Welcome to Soda City!

The SIPA Convention takes place at the Columbia Marriott on the corner of Main and Hampton streets in the City Center of Columbia, South Carolina. Columbia – AKA Soda City – has a vibrant Main Street that keeps growing. Everything you need during the weekend can be found within a few blocks of the hotel. All convention sessions are housed in the hotel, and pre-convention workshops and on-site competitions are less than one mile away at the University of South Carolina’s School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Looking for a place to eat near the convention hotel? You don’t have to walk far from the hotel to find what you want. Main Street restaurants offer diverse fare for breakfast and lunch. Find what you are craving by using this map.

On Saturday, Main Street Market is open outside the hotel from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and offers you the opportunity to choose from multiple local food vendors. It’s a great place to find quick, good food for a great price. Find out more at http://sodacitysc.com/.

Convention Info

Discipline
Students must be in rooms and quiet from midnight to 7 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Advisers must make sure students observe these hours. SIPA staff and hotel security personnel will be patrolling the hotel each evening.

Possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or any weapons will not be tolerated.

All students must wear their SIPA nametags throughout the convention while in the hotel or the J-School. Students should conduct themselves with discretion in the hotel and in the city. Their behavior is a reflection on SIPA, scholastic journalism and individual high schools.

Advisers should know where their students are at all times. Each student should be accompanied by at least one other convention delegate when outside the hotel. Students should not be outside at night without an adviser or chaperone.

Rudeness to other hotel guests or hotel employees; misuse of or playing on the elevators; excessive noise in hotel rooms, halls or other public areas; misuse or destruction of hotel property, and all behavior that is dangerous or inappropriate is not acceptable.

Hotel Bills
Each adviser must settle his or her school’s bill at checkout. Room service and long distance phone calls add to the bill. The hotel cancels access to pay-per-view movies in all rooms occupied by students. If students wish to watch a movie, they must go to the front desk and use a credit card.

Student Elections
Only one person from each school may campaign for an office.

The elected officers are president, vice president and two members-at-large.

Only presidential candidates will give speeches during the opening session Friday evening. Speeches should be no longer than four minutes.

Voting will take place during the dance Saturday from 10 - 11 p.m. outside the Capital Ballrooms. Hand your ballot to the student officer or SIPA student assistant on duty. Each SIPA member publication staff in attendance at the convention may have ONE vote.

Journalism School

USC’s School of Journalism and Mass Communications is located at 800 Sumter St. in the historic Horseshoe district of campus. The J-School's new home of new media offers state-of-the art facilities, which will house on-site competitions and pre-convention workshops during the SIPA weekend.

Walking Map

Why not walk to the J-School instead of driving? The J-School (800 Sumter St.) is less than a mile from the Marriott Hotel. On your route, you pass the South Carolina Capitol and the historic Horseshoe. Find your way on foot to the J-School by accessing this map.

Food Map

http://goo.gl/a7FTTi

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Walking Map

https://goo.gl/V2YD5s

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YOU KNOW IF THERE’S A YEARBOOK PARTY, WE’LL BE THERE.

YOU SHOULD BE THERE TOO.
**Friday**

Jake Palenske, *RAYTHEON*

Jake Palenske has many titles: Convergence and graphics guru, Technology addict, and Cupcake-seeking sweets fiend. While those titles describe him best, his business card says he’s the the Marketing and Communications Manager for Raytheon Intelligence, Information and Services in Garland, Texas.

In his spare time, Palenske is a frequent instructor and speaker at scholastic journalism events across the nation and in Europe. He’s a recipient of a CSPA Gold Key.

**Saturday**

Dana Coester & Joel Beeson, *100 DAYS IN APPALACHIA*

On Saturday morning, Dana Coester and Joel Beeson will speak about their experience covering the diverse cultural climate of West Virginia and launching their own start-up, *100 Days of Appalachia.*

*100 Days in Appalachia* is an online publication that focuses on the Appalachia and West Virginia regions and draws parallels between the problems facing these smaller communities and the nation as a whole.

"*100 Days in Appalachia* was created to take a closer look at just what makes this region such a flashpoint for so many of the social, economic and political fractures in American communities," they write on their website. "If we are indeed ‘Trump Nation,’ Appalachia’s story is now America’s story."

West Virginia was known as “ground zero” for the Trump campaign, creating a unique opportunity to take a deeper look at how the current political climate got its start. Topics such as America’s opioid crisis, the Affordable Care Act, promises to West Virginian coal miners and a variety of other issues concerning the rise of division among the general public have been covered.

Despite the growing political disconnect in the United States, *100 Days in Appalachia* seeks to tell the stories of every person in the region, no matter their own views and beliefs. For them, it’s just about listening.

"We’ll listen, and ask the world to listen with us, as diverse communities in Appalachia respond to cabinet picks, policies, and promises made,” they state. “And we’ll do some soul-searching while we’re at it on the role media plays at building, or eroding, trust in journalism."

*100 Days in Appalachia* tells the stories of America through the eyes, ears, mind and heart of the Appalachia.

"If you think you already know what we are going to say, we hope to surprise you."

– John Romanski, SIPA assistant director

**Alphabet soup explained**

ASNE: American Society of News Editors
ASPA: Alabama Scholastic Press Association
CJE: Certified Journalism Educator
CSPA: Columbia Scholastic Press Association
DJNF: Dow Jones News Fund
GSPA: Georgia Scholastic Press Association
JEA: Journalism Education Association
MJE: Master Journalism Educator
MSPA: Mississippi Scholastic Press Association
NBCT: National Board Certified Teacher
NCSMA: North Carolina Scholastic Media Association
NSPA: National Scholastic Press Association
SCSPA: South Carolina Scholastic Press Association
SNO: School Newspapers Online
TAJE: Texas Association of Journalism Educators
VAJTA: Virginia Association of Journalism Teachers and Advisers

**Advertisers**

Carolina Journalism Institute
Herff Jones, Inc.
J&S Printing, Inc.
Mercer University Center for Collaborative Journalism
University of Georgia
University of South Carolina

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Mercer University Center for Collaborative Journalism
University of South Carolina
Walsworth Publishing

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eCampus Solutions
Saturday Adviser Lunch
Balfour Publishing Co.
Adviser Bags
Jostens Printing & Publishing
SIPA Shirts
Herff Jones
Flyers
Quill & Scroll
University of South Carolina
School of Journalism and Mass Communications

- From words to photos to videos, tell your story at the University of South Carolina.
- Work in our state-of-the-art newsroom and broadcast studio.
- Join our award-winning advertising and public relations competition teams.
- Check us out in our new building in the heart of the USC campus.

http://sc.edu/cic
Weekend Highlights
Stay updated all weekend by following SIPAatUSC on Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat

Friday - March 2, 2018
1 - 5 p.m. Pre-convention workshops – USC J-School
3 - 7 p.m. Registration – Carolina Pre-function Area
5 - 7:30 p.m. Exhibit area open
7:30 - 8:45 p.m. Jake Palenske keynote – Carolina Ballroom
Student president candidate speeches
9 - 10:30 p.m. Exhibit area open
9 - 9:45 p.m. Class session #1
Quiz Bowl preliminary round – Palmetto Ballroom
10 - 11:30 p.m. Student mixer with interactive stations – Capital Hall and Ballroom
Midnight Quiet time begins

Saturday - March 3, 2018
8 - 8:45 a.m. Adviser breakfast & Advisory Council election – sponsored by eCampus Solutions – Palmetto Ballroom
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Exhibit area and exchange tables open – Carolina Pre-function Area
9 - 9:45 a.m. Class session #2
Endowment Committee meeting – Alumni Room
10 - 10:45 a.m. Class session #3
11 - 11:45 a.m. Dana Coester and Joel Beeson keynote panel – Carolina Ballroom
Noon - 1:15 p.m. Adviser awards luncheon – sponsored by Balfour – Palmetto Ballroom
1:30 - 2:15 p.m. Class session #4
Advisory Council meeting – Capital I
2:30 - 3:15 p.m. Class session #5
3:30 - 4:15 p.m. Class session #6
4:45 - 5:45 p.m. Quiz Bowl rounds 1-4 – Capital I
7 - 8:30 p.m. Awards and scholarships banquet – Marriott Carolina Ballroom
8:30 - 11:30 p.m. SIPA Endowment auction – advisers – Palmetto Ballroom
SIPA's Got Talent! – students – Capital Ballroom
Saturday Silent Auction
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Palmetto Ballroom
Saturday On-site Competitions
1:30 - 4:30 p.m. All TOP competitions
Review writing
2 - 4:30 p.m. BC individual anchor
3 - 3:45 p.m. Grammar challenge
4:45 - 5:45 p.m. Quiz Bowl rounds 1-4
see page 12

Sunday - March 4, 2018
8 - 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting – Palmetto Ballroom
9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Class session #7
10:30 - 11 a.m. Quiz Bowl finals – Carolina Ballroom
11 a.m. - Noon Closing awards ceremony – Carolina Ballroom
Pre-convention workshops

Friday, March 2
1 - 5 p.m. @ USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications

AR, VR, NEWS BOTS AND WHAT’S NEXT FOR JOURNALISM
with Dana Coester and Joel Beeson [West Virginia]
No, this isn’t an episode of “Black Mirror”; it’s just the future of journalism. In this hands-on workshop, students will get a glimpse of the future tools of journalism, learning about innovative projects using Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, Sensors, and more.

