be submitted in Pdf or MS Word format. **QUESTIONS.** For questions regarding the Student Paper Competition please contact Dr. William Rowe, Awards Committee Chair, Louisiana State University, rowe@lsu.edu and his phone number is (225) 578-6077.