



SPJ KANSAS PRO CHAPTER
JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR STUDENTS IN KANSAS

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in the scholarships offered by the Kansas Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. The chapter expects to offer scholarships totaling up to \$14,000 this year to deserving college sophomores, juniors and seniors planning careers in journalism. Before you complete the attached application, please read the following information carefully to ensure you are eligible.

General eligibility requirements: *By Fall 2023 you must be a sophomore, junior or senior (by hours) enrolled in at least 6 credit hours at a Kansas accredited college or university. You must have and maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA and be seriously considering a career in journalism.*

Specific scholarships have their own eligibility requirements:

THE MICHAEL BATES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,500

Eligibility: Must have 3.0 GPA or better. Must have demonstrated involvement in student and/or professional news media. **This scholarship** honors the memory of former Associated Press journalist Mike Bates, who was president of the Kansas Pro Chapter at the time of his death from lymphoma in 1996.

BILL WARREN SCHOLARSHIP #1 Award: \$2,000

Eligibility: Students must have a passion for First Amendment rights. Preference is given to students with an interest in investigative journalism.

BILL WARREN SCHOLARSHIP #2 Award: \$2,000

Eligibility: Preference is given to students with an interest in investigative journalism. **The Bill Warren Scholarships** are from donations by Wichita businessman Bill Warren to promote the importance of journalism in general and investigative journalism in particular.

THE LES ANDERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,000

Eligibility: Must be a Wichita State student. **This scholarship** honors the memory of Les Anderson, a Wichita State University journalism professor, newspaper publisher, journalist and longtime friend of Gridiron. Anderson and his wife, Nancy, founded the Ark Valley News in Valley Center in 1975. Anderson worked for five newspapers. He joined the WSU faculty in 1977 and was a longtime member of the SPJ Kansas board of directors and scholarship committee. He was a fierce advocate for his students and respected as a great journalist and a great man. Anderson died of a heart attack in November 2011.

THE SPJ MINORITY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,000

Eligibility: Must be member of a racial or ethnic minority group.

CHRIS SHULL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,000 **Eligibility:**

Student should be pursuing a degree in journalism, have demonstrated an interest about the coverage of arts and music, have and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester. **Chris Shull — or “Shull”** as he was known by most — covered arts and music at the Wichita Eagle from 1998 to 2008. His enormous laugh and big voice in the Eagle newsroom was often a subject of conversation, but his unique coverage of the arts was unsurpassed. The Chris Shull Memorial Scholarship is to help support students who are passionate about the coverage of arts and music and are looking to find their own voice to do so.

RANDY BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,500

Eligibility: Must be a student seriously considering a career in journalism. **This scholarship** honors Randy Brown, a long-time Wichita journalist and advocate for transparency in government. He also taught at Wichita State University and led the Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government. He died in 2014.

BILL ROY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$2,000

Eligibility: This is a scholarship for students who have demonstrated interest in business journalism. **This scholarship** honors Bill Roy, who was editor-in-chief at the Wichita Business Journal for 20 years, a role he continued to fulfill after being diagnosed with ALS in 2019. He was inducted into the Kansas Press Association Hall of Fame in 2022. In addition to his work at the Business Journal, he was an advocate for those battling the same illness by raising awareness and participating in research efforts. He died in 2023.

BUD NORMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award: \$1,000

Eligibility: This is an open scholarship for students pursuing a career in journalism. **This scholarship** honors Bud Norman, a reporter and columnist at The Wichita Eagle for 25 years. He was also an author and was part of the Gridiron show for 35 years, for which he wrote and performed his own skits that came full of political wit and commentary. Norman was a long-time Wichita resident, known beyond journalism for his convertible cars, Panama hats and socializing with fellow patrons at Kirby's Beer Store and Harry's. He died in 2020.

Additional general-eligibility scholarships may be granted, in amounts to be determined by the scholarship committee based on funds available and the pool of applicants.



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION, 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

These scholarships are funded by the chapter's annual Gridiron benefit, a musical revue satirizing the news and newsmakers.

Please note: The scholarship committee does not discriminate on the basis of sex, creed, race or religious beliefs. The committee reserves the right to withhold all or part of any award should recipients conduct themselves in a manner that chapter officers deem professionally irresponsible. The selection of a recipient does not imply any endorsement by the committee or chapter. The committee has the right to forgo awarding any or all scholarships if no applicants are deemed to qualify. Again, thank you for your interest. Good luck!

Questions? Please don't hesitate to ask them. You may contact Forrest Gossett, scholarship chair, at forrest.s.gossett@spiritaaero.com.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully the information sheet provided before you complete this application. All blanks must be filled in. Please print neatly. Alternatively, you may visit <https://www.wichitagridiron.com/scholarships> to download the Adobe Acrobat version of this form, which can be filled out on screen for electronic submission or printed out for submission by mail.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Home address: _____

School address (if different): _____

Mobile telephone: _____ Other telephone: _____

E-mail address during academic year: _____

E-mail address during holidays and summer (if different): _____

EDUCATION

Current college or university: _____ Major/minor: _____

University in Fall 2023 (if different): _____ Major/minor: _____

Classification in Fall 2023: sophomore junior senior Expected graduation date: _____

Cumulative GPA in all subjects: _____ GPA in journalism courses: _____

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

On a separate typed sheet or sheets, please list:

- College journalism courses you have taken and your grades.
- Campus-related journalism jobs. Describe your duties and list the dates.
- Professional journalism jobs. Describe your duties and list the dates.
- Journalism internships. Describe your duties and list the dates.
- Honors and awards you have received for academic or journalistic work, including merit-based scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS YOU ARE APPLYING FOR

Please see the accompanying information for detailed eligibility requirements. Mark only scholarships for which you are eligible. You'll automatically be considered for general-eligibility scholarships.

The Mike Bates Memorial Scholarship

The Bill Warren Scholarships

The Les Anderson Memorial Scholarship

Bill Roy Scholarship

The Chris Shull Memorial Scholarship

Randy Brown Memorial Scholarship

Bud Norman Scholarship

The SPJ Minority Student Scholarship Award

REFERENCES

Please give the names, occupations and phone numbers of three people who can attest to your academic abilities and to your talent in journalism. Letters of reference may be enclosed with your application, but they are not required.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

- Include a cover letter telling us about yourself, how you came to be interested in journalism, your professional goals and, if appropriate, your financial need for this scholarship (need is only one criterion considered).
- Enclose a copy of your professional resume.
- Enclose clear copies of four to six examples of your best work: clips of stories; photographs with captions; headlines and page designs; CDs or DVDs of broadcasts, or links to video; printouts of Web pages. You may wish to include a note with each example that explains the challenges you overcame in the piece and the reaction to it. Please do not send originals; they cannot be returned.
- Include a high-resolution photo of yourself.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all the information in this application is true and correct, that all samples submitted are my original work, and that I meet the minimum eligibility requirements outlined on the information page.

X
Signature

Date

SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

Return this application and all required supporting materials to Forrest Gossett at forrest.s.gossett@spiritaaero.com.

This application must be received NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023.

Note: Winners will also receive student memberships in SPJ and will be encouraged to participate in organizational events.