EYES FOR DESIGN
with Jake Palenske, Raytheon Corp. [Texas]
Take your InDesign and design skills to the next level by learning tricks and advanced layout techniques from a pro. Some Illustrator components will be taught as well.

MORE THAN JUST WRITING
with Coni Grebel, Lee County HS [Georgia]
Join us for this intense, collaborative game that takes you deeper into the realms of both news writing and alternative coverage. This workshop is appropriate for students from any publication genre, with any level of experience. Participants will need to bring a camera – cell phone cameras will do – and equipment to download their pictures, good walking shoes and plenty of adrenaline! Students will be grouped in teams and presented with an assignment that involves more than one method of reporting. WARNING: This course is not meant for the uninspired or unmotivated. Participants run the risk of meeting new online tools or of using familiar tools in a new way. Addiction is totally possible.

TELLING STORIES WITH PHOTOGRAPHS
with Kelli Boling, University of South Carolina
Learn how to tell a story through different styles of photography. Participants will take photos in and around the School of Journalism and Mass Communications in the historic Horseshoe district. After taking photos, you will sit down with our instructor for a one-on-one critique. Bring a camera! Certain photos selected from this workshop will be featured on the SIPA website and social media platforms.

TOUR DE FORCE
Start your journey with a tour of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, the home of new media in the heart of campus. Then, take an official tour around the UofSC campus. Finally, sit down with an admissions counselor for a small group session.

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LEADER
with David Ragsdale, Delia Adamson, Lucia Bermudez, Aneesa Conine-Nakano, Suncana Pavlic and Jordan Rhym, Clarke Central HS [Georgia]
Leader is a loaded word in the newsroom. Is it based on tenure, skill set, personality traits, or some combination of each? The purpose of this pre-convention workshop is to enable you to fulfill your job description on your staff. We’ll discuss leadership styles, help you troubleshoot your problem areas, work on role play scenarios commonly seen in the newsroom and seek a collaborative approach to empower you as coach/mentor/editor on staff. Leaders of all levels and programs are welcome!

Students will need an electronic device (tablet, laptop, etc.) for this workshop, as well as a copy of their staff manual.

YOU MADE AN APP FOR THAT
with Kelli Rembert, R2I2 [South Carolina]
Go beyond content creation; begin learning how to develop an app for your audience. In this workshop, you will learn how to build an app and will leave with one that you and others can use on an iPhone or iPad.

KEY FOR SESSIONS

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<tr>
<th>ADV</th>
<th>ALL</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>DM</th>
<th>MG</th>
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<td>Advisers only</td>
<td>All media</td>
<td>Broadcast</td>
<td>Digital media</td>
<td>Literary magazine</td>
<td>Newsprint</td>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Pre-registered</td>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Yearbook</td>
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7:30 – 8:45 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY (ALL)
"You sound, like, stupid?" – Jake Palenske, Raytheon
"Welcome to SIPA!" – SIPA student officers
Student president candidate speeches
Ballrooms A-H

9 - 9:45 p.m.

BROADCAST TOP COMPETITION Q&A (REG)
Students who will be in the Broadcast TOP competition should attend this session to be prepared. We will go over the rules and the prompt. Students may ask questions.
Stella McCombs and Justin Fabiano
Ballroom A-C

THE DIGITAL STORY: FIND IT, TELL IT, SHARE IT (ALL)
Effective 21st century journalists must use technology to find, tell and distribute stories. This session will teach you how to produce up-to-the-minute digital content, how to use converged information sources like Twitter and Facebook to generate coverage ideas and how to format/distribute what you produce so your audience can easily access it.
Jake Palenske
Ballroom D-E

THE IMPORTANCE OF THEME (MG)
Given the task resurrecting the literary magazine and not knowing what a theme was, this team of editors and adviser explains how selecting and executing a strong theme helped them win All-State and Most Improved awards from SCSPA and All-Southern from SIPA. Come learn all the steps they went through, what they learned, and how they ‘edited’ those steps to find and execute the right theme for this year’s magazine.
Cynthia Lawson, Layne Barron and Adelle Lacy
Ballroom F-H

10 p.m.

STUDENT MIXER (ALL)
Get to know other convention attendees and visit one of our interactive stations.
Capital Hall
Saturday sessions

Saturday, March 3

8 a.m.

ADVISER BREAKFAST AND ADVISORY COUNCIL ELECTION (ADV)
Sponsored by eCampus Solutions
All registered advisers are invited to eat and network with other advisers in SIPA. Advisory Council members for 2018-2020 will be elected. (Advisory Council meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m.)
Palmetto Ballroom

9 - 9:45 a.m.

HOW DO I PAY FOR MY LIT MAG? (MG)
Struggling with fundraising ideas for your literary magazine? Looking for some tips on how to reach your financial goals? Then this is the session for you.
Mark Murray
Ballroom A-C

HOW TO PODCAST IN 45 MINUTES (DM)
In a hands-on rapid-fire exercise, you will learn all the basics you need to know to start a podcast for little or no money.
Adam Ragusea
Ballroom D

A LITTLE TO THE LEFT: ON CAMERA INTERVIEWING (BC)
Ever get back to edit and the shot's too dark, someone's in the background or you just didn't get good quotes? In this session, Dr. Kevin Hull will teach you how to ask the right questions, how to frame the shot and position your subject in order to get the most out of your interview.
Kevin Hull
Ballroom E

REPORTING THE NEWS AND KEEPING YOUR JOB: STUDENT MEDIA ADVISERS AND THE LAW (ADV)
What are your rights as an adviser? Dr. Eric Robinson will give you a primer on student media law and tell you how to protect yourself, your students and the First Amendment.
Eric Robinson
Ballroom F-G

SNO THERAPY (DM)
Got big dreams but bigger problems with your online publication from SNO? A representative is here to help. Drop in for a little hands-on counseling, learn how to sign up with SNO, or just be there to talk shop with a room full of SNO users.
Alex McNamee
Ballroom H

ON-SITE CRITIQUES
Capital I

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR YEARBOOK (YB)
In this session, you'll get a little bit of everything. From coverage to interviews, from headlines to captions, get tips to improve your yearbook next year.
Jim Channell, Blaze Hayes and Carolyn Henderson
Capital II

LIVE ACTION: COVER SPORTS WITHOUT A REPLAY (DM/NP)
Covering the game means no do-overs. Whether you're interviewing players and coaches during a press conference or live tweeting the action, you have to be ready to write the story as it happens. Learn how to manage social media and a cohesive, compelling story in real time.
Collyn Taylor
Capital III

GET IT WRITE: CAPTIONS AND CUTLINES (ALL)
Readers look at photos first, then the caption or cutline, and they want to know more than what they can see for themselves. Photo journalism involves getting the info and writing more than merely the obvious.
Beth Swann
Capital IV
Saturday, March 3

10 - 10:45 a.m.

BUILDING A LEGACY (MG)
Does your staff feel like a dysfunctional family? Come learn ideas for activities and events that will bring the staff together.
Charlotte Wood
Ballroom A-C

21ST CENTURY REPORTING: INTERVIEWS, BRAND PROMOTION AND FILMMAKING ALL WITH YOUR iPHONE (BC)
Want to learn how to get the most out of a tool you already have? During this session, students will have the opportunity to explore all the techniques that make producing a quality video, recording interviews, promoting their brand and more possible on an iPhone or iOS device.
David Ragsdale, Kelly Fulford and Mackenzie Caudill
Ballroom D

EMPATHY: THE KEY TO GREAT STORYTELLING (NP/YB)
So you have been interviewing people, but your quotes are still not very inspirational – what is going wrong? This session will show you how reporting is more than just research and questions, but it is about finding a basic understanding of people that eludes so many.
Chris Waugaman
Ballroom E

MEDIA LAW BASICS FOR STUDENT JOURNALISTS (ALL)
Student journalists should always be armed with the facts of media law. Find out what protections you have under the law as a student journalist and how to best use those rights.
Eric Robinson
Ballroom F-G

WRITING RIGHT (ADV)
It can be difficult for students to move from traditional English classes into journalism. Our SIPA Endowment speaker shares tips on how to help transition students from English-style writing to journalism.
Beth Fitts – SIPA Endowment speaker
Ballroom H

ON-SITE CRITIQUES
Capital I

COPY CAPERS (YB)
Yearbook copy does not have to be snooze-inducing, and someone other than your granny might actually like to read it if you come and listen to the suggestions presented by this humorous and very experienced adviser. (And employ them when you return to school.)
Mary Kay Downes
Capital II

TIRED OF TEMPLATES (DM)
Just because your website is built with a template doesn’t mean it has to look like one. A SNO representative is here to teach you website design strategies and show you all the advanced design tools built into your site.
Alex McNamee
Capital III

STATE OF PLAY: THE CURRENT STATE OF JOURNALISM AND ITS FUTURE (ALL)
Journalists do not just check one box on a resume; they need to master three skills – writing, photo and video – and do it all. Just ask SC-ETV’s public affairs reporter Gavin Jackson. Find out how his journalism journey has led him to cover the Statehouse for web, host and produce for a weekly TV show, provide reporting for S.C. Public Radio and launch a podcast. And learn how you can do it too!
Gavin Jackson
Capital IV

11 - 11:45 a.m.

