



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 at least \$11,000 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 2020 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, Bates 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 at age 62.

**THE KANSAS SUNSHINE COALITION SCHOLARSHIP Award:** \$1,000  
**Eligibility:** Must be a committed print or broadcast journalism major, or have a demonstrated special interest in open government issues.

**THE MARTIN UMANSKY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Award:** \$1,000  
**Eligibility:** Must plan a career in TV, radio or alternative media. **This scholarship** honors the memory of Martin Umansky, the pioneering general manager of KAKE-TV in Wichita in the 1950s and '60s. He was a former Kansas Pro Chapter president and a coordinator of Wichita's first Gridiron show in 1968. He died in 2000 at the age of 83.

**THE SPJ MINORITY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP Award:** \$1,000  
**Eligibility:** Must be member of a racial or ethnic minority group.

**THE BIG FISH IN SMALL POND SCHOLARSHIP Award:** \$1,000  
**Eligibility:** Must not be a current KU, KSU or WSU student, although you may transfer there for Fall 2020.

**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:** \$2,000  
**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.

**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, 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR**

These scholarships are funded by the chapter’s annual Gridiron benefit, a musical revue satirizing the news and newsmakers. Scholarship winners are the chapter’s honored guests at the show, which this year takes place in Wichita on MARCH 26-27. Winners’ presence at the show is requested, but not required. **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 Daniel McCoy, scholarship chair, at [dhmccoy@bizjournals.com](mailto:dhmccoy@bizjournals.com) or 316-266-6195.

**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 2020 (if different): Student \_\_\_\_\_ Major/minor: \_\_\_\_\_

classification in Fall 2020:    o 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**

**SPJ Minority Student Scholarship**

**The Bill Warren Scholarships**

**SPJ Big Fish in a Small Pond Scholarship**

**The Les Anderson Memorial Scholarship**

**The Chris Shull Memorial Scholarship**

**The Martin Umansky Memorial Scholarship**

**Randy Brown Memorial Scholarship**

**Kansas Sunshine Coalition Scholarship**

## 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.

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## 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.

## 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

- Enclose this application and all the required supporting materials in an envelope and mail to:

**SPJ Scholarship Committee**  
**c/o Daniel McCoy**  
**The Wichita Business Journal**  
**121 N. Mead**  
**Ste. 100**  
**Wichita, KS 67202**

Applications and supporting material can also be submitted via email to [dhmccoy@bizjournals.com](mailto:dhmccoy@bizjournals.com). Please also submit a photo of yourself along with the electronic submission. Note: Scholarship winners will have their photos appear in the program for Gridiron and online.

- *This application must be received NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020.*