

SJ&B

alumni alert

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I hope WKU alumni look back and realize SJ&B was more than an education, it was about lifelong friendships.

-Jeanie Adams-Smith
Photojournalism Grad, '90
Professor of
Photojournalism, WKU

Catch up on the exciting news from Western Kentucky University's School of Journalism & Broadcasting

Hearst Awards



Shaban R. Athuman
Second Place
Western Kentucky University
\$2,000 Scholarship



Nick Wagner
Third Place
Western Kentucky University
\$1,500 Scholarship

Western Kentucky University placed first in the Intercollegiate Photojournalism Competition with the highest accumulated student points in the two photo competitions. Shaban Athuman placed second in the first round. In addition to Nick Wagner's third place, he also placed eighth in Multimedia Features. Srijita Chattopadhyay placed third in Multimedia News and fifth in Photojournalism Picture Stories. Gabriel Scarlett placed seventh in Photojournalism Picture Stories, and Sawyer Smith placed fourth in Multimedia Features. Nicole Ares placed second and Michelle Hanks placed sixth in the Enterprise Reporting writing category. Congrats to these students and WKU!

Student Publications

Talisman

The Talisman moved from a yearbook to a life and culture magazine and website in 2016. Three magazine issues have been published so far, and students are currently working on Issue 04, which will come out in late April or early May. And its companion – but very different – website at WKUTalisman.com is growing its identity and becoming the place to go for an eclectic mix of storytelling, quizzes, videos and pop culture content. WKUTalisman.com owns two national Pacemaker Awards, bringing Talisman’s total to 20, and the magazine was a Pacemaker Finalist in its first year of publication. The final edition of the Talisman yearbook, 2016’s “Life More Life,” was honored with a Pacemaker for its excellence.

Top prizes come home for Herald

Beginning in January, The College Heights Herald moved to a weekly print edition, published each Tuesday during the academic year, and greatly increased its digital presence with WKUHerald.com. The change follows a robust showing for the Herald in national awards. The newspaper won the 2017 Pacemaker Award, its 16th, and garnered first place finishes for News Story of the Year, Best Investigative Story, Spot News Photo of the Year, Best Sports News Photo, Best Photo Package and Best Photo Page.

In addition, a Herald story about sexual misconduct records at WKU and other state universities, “In the Dark” by Nicole Ares, won a host of national awards: the Betty Gage Holland Award from the Student Press Law Center and the Cox Institute for Innovation Management and Leadership; the Story of the Year award from Associated Collegiate Press; the Best Investigative Story award in the College Media Association Pinnacle Awards contest; and second place in the Hearst Journalism Awards for enterprise reporting. It is a finalist in the SPJ Region 5 Mark of Excellence Awards in the in-depth reporting category.

Sequence Spotlights

Broadcasting

The students in the broadcasting sequence are receiving prestigious awards for their hard work. The program had three National Broadcasting Society National Finalists. Additionally, eight students traveled to Washington, D.C., Feb. 27 for the NBS-AERho National Convention. On March 28, the department hosted a #MeToo forum on the topic of sexual assault in the workplace. On May 2, selected students will be participating in a Broadcasting Showcase, which features audio and video projects.

WKU Broadcasting students took six first-place wins in the Radio and Television categories at the Kentucky Associated Press Broadcast awards in April. Students also took home two second place awards, Best in Show for Radio (award and scholarship) and Best in Show for Television (award and scholarship). Junior Dalton Godbey received the Tom Peterson Scholarship, which is presented to only one college student in Kentucky majoring in Communications or Broadcasting. According to the KAPB, there was plenty of completion this year for both the awards and scholarships.

Film

The FILM 482 class is currently in production on its thesis films, which will be 10-minute narrative short films. Last semester several teams of producers and directors pitched a script, and three projects were chosen. The students have hired cast and crew and are operating the same way professional sets run. The films will enter post-production later in the spring when students will collaborate with other classes to sound mix, color grade, and create marketing plans for the films.

There will be a reception for WKU Film alumni at the Nashville Film Festival on Tuesday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information visit this link: <http://alumni.wku.edu/nashvillefilmfest18>

The sequence would like to commemorate an alum from the class of 2014, Cody Duncum. In the years since he graduated, he's made a name for himself as a Nashville-based cinematographer. He's worked on several music videos, narrative films, and a pilot for a television show. Recently he shot the film "The Last Tape" for SJ&B faculty member Luke Pennington.