FROM ZERO TO A MILLION: LESSONS FROM A START-UP (ALL)
Dana Coester and Joel Beeson, 100 Days in Appalachia
Ballrooms A-H
Saturday On-site Competitions

Students registered in on-site competitions – broadcast anchor, broadcast on-the-spot feature, review writing and magazine, newspaper, photography and yearbook TOP – are on a different schedule and should report to different locations.

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

STAY AT MARRIOTT:
REVIEW WRITING
All contestants should report to Capital I to attend a review writing session. Then, they will go off site to review a specified event. Bring a laptop, tablet or paper to write on.
Susan Newell
Capital I

GO TO J-SCHOOL:
BROADCAST ANCHOR
All contestants should report promptly, dressed to go on camera.
Kennedy Greenhouse and J-School Lab 113

TOP ASSIGNMENTS:
All TOP teams should report promptly to the assigned labs with necessary materials. No one will be admitted after the contest begins.

- Magazine – J-School Lab 222
- Broadcast – J-School Lab 219
- Newspaper – J-School Lab 318
- Photography – J-School Lab 221
- Yearbook – J-School Lab 217
- Overflow – J-School Lab 115

Take a walk!

Rather than take the shuttle to competitions, why not walk? The J-School (800 Sumter St.) is less than a mile from the Marriott Hotel. On your route, you pass the South Carolina Capitol and historic Horseshoe. Find your way on foot to the J-School by accessing this map.

Walking Map
https://goo.gl/V2YD5s

Shuttle bus schedule

Shuttles will run between the Marriott Hotel and 800 Sumter St. (the School of Journalism and Mass Communications). Pick up and drop-off points will be on the Hampton Street side of the Marriott Hotel – where the valet/front desk is located – and the Sumter Street entrance of the J-School. To board the bus students will need to be on the SIPA assistant’s competition list. Shuttles will run at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departure</th>
<th>From hotel to J-School</th>
<th>From J-School to hotel</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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Saturday, March 3

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

**ADVISERS AWARDS LUNCHEON – Sponsored by Balfour.**
Palmetto Ballroom
All registered advisers and special guests are invited to this luncheon. We will present the Elizabeth B. Dickey Distinguished Service Awards and Karen H. Flowers Outstanding Service Award.

1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

**DOING A SENIOR ISSUE PROPERLY (NP)**
Developing a senior-issue newspaper sums up the year and is a culminating project that becomes a treasured memento. This session will present ideas and examples to help develop this type of issue. See how Stafford HS produced a 40-page broadsheet edition with five sections last year with color on four of the eight pages in each section.
_Sue Gill_
Ballroom A-C

**PHOTOSHOP WORKFLOW (P)**
Learn basic steps using Photoshop or Lightroom to ensure photographs in your publication look their best.
_Mark Murray_
Ballroom D

**HUMANS OF YOUR SCHOOL (NP/YB)**
Every person has a story. This session will help you find those stories and tell them both visually and verbally. More important, learn the tips on how to interview strangers.
_CONI GREBEL_
Ballroom E

**THE PERFECT MARRIAGE: POETRY & NONFICTION (MG)**
Start with the facts and see where they lead. Add a little imagination, make some intuitive or personal connections, and Voila! You have an interesting, provocative piece that is much richer than merely personal reflection or expression.
_Beth Swann_
Ballroom F-H

**REVIEW WRITING CONTEST (REG)**
Capital I

**STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING: DEFENDING TOUGH CALLS (ALL)**
This session will introduce students to strategic decision-making using a “real world” simulation. This session would be ideal for editors and advisers who struggle with making tough calls and defending those calls to staff members.
_Ernest Wiggins_
Capital II

**KNOW YOUR ANALYTICS, KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE (DM)**
Google Analytics is a great tool for understanding your publication's online readers, though it looks overwhelming to the untrained eye. Come learn how to use it to your advantage by first understanding the what’s what.
_Alex McNamee_
Capital III

**PITCHING ANGLES AND THINKING VISUALLY (BC/ALL)**
For those who are seeking to balance their creativity with their professionalism, this session provides tools and tactics that will smooth out those rough edges. The session has three main points: how to angle your ideas to make your stories unique, how to organize and plan those stories, and how to assign appropriate imagery to your content. Your creativity is what makes you unique as a journalist. The way you manage your creativity is what makes a story. Applicable to all student media!
_Anna Bailey_
Capital IV

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Saturday sessions
2:30 – 3:15 p.m.

THAT IS SUCH A PRETTY PICTURE (P)
Selecting photos for a publication goes beyond finding pretty pictures. Look for photos that tell stories and connect to your readers.
Mark Murray
Ballroom D

OLD STORIES, NEW MEDIA: CONVERGENCE JOURNALISM BASICS (ALL)
What is convergence? How and why is it happening? And how do I prepare my publication, my staff members and my program for the demands of the digital age? This session will introduce you to converged journalism and how to implement it in your classroom.
Jake Palenske
Ballroom E

THE POP AND POW OF AD DESIGN (ALL)
Learn tips from our SIPA Endowment speaker to make your ads dazzle. Your staff can win awards for ad design, and your advertisers will be repeat customers because their ads sell. It's easy if you know the tricks.
Beth Fitts – SIPA Endowment speaker
Ballroom F-H

3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

DO IT (ONLINE) LIKE THE PROS DO (DM)
There's more than just one trick to presenting stories online because there's more than one size and shape to a story. Your homepage already looks great. Come learn how to build professional story pages that match.
Alex McNamee
Capital III

THE LOST ART OF INTERVIEWING (ALL)
Today's technology makes it easier than ever to communicate with people. But avoiding the temptation to text and email people for quotes can make your stories come to life! Discuss best practices for talking to sources in person as well as what to do with those quotes once you've got them.
Steve Hanf
Capital IV

SO YOU WANT TO ADVISE A BROADCAST PROGRAM? (ADV)
You're either really excited or overwhelmed. Either way, in this session, we're here to pitch ideas, talk grading and time management, discuss how to give your students control and share equipment, hardware and software hacks.
A.J. Chambers and Karin McKemey
Ballroom A-C

WRITING TIPS FOR VIDEO AND ONLINE (BC/DM)
Great storytelling begins with great writing whether you are producing a newspaper, yearbook, or web story. But people often forget about this process when they start to create a video. Discover how strong script writing can elevate the quality of your broadcast and web video.
Chris Waugaman
Ballroom D
Saturday, March 3

“JOURNALISM STUDENTS ARE DESTINED TO BE POOR” AND OTHER STUPID LIES, DEBUNKED (ALL)
We've all heard them from parents, counselors, family members and maybe complete strangers. "Journalism? Hope you like being poor." "The newspaper industry is dying." "You’ll never have a stable job." "Journalism skills aren't useful in the real world." Come learn from a journalism-nerd-turned-corporate-marketing-pro why these sayings are "total lies," and what the employment future holds for professional communicators.
Jake Palenske
Ballroom E

ISO IN LOVE WITH MY PHOTOS (P)
An intermediate course through the advanced settings of a camera and what qualifies a photo as award winning. We will evaluate both professional and high school journalists’ award-winning pictures in this session to help make you – and your audience – fall in love with your shots.
Sophie Winnick
Ballroom F-H

REVIEW WRITING CONTEST (REG)
Capital I

CONTROL FREAK’S GUIDE TO DESIGN (NP/YB)
Today’s students lead fast-paced lives and suffer from information overload. Flashy websites, addictive social media and action-packed video games compete for their attention. Take a serious look at your publication design. You may have the content, but do your designs compel readers to read? Learn how to use design techniques to increase readership.
Brenda Gorsuch
Capital II

LIT MAG A TO Z (MG)
As the name suggests, we’ll cover everything relevant to the production of a holistic literary magazine: who makes the tough choices, who makes the easy ones, how does it all come together and more. We’ll explore ideas and concepts to make production smoother, and we’ll talk about how to find (or solicit) cool, creative ideas to give your magazine a kickstart.
David Ragsdale, Beatrice Acheson, Kiki Griffin and Violet Merritt
Capital III

THE GAME STORY VS. THE FEATURE (NP/DM)
Sports are a gold mine for good stories. This session will tell you how to get the most out of a sports story, whether it’s a basic game story or a detailed feature.
Steve Hanf
Capital IV

4:30 – 5:15 p.m.

QUIZ BOWL ROUNDS 1-4 (REG)
Capital I

7 - 8:30 p.m.

