

The Daily Star & Standard Chartered
JOURNALISM WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR

“CELEBRATING LIFE 2009”
A Film, Photography & Lyrics Contest

After the resounding success of 2008, The Daily Star & Standard Chartered's Celebrating Life: A Film, Photography and Lyrics Contest is all set to take off again. Back by popular demand, Celebrating Life 2009 is going to be bigger and better than ever. What is more, after the overwhelming response we received last year, we are going to make sure that an annual Celebrating Life festival is a regular fixture in the cultural landscape of the nation.

For those who are not yet familiar, “Celebrating Life” is a composite competition, inviting films, photographs and lyrics entries that showcase various aspects of life in Bangladesh. Organized jointly by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered, this initiative is our attempt to provide participants with a platform for creative expression, on a scale unprecedented in the local media scene.

This year we shall be asking the participants to direct their creative energy towards showcasing women from all walks of lives in Bangladesh. For the Film and Photography contests, send in entries “*Celebrating Womanhood*” in Bangladesh. Contestants are allowed complete freedom to explore any subject matter of their choice within this fairly broad theme. However, we strongly encourage participants not to limit themselves to urban settings, but to deal with rural Bangladesh as well. For the lyrics contest, we shall be asking for entries focusing on theme “Maa”.

About the Film Contest

The length of the films should be between 20 - 45 minutes. The submissions must be in DVD format for preview purposes. Winners will be asked to provide master copies of their awarded films in DVCAM master format. Submissions must be original and unpublished work of the filmmakers. No submission can be returned to the participant.

A jury board consisting of experts in the field will judge the submissions, and the best submissions will be awarded in the following categories: Best Documentary, Best Short Fiction, Best Debut Documentary and Best Debut Short Fiction.

The winning films will be broadcasted on Channel I and shall be screened in a touring festival program in twelve districts across Bangladesh. Eminent film directors have shown interest in working closely with the top two winners of this contest for upcoming projects. **Cash awards of Tk. 100,000 will be given to each of the two Best films, and Tk. 50,000 to each of the two Best Debut Films.** The winners will also receive certificates and crests.

The Daily Star-Standard Chartered and the maker of the films will have rights over usage of the winning films for public screening, television screening, charity purposes and for any other promotional purpose either individually or as a joint event.

About the Photography Contest

In photography contest participants are allowed to submit a maximum of 3 entries per person. A jury board composed of eminent personalities/experts in the field will judge the submissions, amongst which three winners will be selected who will receive certificates, crests and cash prizes. **The winner will receive a cash prize of Tk. 40,000, the 1st runner's up entry will receive Tk. 30,000 and the 2nd runner's up entry will receive Tk. 20,000.** Nine additional entries will receive honorable mention awards and certificates.

Only digital pictures will be accepted in CD format, the minimum acceptable resolution is 1500 pixels. Once the preliminary selection is finalized, the participants shall print out the chosen photographs and re-submit. The organizers have the right to disqualify any entry without any prior notification due to non-adherence to technical guidelines, or unacceptable nature of the content of the images. No submission can be returned to the participant.

Selected photographs will be featured in a district level festival all around Bangladesh. The top three winners of the photography competition will have an opportunity to work with The Daily Star as apprentices.

All selected photographs will become the property of The Daily Star and Standard Chartered and the organizers will gain rights over any form of usage. The winnings photographs will also be featured on calendars; credit lines will be provided on any form of usage.

About the Lyrics Contest

The lyrics contest shall be motivating young lyricists and poets to write about 'Mother'. Entries can be in both English and Bengali, and participants can submit a maximum of three entries per person.

A jury board composed of eminent personalities/experts in the field will judge the submissions, amongst which ten winners will be selected in two categories – five for "English Lyrics", and five for "Bengali Lyrics", who will receive certificates, crests and cash prizes. **The winning entries in either category will receive Tk. 15,000 each; the 1st runner's up entries in either category will receive Tk. 10,000 and the 2nd runner's up entries in either category will receive Tk. 7,000. The rest of the ten winners, 4th and 5th, in either category will receive Tk. 3,000 each.** Lyrics should be submitted in the form of computer printed hard copies. No submission can be returned to the participant.

Renowned music directors and artists will compose songs based on the winning lyrics, and young and veteran singers will give voice to the songs. These songs will be featured on CDs. The prize-winning songs will also be featured in a district level festival all around Bangladesh.

All winning lyrics will become the property of The Daily Star and Standard Chartered and the organizers will gain rights over any form of usage.

About the Celebrating Life Festival

Celebrating Life is being organized by Star Insight, a fortnightly magazine of The Daily Star. The three contests will feature 24 winners altogether; 4 in the film category, 10 in the photography category and 10 for lyrics. Prize money amounting to four lac sixty-six thousand taka will be awarded to the winners.

“Celebrating Life” will be launched at a mega Award Giving Ceremony in Dhaka by the end of August 2009, where the winners of all three contests will be featured. The Dhaka based festival will commence immediately afterwards, along with screening on Channel I and CD launching. Afterwards, the same week long festivals will be organized in 12 districts of Bangladesh throughout the year 2009, ensuring that Celebrating Life is not Dhaka-centric, and that the results of the competition reach out to the whole of Bangladesh.

Rules and Regulations:

1. **How to submit:** All entries must reach the Daily Star office by 30th June 2009. No entries will be accepted after the last date of submission.
2. Write your name, address, email address and cell phone number clearly in block letters on the envelope and on the back of each submission. In case of CDs/DVDs please ensure that all contact information is written on both the CD/DVD Cover and the CD/DVD itself.
3. Please retain a copy with yourself, because no entries will be returned to the participant.
4. The results will be published in The Daily Star after the Awards Giving Ceremony. Keep reading the leading English daily!
5. Personal calls are strictly discouraged. Any persuasion, verbal or written, will result in immediate disqualification. Read the website thoroughly for any queries. If you have a query, please send it to us through our website, we will reply as soon as possible.
6. The same person can take part in more than one or in all three contests.
7. There is no age limit. Any Bangladeshi citizen or any foreigner residing in Bangladesh is eligible.
8. No submission can be returned to the participant.
9. The last date of submission is 30th June 2009.

Address your entries/submissions to:

Rafi Hossain

Festival Coordinator

The Daily Star

19, Karwanbazar,

Dhaka –1215, Bangladesh.

Email: celebratinglife.contest@gmail.com

Website: www.celebratinglifebd.com