

Engage magazine writing guidelines

January 2011

Feature articles

- Write in third person perspective.
- Each article needs 2-3 different people interviewed and quoted in the article (author cannot quote him or herself).
- Ideally, besides any leadership interviews, at least one interviewee is a person whose life is directly impacted (i.e. If the story is about a special degree program, at least one person interviewed would be a student who currently attends or graduated from the program.)
- When possible, open the article with a narrative “hook” that introduces the reader first to a person and his/her story. See the following examples:
<http://tinyurl.com/6cu37gm>, <http://tinyurl.com/33srfb4>,
<http://tinyurl.com/3yms4f2>.
- Help the reader to connect how the Holy Spirit works through a ministry or program to transform lives or communities, to plant churches or deepen relationships with believers.
- Include dates, numbers and facts that provide helpful context.
- Length can be anywhere from 500 to 1,000 words.
- Photos are desired when possible; upload into article on the *Engage* website, or e-mail as separate attachments.

Personal reflections

- Write in first person perspective.
- Include narrative of a moment or a period of time detailing events, conversations, or experiences that contributed to personal transformation in the author or in person or group being written about.
- For further, more specific guidelines, contact *Engage* editor with your reflection essay idea at engagemagazine@nazarene.org.
- 500-800 words is ideal.
- Please include photos by uploading them into the article, or e-mailing as separate attachments.

Theological pieces

- Write in first or third person perspective.
- Interviews and quotes are not necessary.
- If citing source material, please credit the author and the source (website, book, article) within the paragraph in which the material is being cited. No footnotes or end notes.
- Please include a three-sentence or fewer personal bio and a head shot of the author.
- We love narrative examples and anecdotes within the article, if possible. We love the narrative opening.
- Word count should not exceed 1,000. Ideal length is 800.
- The piece should fit within the framework of our Wesleyan-Arminian theology.

We do not publish

- Articles that are a commercial for your business, nonprofit organization or personal project.
- Articles in which the author quotes him or herself.
- Articles that contain only one person as a source for information, unless we receive approval from field or regional leadership.
- Articles that refer to any religion or denomination, organization, culture, government or people group in a derogatory, disrespectful or competitive manner.
- We reserve the right to decline publication of any story for any reason.