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- Each entry must have been published or broadcast within the United States during the contest year—1 October 1980 through 30 September 1981. (In case of a series, more than half of the items comprising it must have been published or broadcast during the contest year.) The date on the issue in which an article appeared will be considered as the date of publication. All entries must be postmarked on or before midnight, 15 October 1981.
- Persons other than the author may submit entries in accordance with these rules. Entries will not be returned.
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- The awards will be presented at the dinner meeting of the National Association of Science Writers during the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in January 1982. Travel and hotel expenses of the awards winners will be paid. Entrants agree that, if they win, they will be present to receive their awards, unless prevented by circumstances beyond their control.
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