CONVENTION AWARDS BANQUET
Carolina Ballroom
Enjoy dinner with registered attendees and special guests before the presentation of Dr. Kay Phillips Administrator of the Year Award, Elizabeth B. Dickey SIPA Scholarship, SIPA Endowment Regional Scholarship, Jacobs-Daughtry Continuing Education Scholarship, Shoquist Freedom of the Press Award and publication evaluations ratings.

8:30 – 11:30 p.m.

SIPA’S GOT TALENT
Capital Ballroom
Member publications should cast their ballots for 2018-19 SIPA student officers by 10:30. Ballots can be handed to a current SIPA student officer or a SIPA staff member at the talent show or in the Diplomat room.

SIPA ENDOWMENT AUCTION
Palmetto Ballroom
Advisers, special guests and speakers are invited to the live portion of the auction. Silent auction results will be announced throughout the live auction. All proceeds support SIPA’s Endowment Fund.
Sunday sessions

Sunday, March 4

8 – 9:15 a.m.
SIPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Palmetto Ballroom

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.
HOW TO BUILD A $100K NEWS WEBSITE [FOR LESS THAN $300.] (ALL)
In the digital era, a publication (even you, lit mags and yearbooks!) without a webpage is like a person without a phone number. This session will make getting easy, even with low technical abilities and a tiny budget. You'll learn how to get web hosting, register a domain, and setup e-mail accounts for your staff. You'll also see how to set up individual site accounts, choose a template and upload video, audio, stories and photos. As a finale, I'll show you how to create a custom iOS and Android mobile news app for less than $50.
Jake Palenske
Ballrooms D-E

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE (ALL)
Every person has a story, and it is your job to find it and tell it. Features are about more than just the quarterback or prom queen. This session will help you – whether you're in broadcast, print, online or yearbook – dig beneath the surface and find the real story behind the person.
Susan Newell
Ballroom F-H

PODCASTS: LIKE AUDIO BOOKS, BUT COOLER (DM)
Want to be a part of the fastest-growing media trend right now? At least 67 million Americans listen to podcasts each month, and the numbers are quickly rising. Podcasts are great to use for your publication or to shine light on your own talents. In this session, we will discuss the history, rise in popularity, various genres, affordability in production and accessible podcast-related resources. Share tips on audio recording software, free sound effects and music sites and learn how to make your podcast stand apart from others!
Charlotte Wood
Capital I

10:30 – 11 a.m.
QUIZ BOWL FINALS (ALL)
All convention attendees are invited to watch the Quiz Bowl semi-final and Quiz Bowl Championship. Proper behavior and silence during the rounds should be maintained.
Carolina Ballroom

11 a.m.
AWARDS CEREMONY (ALL)
Carolina Ballroom
“IN MANY WAYS, THE HEART OF JOURNALISM INNOVATION IS EMERGING FROM MERCER UNIVERSITY.”

— THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER, “LOCAL NEWS IN A DIGITAL AGE”

The Center for Collaborative Journalism (CCJ) is a unique partnership between Mercer University, The Telegraph and Georgia Public Broadcasting, with generous support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and The Peyton Anderson Foundation.

Our groundbreaking collaboration has students, faculty and veteran journalists working together in a joint newsroom. Learning in a “teaching hospital” model, our students engage the community using the latest digital tools and leave with a portfolio of published work that gives them an edge in a rapidly changing, but never more important, field.

Learn more about the CCJ and events like our Media Changemaker Scholarship Competition (Jan. 20, 2018) and Digital Media Summer Camp (June 16-23, 2018) at ccj.mercer.edu.
**Convention speakers**

**Beatrice Acheson** is in her second year on the Iliad Literary-Art Magazine staff at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia). She serves as the visuals director. This is her first SIPA convention and her first presentation.

**Delia Adamson** is senior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and currently serves as the managing editor of the ODYSSEY Media Group and a writing coach and facilitator of the Introduction to Journalism class. This her fourth year on staff and she has also served as a news staff writer, public relations manager, writing coach and news editor.

**Ann Bailey**, former "Wave TV" student, is a freshman at USC and an intern at ETV. She is studying broadcast journalism with a minor in Spanish. This is her third session as a leader at SIPA and her fifth session with SIPA and SCSPA. She is excited to be returning to SIPA as a leader and holds the convention close to her heart.

**Michaela Baker** is a visual communications junior at the University of South Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. A former scholastic journalist and SIPA attendee, she now works as an assistant to the webmaster for the College of Information and Communications, an resident mentor at women's quad and with SIPA in her free time. Oh, and, she runs her own beauty and design blog – michaelajbaker.com.

**Lucia Bermudez** is a senior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and serves as the co-editor-in-chief of the ODYSSEY Media Group. Bermudez has been on staff for four years, gaining a plethora of experience in all forms of journalistic writing, as well as design. She served as the variety editor of the ODYSSEY news magazine as a sophomore, and this is her second and final year serving as an Editor-in-Chief of the publication. Bermudez is an activist and a proud Latina, and works to report real news at CCHS and uncover the stories of those in her community.

**Abbey Byrd** is co-editor in chief of the yearbook at Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina). Abbey is arguably Wando's most experienced yearbook student as she got her start under Rene Horton's award winning program at Pleasant Hill MS (Lexington, South Carolina). Abbey maintains a reputation as one of the top leaders at Wando, and she has been a key part in yearbook's design transformation. She was a member of Teacher Cadets and aspires to enter the teaching profession after college.

**Phillip Caston** is the yearbook adviser at Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina) and SIPA chair. He has 12 years of experience advising yearbooks and newspapers at Wando and J.L. Mann HS (Greenville, South Carolina). Caston has a master's degree in journalism from the University of Maryland, and he previously worked as a cops reporter for the Charleston Post and Courier before beginning a teaching career. Caston received his undergraduate degree from Clemson University, where he served as editor-in-chief of the university's student newspaper. He has produced two S.C. Scholastic Journalists of the Year, and in 2012, Caston was named SCSPA Adviser of the Year.

**Mackenzie Caudill** is a sophomore at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia). For her second year on staff, she is working as a news staffer for the ODYSSEY Media Group. While her focus remains on writing, she is working on broadening her horizons to become a more well-rounded and capable journalist. Specifically, she is working on her skills with broadcast and creating video content along with her written pieces.

**A.J. Chambers** is the broadcast and online adviser at Richland Northeast HS (Columbia, South Carolina). He is a 2016 JEA Special Recognition broadcast adviser and his students have won NSPA Pacemaker, the SIPA Scroggins, SCSPA Best in State, and SCSPA Journalist of the Year awards.

**Jim Channell** has worked with the schools in South Carolina for 29 years. The past 17 years he has been blessed to work with the family-owned Walsworth Yearbook Company. He has a passion for helping students and seeing them strive to do their best!

**Aneesa Conine-Nakano** is a senior and the co-editor-in-chief of the ODYSSEY Media Group. Previously, she has served as the editor-in-chief, managing editor and web master of ODYSSEY Online. Conine-Nakano is passionate about multimedia journalism and strives to make the ODYSSEY's online presence interactive, informative and engaging.

**Mary Kay Downes**, MJE, has advised Odyssey yearbook at Chantilly HS (Virginia) for 27 years. She holds the JEA Medal of Merit, NSPA Pioneer, CSP gold Key and SIPA Elizabeth Dickey Award. A JEA National Yearbook Adviser of the Year (2007) and a Virginia Hall of Fame inductee (2014) Downes serves on the SIPA and VAIJA boards. Her license plate reads YBQUEEN and she is a YERD for Life.

**Justin Fabiano** teaches media technology at his alma mater, Stratford HS (Goose Creek, South Carolina). A former high school journalist and SIPA president, Fabiano graduated from USC with a degree in broadcast journalism. He has worked in sports television since graduation and previously worked for ESPN in Connecticut and the SEC Network in North Carolina.

**Brooke Fletcher** is a co-editor-in-chief of the yearbook at Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina). She placed fourth for news writing in NSPA’s 2016 Story of the Year awards and was the only yearbook student to place in the category.

**Kelly Fulford** is a junior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and the broadcast editor for the ODYSSEY Media Group. Growing broadcast journalism within the ODYSSEY Media Group is her top priority this year. Her hopes for growth include the entire staff to produce quality, interactive video components, the broadcast staff to grow as videography experts and the ODYSSEY Media Group to grow as a convergence staff.

**Valeria Garcia-Pozo** is a junior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and the viewpoints editor for the ODYSSEY Media Group. This is her third year on staff and she has previously served as the online news editor, a viewpoints writer and a news writer. She hopes to help her staffers develop their editorial voices and to provide members of the community with a platform to express their opinions.

**Elena Gilbertson Hall** is a sophomore at Clarke Central High School (Athens, Georgia) where she is a news content producer for the ODYSSEY Media Group. Gilbertson Hall has been on the staff of the ODYSSEY for two years during which she has been on the news team, covering important issues in the school and community while also exploring multimedia content and other forms of journalistic writing.

**Sue Gill**, CJE, has been teaching English, journalism and photojournalism for over 50 years. She advises the Smoke Signal newspaper and the Indian Legend yearbook at Stafford HS (Falmouth, Virginia). She was the English department chair for 24 years.

