

NNAF News Fellows Program Seeks Candidates For 2015

Building News Literacy Skills in Current Affairs Reporting

Eight Fellows from eight different states participated in the National Newspaper Association Foundation's News Fellows Program last March during NNA's We Believe in Newspapers Summit in Washington, DC. The purpose of the program, now entering its third year, is to develop news literacy skills in young journalists by looking at issues from a community newspaper perspective.

Fellows tackled one national issue with implications in America's hometowns. They study with veteran community newspaper journalists to distinguish facts from spin, research an issue, interview key players, and produce a news or interpretive story for publication in hometown media.

Fellows must:

- Be committed to producing a story on the issue that may be accompanied by insights on news-literacy or on the student's own news-gathering experience.
- Be a college newspaper editor or journalism or communications major with some coursework in basic reporting.
- Be able to travel to Washington, DC, from March 18 - 20, 2015.
- Bring a laptop or tablet capable of WiFi connection for research.
- Be able to learn to travel on public transportation in and around the DC area.
- Be interested in hot-button national issues, be open minded and able to research many sides of the issue.
- Be able to identify a medium for final publication of their work.
- Be willing to give NNAF simultaneous but not exclusive publication rights to the work for publication in National Newspaper Association media.
- Bring own spending money for recreational activities and extra meals

Sponsors must:

- Arrange and pay for two hotel nights, double occupancy in NNAF's sponsoring hotel, the Crystal Gateway Marriott.
- Arrange and pay for airfare.
- Provide a \$400 donation to the NNAF to underwrite the tuition. Tuition covers dinner at the National Press Club on Thursday evening plus 5 additional meals and local transportation required for program activities.
- Acquire a signed letter from parents granting permission for the Fellow to travel to DC and in and around the city without supervision if the student is under 21.

For more information, contact Carol Pierce at carol@nna.org or at 703-237-9802.

2014 NNAF News Fellows pose with CBS newsman Bob Schieffer at the National Press Club. From left, Joseph M. Adgie, Valdosta State University; Aaron Lee, Roosevelt University; Polo Ocampo, University of Wisconsin; Robert Korth, University of Nebraska; Bob Schieffer; Averi Haugesag, University of North Dakota; Jonece L. Donigan, University of Mississippi; Catherine Sweeney, Oklahoma State University; Jena Sauber, Kansas State University.