**Kiki Griffin** is a junior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and currently serves as the editor-in-chief of the Iliad Literary-Art Magazine. This is her third SIPA convention and her first presentation.

**Brenda W. Gorsuch** is a former “Wave TV” student, is a freshman at USC and an intern at ETV. She is studying broadcast journalism with a minor in Spanish. This is her third session as a leader at SIPA and her fifth session with SIPA and SCSPA. She is excited to be returning to SIPA as a leader and holds the convention close to her heart.

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Convention speakers

Coni Grebel, CJE, advises Trojan yearbook and Panoptic Online newspaper at Lee County HS (Leesburg, Georgia). Grebel serves on the GSPA and SIPA executive committees. She received the Elizabeth B. Dickey Distinguished Service Award in 2016.

Steve Hanf majored in journalism at the University of Illinois and worked as a sportswriter for 13 years before beginning his teaching career at R.J. Reynolds HS (Winston-Salem, North Carolina). Currently he advises the Shorelines yearbook and Nighthawk News magazine and teaches Intro to Publications at First Flight HS (Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina).

Carolyn Henderson has more than 25 years of yearbook experience as both an award-winning yearbook adviser and a yearbook representative for Walsworth Yearbooks. Her passion for all things yearbook keeps students and advisers engaged and pushing to meet their full potential.

Kevin Hull is an assistant professor in USC's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. His research focus is how sports broadcasters are using social media to engage viewers, sports organizations, and athletes. He spent nearly ten years at WECT-TV in Wilmington, North Carolina, with the majority of that time acting as a Sports Reporter/Anchor. From there, Kevin worked as a digital media teacher at Topsail High School in Hampstead, North Carolina, teaching his students skills involving graphics, video, and web design. He earned his Ph.D. in Mass Communications from the University of Florida, a MAT in Teaching Technology from North Carolina A&T State University, and a BS in Journalism from Boston University's College of Communication.

Gavin Jackson graduated in the middle of the Great Recession, but managed to always have a journalism job--a rarity. During that time, Jackson was basically a career intern for three years in Ohio and Louisiana before landing at the Morning News in Florence, South Carolina. There, he wrote for print, shot photos and turned video for WBTW and transitioned into covering business then politics. Political reporting got him to The Post and Courier Statehouse bureau for a year before SC-ETV picked him up. Now he covers the Statehouse for web, hosts and produces for a weekly TV show “Palmetto Scene,” provides reporting for S.C. Public Radio and just launched a podcast, The Post and Courier Current.

Stella McCombs has been the broadcast adviser at Stratford HS [Goose Creek, South Carolina] for 15 years. She is the 2016 Teacher of the Year for Stratford. She serves as SIPA vice chair and was awarded the Elizabeth B. Dickey Distinguished Service Award in 2009. “Real TV” has won numerous awards including SCSPA’s Best in Broadcast, SIPA’s Scroggins Award, and STN’s Best Daily Taped Show.

Karin McKemey graduated with a degree in broadcast journalism from Old Dominion University and spent years both in front of and behind the camera at several local news networks including WAVY-TV10 (Norfolk, Virginia), Armed Forces Radio & Television (Naples, Italy) and WSOCTV (Charlotte, North Carolina) before finding her current position as TV production teacher and “The Buzz TV” broadcast adviser at Fort Mill HS (South Carolina). The show has won numerous honors, including 11 nominations and five Pillars of Excellence awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, was named Student Television Networks Best High School Broadcast in the Southeastern Region, along with several national awards in anchoring, sports reporting and weather.

Alex McNamee is an education and training specialist at School Newspapers Online (SNO). He’s a former sports reporter from Eastern Illinois University, so he knows both SNO and how to create great journalism too.

Amy Medlock-Greene, MJE, is the literary magazine, newspaper and broadcast adviser at Dutch Fork HS (Irmo, South Carolina). She serves as SIPA chair and was named the SCSPA Reid H. Montgomery Adviser of the Year in 2008. Her newspaper and broadcast staffs have earned numerous distinctions, including SCSPAs Best in State, SIPA’s Scroggins Award, and GSPAs Gold Medal.

Violet Merritt is a senior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and has been involved with scholastic press since first attending the Carolina Journalism Institute in 2010. She has served as an editor for the ODYSSEY Media Group and is currently the editor-in-chief of the iliad Literary-Art Magazine. This is her first presentation.

Mark Murray is the director of Technical Services and Systems Integration in Arlington ISD (Arlington, Texas). He serves as the executive director of the Association of Texas Photography Instructors. He has received the Elizabeth B. Dickey Distinguished Service Award from SIPA.

Susan Newell, MJE and NBCT, has advised award-winning scholastic newspapers and yearbooks. She is the Alabama state director and has served as a SIPA Executive Committee member and ASPA president. She is an Alabama Adviser of the Year and a DJNF Special Recognition Adviser and Distinguished Adviser.

Suncana Pavlic is a senior and the senior visuals coordinator of the ODYSSEY Media Group at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia). Previously, Pavlic served as the managing editor and web master of ODYSSEY Online.

David Ragsdale, CJE, has advised student publications since 2001 at Clarke Central HS [Athens, Georgia], where he advises the Odyssey newsmagazine, ODYSSEY online, “DD-TV” and iliad literary-art magazine. His staffs have received top honors in critiques and competitions around the country. He was the GSPA Adviser of the Year in 2007 and was named an ASNE Reynolds Fellow in 2014.

Adam Ragusea is Journalist in Residence and Visiting Assistant Professor of Journalism at Mercer University's Center for Collaborative Journalism, which unites a commercial newspaper, a public broadcaster, and an undergraduate journalism program in a “teaching hospital” model of journalism education and practice. Ragusea is often heard reporting stories for public radio shows, including NPR's Morning Edition and All Thing Considered, NPR/WBUR's Here & Now, APM's Marketplace and PRI/WNYC's The Takeaway. He also writes reported commentaries for the public media trade publication Current, and contributes local reports to Georgia Public Broadcasting and The Telegraph newspaper of Macon, Georgia.

Kelli Rembert is an Apple App Development Instructor at R2i2. She has over eleven years teaching experience in Web Design, Coding, Animation, Multimedia, Business, Graphics and Career Exploration. Rembert has an extensive working knowledge in the career and business technology education industry. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree, gained an accredited teacher's license in North Carolina and South Carolina, obtained a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and earned a National Board Certification in teaching, after her first year of candidacy.

Jordan Rhym is a senior at Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia) and currently serves as the senior copy editor for the ODYSSEY Media Group. Rhym has had worked as a sports writer, junior copy editor and lead copy editor during her time with the ODYSSEY. Rhym works to keep the ODYSSEY Media Group content fair, accurate and balanced through her edits in hopes of making the media group's publications ones that the Athens community can continue being engaged with.
Convention speakers

Eric P. Robinson is an assistant professor at USC's School of Journalism and Mass Communications focusing on media law and ethics. Before coming to USC, he worked with various free press organizations and research centers and taught at several universities. As an attorney, he is admitted to the bar in New York and New Jersey, and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Larry Steinmetz advises the print, online and yearbook publications at Bullitt East HS (Shepherdsville, Kentucky) and serves as the JEA state director for Kentucky. In addition to advising duties, he coaches girls golf and teaches AP English Language and Composition.

Beth Swann, CJE, advises The Talon newspaper and Voices literary magazine at Nation Ford HS (Fort Mill, South Carolina). Her students' publications have earned top national awards from NCTE and Quill & Scroll Honorary Society, as well as the highest awards from SCSPA. Her work has appeared in the Chicago Tribune, Southern Poetry Review, and numerous other publications, and her poetry chapbook Port Desire was published in 2013. She serves as newspaper representative on the SCSPA Board.

Collyn Taylor is a reporter covering South Carolina athletics for GamecockCentral, where he focuses primarily on basketball and baseball. A former high school journalist and SIPA assistant, he graduated from USC with a degree in journalism. In his free time he enjoys watching movies and looking up dinosaur facts. You guys know velociraptors were more like birds than lizards?

Tammy Watkins has taught at Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina) for 27 years and advises the print and online editions of the award-winning Tribal Tribune. She has received SIPA's Elizabeth B. Dickey Award and SCSPA's Reid H. Montgomery Adviser of the Year Award.

Chris Waugaman, MJE, teaches journalism at Prince George HS (Virginia), where he also advises The Royal Media staff. His staffs have received SIPA's Scroggins Award and All-Southern rankings, NSPA Pacemakers, and CSPA Gold & Silver Crowns. He serves on the VAJTA board of directors and on the SIPA Executive Committee. He is the 2014 DJNF National Journalism Teacher of the Year and has received SIPA's Elizabeth B. Dickey Distinguished Service Award.

Ernest Wiggins is an associate professor at USC's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. His has taught classes on mass media criticism, public opinion and persuasion and mass media writing as well as the survey of mass communications course, reporting and magazine writing, media ethics and in the print senior semester. He has taught special topics courses in alternative media, popular culture and the literary tradition of black journalists. Wiggins is a double-USC grad with bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism and mass communication.

Charlotte S. Wood, CJE, teaches English and Creative Writing. She has been The Lantern literary/art magazine adviser for Albemarle HS (Charlottesville, Virginia) since 2000. Over the years, The Lantern has won highest awards at both state and national levels.

SOCIALIZE WITH US!

SIPAatUSC connects with members through various social media platforms. Each platform allows us to communicate and engage in different ways, whether through curating resources, creating digital content or directly sharing advice.

- **Facebook** – includes updates on trends, news articles, awards announcements and opportunities of interest to members.
- **Flickr** – includes collections of photos from events and conventions. Students and advisers are encouraged to submit photos so we can include them in our collections.
- **Instagram** – Each week we select an "Insta of the Week" to feature on our Social Media page. Our Instagram account features announcements and behind-the-scenes work and spotlights students and work from across the Southeast.
- **Pinterest** – Each week we select a "Pin of the Week" to feature on our Social Media page. We use Pinterest to curate resources, information and inspiration for members. Boards range from Diverse Coverage to Blogging to Equipment and more!
- **Snapchat** – allows us to connect with you instantaneously. You can apply to show off your production room to us and other SIPA members and run a SIPA Snapchat takeover for 48 hours.
- **Spotify** – allows you a backstage pass into the office atmosphere. You can connect with each other and with our SIPA family by creating playlists, and we create ones for different moods.
- **Twitter** – provides up-to-date information about deadlines, announcements and other fun digital content.
- **YouTube** – includes channels for TOP competition submissions, Snapchat takeovers and office projects.
University of Georgia
Grady College of Journalism & Mass Communication
presents:

Media & Leadership Academy

Who: Rising high school sophomores, juniors & seniors interested in careers in mass communication.

What: An intensive residential one-week program focused on experiential learning.

When: June 3-8, 2018

Tuition: $550
(limited need-based scholarships available)

What’s included:
• focused instruction in journalism, advertising, public relations & entertainment studies.
• collaborative projects.
• nightly group activities.
• a taste of college life.

Visit Grady.uga.edu/apply/high-school-discovery to apply by May 4, 2018.
Beth Fitts, this year’s SIPA Endowment speaker, began contributing to SIPA when she first learned of the convention in 1992.

Fitts advised the newspaper, literary magazine and broadcast program at Oxford High School, in Oxford, Mississippi. When she retired from advising, she became the director of the Mississippi Scholastic Press Association. During her years advising and as MSPA director, she served on SIPA’s Advisory Committee and Executive Committee.

“Beth has not only given so much to SIPA but also to scholastic and Mississippi journalism. Through her time and knowledge, she has shared so much with SIPA members,” Director of Scholastic Media Organizations Leslie Dennis said. “I can think of no one better to be this year’s SIPA Endowment speaker. She truly represents Southern charm and kindness.”

Fitts was introduced to the SIPA by Rick McNeil, a lifetime member and former executive committee member from Florida, when they met at an NSPA/JEA convention in Washington, D.C.

“He said it was a friendly, helpful organization that had quality speakers, worthwhile meetings and tremendous people,” Fitts said. “I went to SIPA the very next year, and I found it to be everything he said and more. I have been with SIPA ever since.”

“From the first SIPA convention Beth attended, she was involved in SIPA’s work whether teaching or recruiting for SIPA,” former SIPA director Karen Flowers said. “She brought the maestro method and Buck Ryan to SIPA! She was always, always an ambassador for the organization.”

Also, Flowers remembers Fitts contributed to the Endowment from decorating to fundraising and understood the importance of its mission.

“The Endowment is a backbone for SIPA. It gives a long-lasting foundation that will undergird our organization for years to come,” Fitts said.

Fitts was the 2003 Dow Jones New Fund National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year. She spoke around the country sharing messages about the importance of faith, the impact of advisers, and the student search for the truth.

“Advising is often a thankless job of giving; they give many extra hours endless hours training students and updating their skills, much extra love and attention to the personal needs of their students, cementing basic media skills into students, and being an advocate of the student press to the faculty, administration, students and community,” Fitts said. “Good advisers create good journalists. It’s as simple as that – but it takes much passion, commitment and time.”

Fitts continues her advocacy and support of journalism programs and advisers at SIPA conventions.

“There was a convention at which a first-time attendee asked for an on-site critique, which we didn’t offer at that time. She was a relatively new advisor and wanted some feedback on her newspaper, and the first person I thought of to give her that was Beth,” Dennis said. “Beth came to mind because she is able to offer sage advice and also cushion criticism in a way that is supportive and helpful without being discouraging.”

Whether it’s your first year or you’re a veteran, Fitts encourages advisers and students to continue participating in SIPA programs.

“Advisers should attend conventions and workshops like those of SIPA to learn new things and reinforce old basics that can bring fresh life into the program,” Fitts said. “It’s a growing process.”

She joins previous distinguished journalism professionals David Knight, Mark Murray, Bradley Wilson and Mary Inglis as SIPA Endowment speakers.

– Karie Grace Duncan, SIPA student assistant
Endowment Committee

- Karen Flowers, chair (South Carolina)
- A.J. Chambers (South Carolina)
- Dia Chaney (Mississippi)
- Marilyn Chapman (South Carolina)
- Erin Coggins (Alabama)
- Beth Dickey (South Carolina)
- Mary Kay Downes (Virginia)
- Sue Gill (Virginia)
- Brenda Gorsuch (North Carolina)
- Coni Grebel (Georgia)
- Melanie Huynh-Duc (North Carolina)
- Mary Inglis (Florida)
- Amy Medlock-Greene (South Carolina)
- RJ Morgan (Mississippi)
- Susan Newell (Alabama)
- Rebecca Piner (South Carolina)
- Jenny Proctor (South Carolina)
- Martha Rothwell (North Carolina)
- Lori Vincent (Georgia)

Adviser Recognitions

- Students may choose to donate money to honor their advisers. Advisers recognized have their names engraved on a plaque in the SIPA office.

Alberta Abercrombie
Valerie Banks Amster
Helen Browne
Hope Carroll
Lynne Collins
Sylvia Daughtry
Karen H. Flowers
Mary Inglis
Alice James
Marianne King
J. Grady Locklear
Amy Medlock-Greene
Shirley Moravec
Lori Oglesbee
Betsy Owen
Kay Phillips
Herb Sirota
Kim Stokes
Bruce Watterson

In Memory

Students and advisers may wish to make donations in memory of individuals. These individuals are also recognized on a plaque in the SIPA office.

Margery O. Anderson (mother of Derek & Andrew Anderson)
Joe Barron (uncle of Leslie Dennis)
Lucy Beckham (Wando HS principal and 2009 Dr. Kay Phillips Administrator of the Year)
Mary Jody Bible (mother of Donna Johnson, friend of SIPA)
Dr. Regis Louise Boyle (Executive Board member)
Billy Joe Breedlove (stepdad of Chris McDonald)
Joe & Catherine Bouknight Brown (parents of Beth Dickey)
Betty B. Cain (grandmother of Alison Shuman)
Keith Conrad (father of Marilyn Chapman)
Walter Dennis (father of Joe Dennis)
Grace Ellis Douglass (mother of Kay Phillips)
Leland Douglass (father of Kay Phillips)
Faith Dutton (member of Legend, Wando HS yearbook)
DeDe Fitts (husband of Beth Fitts)
Richard Fitz (former adviser of The Haliscope)
Sandy Floore (mother of Chris Floore)
George & Helen Flowers (father and mother-in-law of Karen Flowers)
Debbie Garris (administrative assistant to the director of USC SIMC and friend to Scholastic Journalism)
Russ Gold (father of Christie Gold)
Ruth Kissiah Hall (mother of Martha Rothwell)
Beth Hammond (former adviser of The Laureate)
Mike Herring (husband of Martha Herring Anderson)
Elizabeth B. Hudson (mother of Karen Flowers)
James Nathan Hudson (father of Karen Flowers)
Clara Mae Jacobs (mother of Sylvia Daughtry)
Lawrence E. “Larry” Jacobs (brother of Sylvia Daughtry-Brown)
Andy Kilpatrick (brother of Tamela K. Watkins)
Evelyn Glass Langston (mother of Beth Fitts)
Dorothy E. Leonard (mother of Sharon Deibel)
Mr. & Mrs. James Perry Locklear (parents of J. Grady Locklear)
Jason Lynes (Irmo HS The Stinger staffer)
Marvin McClam (father of Erin McClam)
Logan McCombs (son of Shawn & Stella McCombs)
Betty Morton (former adviser and board member)
Johnny Morton (husband of Betty Morton)
Kathleen Murphy (Freedom HS Revolution staffer)
Bonnie Neely (friend of Sylvia Daughtry-Brown)
Joseph W. Benton, Jr. (father of Valerie Kibler)
Mandy Puntney (daughter of Linda Puntney)
Renee Ragsdale (mother of David Ragsdale)
O.W. (Tom) Riegel (former SIPA director)
Edith Robertson (grandmother of Dennis)
Flip Schulke (professional photographer)
Dr. Al Scroggins (dean and SIPA director)
Ruth Sherman (grandmother of Dennis)
Chuck Stone (University of N.C. professor)
Shaunee Vazquez (friend of Beth Dickey)
Exene Walker (mother of Brenda Gorsuch)
Pert Wall (friend of Sylvia Daughtry-Brown)
Doris Whalen (mother of Rich Whalen)
Francis John Wuzzardo (father of Kevin Wuzzardo)
David S. Yoakley (father of Mary Inglis)
Madge Yoakley (mother of Mary Inglis)

In Honor

Students and advisers may wish to make donations in honor of an individual who has made a difference in their journalistic lives. These individuals are also recognized on a plaque in the SIPA office.

Andy Bosman
Lewis G. Brierley
Catherine Bouknight Brown
Sylvia Daughtry-Brown and Joe Brown
Morris Dees
Leslie Dennis
Elizabeth B. Dickey
Gary Dickey
First Flight HS Nighthawk News and Shorelines staffs
Karen H. Flowers
Melanie Huynh-Duc & Northwest Horizons staff
Irmo HS Stinger Staff, 1991
Irmo HS Stinger Staff, 1999-2000
Lugoff-Elgin HS Journalism
Pat Jackson
Debbie Jacobs
Valentina & Sergei Korol
Susan Morton Leonard
Chris McDonald
Martha Rothwell
Becky Starnes
SIPA Endowment

Our mission

The SIPA Endowment was established Sept. 14, 1994. It provides financial security for future annual convention costs, offers scholarships to students and advisers to attend SIPA conventions and Carolina Journalism Institutes, offers college scholarships to outstanding scholastic journalism students, exposes students and adviser to state-of-the-art instructors and supports publications and/or programs through a technology grant.

How to help

During each convention, the Endowment sponsors a used book sale in the hotel Atrium and an auction in the Palmetto Ballroom.

Also, on May 1, SIPA will participate in Midlands Gives, an annual day of giving to support local nonprofit organizations with the chance to earn extra prize money.

You can support the Endowment year-round by making a donation in honor or in memory of someone important to you. Consider even donating in honor of your publication staff.

Checks can be made to the SIPA Endowment and mailed to SIPA, 800 Sumter St., SMC/USC, Columbia, SC 29208.

Online donations can be made by visiting http://tinyurl.com/SIPAendowment

Lifetime Members $500

Lifetime memberships cover all publications an adviser advises and go with the adviser when he/she moves schools.

Diana Adams
Yvonne Allen
Robert Atwood
Louisa Avery
Nina Brook
Vanessa Bump
Phillip Caston
Erin Coggins
Brian Cole
Sylvia Daughtry
Lisa Dean
Karen H. Flowers
Coni Grebel
Steve Hanf
Heather Hanks
Erinn Harris
Tara Hays
Tressie Hays
Ken Henderson
Valerie Kibler
Steve Lindgren
J. Grady Locklear
Deanna Martin
Deborah Mayer
Chris McDonald
Rik McNeill
Amy Medlock-Greene
Melanie Menefee
Lance Morrison
Betty Morton

Lori Oglesbee
Betsy Owen
Meghan Percival
David Ragsdale
Shawn Risener
Martha Rothwell
Albert T. Scroggins
Michelle Sisson
Greg Spoon
Stephanie Stone
Beth Ward
Chris Waugaman
David Webb
Rae Weinstein

2018 SIPA ENDOWMENT TECHNOLOGY GRANT

2017 technology grant recipient: Center Hill HS (Mississippi)

How Much: $500 grant

To Whom: SIPA member

Deadline: May 5

For What: software or hardware

online now at bit.ly/SIPAtechgrant
Awards, scholarships & contests

SCHOLARSHIPS

J. Grady Locklear Scholarship
The J. Grady Locklear literary magazine scholarship may be awarded at the SIPA Convention to a senior who meets the following criteria:
1. The student must be accepted by USC and meet USC's scholarship guidelines.
2. The student must attend the USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications.
3. The student must be a writer or staff member of a literary magazine.
4. The student must attend the 2018 convention.
5. The student or his/her publication must be a member of SIPA.

Col. C. E. Savedge Scholarship
The Col. C. E. yearbook Savedge scholarship may be awarded at the SIPA Convention to a senior who meets the following criteria:
1. The student must be accepted by USC and meet USC's scholarship guidelines.
2. The student must attend the USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications.
3. The student must be a yearbook staffer.
4. The student or his/her publication must be a member of SIPA.
5. The student must attend the 2018 convention.

The 2017 winner was Andrea Betancourt, G. Holmes Braddock Senior HS (Miami, Florida).

Elizabeth B. Dickey SIPA Scholarship
This scholarship will be awarded by the University of South Carolina School of Journalism and Mass Communications to an outstanding SIPA student during the convention.
Applicants must meet the following criteria:
1. The student must be accepted by USC and meet USC's scholarship guidelines.
2. The student must attend the USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications.
3. The student or his/her publication must be a member of SIPA.
4. The student must attend the 2018 convention.

The 2017 winner was Joshua Conner, West Henderson HS (Hendersonville, North Carolina).

SIPA Endowment Regional Scholarship
One scholarship will be awarded by the SIPA Endowment Committee to an outstanding SIPA student who will attend a school of journalism and mass communications at an accredited college or university in the SIPA region. The student must attend the 2018 convention.

The 2017 winner was Ann Bailey, Summerville HS (Summerville, South Carolina).

Col. C. E. Savedge Fellowship
Fellowships will provide registrations for the Carolina Journalism Institute. Publication advisers who have never attended CJ are eligible to receive fellowships.

AWARDS

Dr. Kay Phillips
Administrator-of-the-Year Award
This award is given to administrators who exemplify the principles of scholastic journalism by supporting more than one publication, supporting the professional growth of the adviser and the educational growth of the students, as well as supporting academic standards.
Advisers whose publications are members of SIPA may nominate an administrator at their schools.

Ralph Kitley, Northwest Guilford HS (Greensboro, North Carolina) principal, received the award in 2017.

Karen H. Flowers
Outstanding Service Award
This award was given for the first time in 2010 as the Friend of Scholastic Media Award. The award, renamed in 2015, goes to an individual who is not in the classroom but who has significantly supported scholastic journalism.

Joseph Shoquist
Freedom of the Press Award
This award, named in honor of former Dean Joseph W. Shoquist, will be given periodically when an adviser and/or staff makes a strong stand for scholastic journalism.

Scroggins Awards
The Scroggins Awards are given in memory of Dr. Albert T. Scroggins, director emeritus of SIPA. The following criteria must be met in order to qualify for the Scroggins Award competition:
1. The publication must have received an All-Southern rating.
2. The adviser and a staff member must attend the 2018 SIPA Convention.

The 2017 winners were

Broadcast
The Buzz TV, Fort Mill HS (Fort Mill, South Carolina)

Magazine
Iliad, Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia)

Newspaper
Odyssey, Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia)

Online
ODYSSEYonline, Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia)

Yearbook
Westwind, West Henderson HS (Hendersonville, North Carolina)

CONTESTS

Broadcast Individual Anchor Contest
Students will write a script from copy provided and read the script on camera.

The 2017 winners were

Best Anchor
Sydney Register, Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina)

First runner-up
Tate Fowler, Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina)

Broadcast On-the-Spot Feature Contest
Teams conduct interviews, shoot footage, edit footage and complete a three-minute feature package.

The 2017 winners for

Best Storytelling
Jenna Sulkowski and Blake Ellis, Tribe Talk, Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina)

Best Videography
Ally Patterson and Sydney S ignmon, The Buzz TV, Fort Mill HS (Fort Mill, South Carolina)

Best Overall
Zoe Cruz and Julian Masters, The Buzz TV, Fort Mill HS (Fort Mill, South Carolina)

SIPA Journalism Bowl
The qualifying round Friday night consists of a written, multiple-choice test. Questions will be on current events, journalism history, scholastic media law, AP style and terminology. The top eight teams will qualify for the Quiz Bowl rounds Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. The 2017 champion was Ola HS (Ola, Georgia).

Team On-site Production (TOP)
This contest is open to literary magazine, newspaper, photography and yearbook students. During the convention, magazine, newspaper and yearbook students conduct interviews, then write, edit and design pages Saturday afternoon. Photographers take , edit and curate photos Saturday afternoon.

The 2017 winners were

MG Design & Overall
Ellie Pobis, Gracie Boyce and Caroline Williamson, Psycho, Richland Northeast HS (Columbia, South Carolina)

NP Design & Overall
Delia Adamson, Kate Grace Upchurch, Katy Mayfield and Kennae Hunter, Odyssey, Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia)

NP Writing
Katherine Kollegger, Samantha Winn, Patrick Aherne and Charlotte O’Neill, Tribal Tribune, Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina)

PH Captions
Suncana Pavlic and Emma Crane, Odyssey, Clarke Central HS (Athens, Georgia)

PH Single Image
Mady Harding and Alex Myers, Sparkman HS (Harvest, Alabama)

PH Gallery
Matthew Cao, Richland Northeast HS (Columbia, South Carolina)

YB Copy
Abby Byrd, Faith Dutton, Maddie Manke & Anna Perryman, Legend, Wando HS (Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina)

YB Overall
Rachel Hardaker, Hailey Conquest, Casey Harbin & Taylor Aronson, The Senator, Sparkman HS (Harvest, Alabama)
Distinguished Service Awards

Elizabeth B. Dickey

Distinguished Service Award Recipients

Distinguished Service Awards are given to teachers, advisers and others who have contributed extraordinary amounts of time, talent and energy to SIPA. The award was renamed in 2006 to honor Elizabeth B. Dickey's outstanding service to scholastic journalism. Advisers, associate members, students or administrators may nominate people for this award. Recipients of past Distinguished Service Recipients are

Alice James '79
J. Grady Locklear ’79
Col. C.E. “Chuck” Savedge ’79
Dr. Albert T. Scroggins ’79
Clark Chism ’80
Fanny King ’80
Marianne King ’80
Dr. Regis Boyle ’81
Hope Carroll ’81
Ann Herlong ’81
Eloise Howard ’81
Dr. Dennis Jones ’81
Charles O’Malley ’81
Florence Hancock ’82
Nancy Green ’83
Betty Morton ’83
Beth Dickey ’84
Bruce E. Konkle ’84
Patricia Hedden Wicker ’84
Thomas Engleman ’85
Carole Ford ’85
Dr. Ruby Herlong ’85
Dr. Reid Montgomery ’85
Col. Joseph M. Murphy ’85
Kay Phillips ’85
Oscar Wetherhold “Tom” Reigel ’85
Lilla Scroggins ’85
Herb Sirota ’85
Sam Garner ’86
Dr. Jack Hillwig ’86
Bruce Wattersson ’86
Ann Bartholomew ’87
Hud Clark ’87
Dorothy McPhillips ’87
Shirley Moravec ’87
Dr. John Butler ’88
Mark Goodman ’88
Ken Henderson ’88
Alma Blythe ’88
Earl Straight ’88
Mary Ann Blaskowitz ’89
John Cutsinger ’89
Betsy Owen ’89
Richard J. Fitz ’90
David Knight ’90
Richard L. “Rik” McNeill ’90
Karen H. Flowers ’91
James F. Paschal ’91
Carol Lange ’92
Nancy Ruth Patterson ’92
Susan Earley ’93
Richard Johns ’93
Margaret Johnston ’93
Sylvia Daughtry ’94
Brenda Gorsuch ’94
Judy Hines ’94
Dr. John Lopiccolo ’94
Margaret Shearouse ’94
Dr. Jack Dvorak ’95
Linda Leatherman ’95
Chuck Stone ’95
Beth Hammond ’96
Judith Price ’96
Dr. Richard Uray ’96
Robert Atwood ’97
Mary Inglis ’97
Nora Moulton ’97
Lori Oglesbee ’98
Martha Akers ’98
Tom French ’99
Judy Mulkey ’99
Bobby Hawthorne ’99
John Grisham ’99
Tim Harrower ’00
Carolyn Haldeman ’00
John Hudnall ’00
Patsy Towery ’00
H. L. Hall ’01
Martha Rothwell ’01
Dr. Ronald Farrar ’01
Will Felts ’02
Margaret Soros ’02
Christie Gold ’03
Sharon Deibel ’03
Kim Stokes ’03
Carl Zimmermann ’03
Pat Jackson ’03
Julie Dodd ’04
Mark Murray ’04
Steve Row ’04
Tamela K. Watkins ’04
Beth Fitts ’05
Rhonda Moore ’05
Flip Schulke ’05
Jane Speidel ’05
Carolyn Terry ’05
Gary C. Dickey ’06
Martha Herrington ’06
Jack Kennedy ’06
Amy Medlock-Greene ’06
Ken Thornberry ’06
Charles Bierbauer ’07
Marilyn Chapman ’07
Alison Shuman ’07
Sandy Woodcock ’07
Linda Punteney ’08
Alan Weintraut ’08
Bradley Wilson ’08
Monica Hill ’09
Stella McCombs ’09
Jake Palenske ’09
Joe Dennis ’10
Valerie Kibler ’10
Susan Newell ’10
Kristi Gibbs ’11
Jenny Proctor ’11
Leslie Dennis ’12
Chris Floore ’12
Frank LoMonte ’12
Mary Kay Downes ’13
Deborah Gascon ’13
Buck Ryan ’13
Dr. Carol Pardon ’14
David Ragsdale ’15
Chuck Walker ’15
Chris Waugaman ’15
Coni Grebel ’16
Adrienne Hollifield ’16
Rebecca Piner ’17
Collyn Taylor ’17
Rich Whalen ’17
Advisory Council

The Advisory Council meets during the convention and helps spread the word about SIPA during the year. The Council discusses the activities of SIPA and offers suggestions and assistance to the Executive Committee. If you are interested in serving, or if you have concerns that you would like the Council to address, please make sure to attend the Saturday morning breakfast and/or the Saturday 1:30 p.m. meeting.

Alabama:
- Erin Coggins, Sparkman HS (17-19)
- Capri Day, Hillcrest HS (16-18)
- Mary Morrow, St. Clair County HS (17-19)

Arkansas:
- Judy Jones, Nashville HS (16-18)

Florida:
- Louisa Avery, H.B. Plant HS (16-18)
- Jessica Latoni, G. Holmes Braddock Senior HS (17-19)
- Margaret Trautwein, Countryside HS (16-18)

Georgia:
- Lori Vincent, Ola HS (15-17)

Mississippi:
- Diala Chaney, Oxford HS (16-18)

North Carolina:
- Melanie Huynh-Duc, Northwest Guilford HS (17-19)
- Sarah Pritchard, Manteo HS (17-19)

South Carolina:
- Justin Fabiano, Stratford HS (16-18)
- Hannah Ayock, J.L. Mann HS (17-19)
- Amy Medlock-Greene, Dutch Fork HS (17-19)
- Callie Neal, Summerville HS (17-19)

Texas:
- Melanie Menefee, Buffalo HS (15-17)

Virginia:
- Lori Reaser, Albemarle HS (16-18)
- Charlotte Wood, Albemarle HS (16-18)

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is made up of the chair, vice chair and secretary, student officers, their advisers and other people appointed by the director. The Executive Committee meets during the spring convention and once each fall. The committee sets guidelines for judging and evaluating and handles SIPA business.

Chair:
Phillip Caston, Wando HS, South Carolina

Vice Chair:
Stella McCombs, Stratford HS, South Carolina

Secretary:
Erin Coggins, Sparkman HS, Alabama

Past Chair:
Amy Medlock-Greene, Dutch Fork HS, South Carolina

CJ Liaison:
David Ragsdale, Clarke Central HS, Georgia

Finance Chair:
Brenda Gorsuch, North Carolina

President:
Hannah Gale, Clarke Central HS, Georgia

Vice President:
Sydney Tisdale, Richland Northeast HS, South Carolina

Members-at-Large:
Thomas Hart, Fort Mill HS, South Carolina, and Emma Strickland, First Flight HS, North Carolina

Appointed Members:
- Nina Brook, Richland Northeast HS, South Carolina
- Al Chambers, Richland Northeast HS, South Carolina
- Mary Kay Downes, Chantilly HS, Virginia
- Coni Grebel, Lee County HS, Georgia
- Steve Hanf, First Flight HS, North Carolina
- Erinn Harris, Thomas Jefferson HS for Technology & Science, Virginia
- Karin McKamey, Fort Mill HS, South Carolina
- Meghan Percival, McLean HS, Virginia
- Jenny Proctor, Lugoff-Elgin HS, South Carolina
- Lori Reaser, Albemarle HS, Virginia
- Larry Steinmetz, Bullitt East HS, Kentucky
- Chris Waugaman, Prince George HS, Virginia
- Charlotte Wood, Albemarle HS, Virginia

Consultants:
- Meredith Cummings, ASPA director
- Joe Dennis, Piedmont College, Georgia
- Chris Floore, Macon, Georgia
- Monica Hill, NCSMA director
- R.J. Morgan, MSPA director
- Mark Murray, Arlington ISD, Texas

Convention staff

Leslie Dennis
SIPA executive director

Karie Grace Duncan
SIPA student assistant

Claire Lewis
SIPA student assistant and auction coordinator

Cole Lowery
SIPA student assistant and student officer coordinator

John Romanski
SIPA student assistant

Jenna Sulikowski
SIPA student assistant

Michaela Baker
SIPA volunteer, Columbia, S.C.

Dr. Andrea Tanner
USC School of Journalism and Mass Communications director

Dr. Tom Reichert
USC College of Information and Communications dean
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June 14-17

$225 tuition

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Scholarships available

★ Spend four days at USC’s School of Journalism and Mass Communications
★ Learn journalism skills and methods to create a multi-platform story package
★ Produce written, visual and social media elements for your final project
★ Connect with other student journalists and advisers
★ Engage in real-world experiences and discussions
We’re much more than just ink on paper.