Journalism

The journalism sequence's online magazine, RE(a)D, has been publishing excellent feature stories and in-depth projects from the school's writing classes, which have been recognized with national awards. The site serves to publish the very best work from our upper-level journalism courses and to help tell important and interesting stories from the community, state, and region. Check it out to read some excellent student work:

www.wkujournalism.com/journalism. RE(a)D is a finalist in the Society of Professional Journalists' Region 5 Mark of Excellence Awards for best student independent online magazine.



Several stories from RE(a)D have been recognized with national and regional awards. Michelle Hanks' feature, "Kentucky's last abortion clinic," placed sixth in the Hearst Enterprise Reporting Contest, and 2017 graduate Jacob Dick's story about abandoned horses, "Unbridled," placed ninth in the Hearst Feature Writing competition. The Herald story, "In the Dark," by 2017 graduate Nicole Ares (pictured), which was written in the Advanced Reporting course, placed second in the Hearst Enterprise Reporting Contest and won a host of national reporting awards (See Student Publications item).

A new professor, Rich Shumate, joined the journalism faculty in Fall 2017. Rich came to WKU from the University of Florida, where he completed his doctorate and taught newswriting, using public records, and political communication classes for the journalism department. As a journalist, he worked for newspapers and magazines in Wyoming, North Carolina, Georgia, and Arkansas, and he spent 10 years working as a Web writer and news editor at CNN's world headquarters in Atlanta. Shumate is also the founder and editor of ChickenFriedPolitics.com, a blog covering Southern politics. His mass communication research centers on the areas of media bias and negative political advertising.

Photojournalism

Western Kentucky University ranked fifth overall in the College Photographer of the Year rankings. Gabriel Scarlett won an award in excellence in both the documentary and portfolio sections and won silver in the portrait category from College Photographer of the Year. Nick Wagner also received an award of excellence in documentary. Recent graduate Michael Noble won gold for interpretive eye. Several students also won awards from the Kentucky News Photographer Association. Gabriel Scarlett won 2017 Student Photographer of the Year, student contest in general news, news picture story, first, second and third place, and one week's work first place. Shaban Athuman brought home Student Photographer of the Year runner up and feature picture story second place. Srijita Chattopadhyay won 2017 Student Contest feature and feature picture story first place. And Skyler Ballard won Student Contest- portrait, feature picture third place and sports picture story first place.

Many Students from the program attended the annual Mountain Workshops this year. Mountain Workshops fine-tunes photography, picture-editing, video storytelling, data visualization, and time-lapse skills of college students and mid-career professionals. Volunteers from The New York Times, Los Angeles



Mountain Workshops 2018

Times, National Geographic, and other media outlets participate annually in this award-winning event. This year, Mountain Workshops hosted students from South Korea who published a book of their work titled, "Small Town USA." The Mountain Workshops also won the Governor's Award for Media this year.

Take Note



‘Bosnia and Herzegovina: Then and Now’

“Bosnia and Herzegovina: Then and Now -- A Visual Exploration of a Country in Change” features more than 50 photographs by Lara Ciarabellini, Amel Emric, James H. Kenney Jr., Jose Lopez, Matt Lutton, Dijana Muminovic, Roger M. Richards, and Andy Spyra exploring the people and places of Bosnia and Herzegovina since the start of the war in 1992 until today. The exhibit opened on Jan. 31 and will be open until April 13. The exhibit is in the SJ&B Gallery and Jody Richards Hall, previously known as Mass Media and Technology Hall, and is open for viewing when the university is open. James Kenney’s photography is also on display at Spencer’s Coffee Shop in Bowling Green. The work is titled, “Belief in Bosnia” and will be on display until May 15.

Two SJ&B faculty members were selected to represent WKU in Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of the Zuheir Sofia Endowed International Faculty Seminar in 2017. James Kenney of photojournalism and Amanda Crawford of journalism visited the country in May 2017 in preparation for the 2017-2018 WKU International Year of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Gaines Lecture

The 2017-18 John B. Gaines Family Lecture Series featured two of the Indianapolis Star reporters who investigated Larry Nassar and USA Gymnastics sex abuse, Marisa Kwiatkowski and Tim Evans. The April 9 panel discussion was moderated by Journalism Professor Amanda J. Crawford. Broadcast professor Dr. Enakshi Roy served as emcee. The lecture series was launched in 2004 in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Gaines’ family-owned newspaper, the Daily News.

Workshop for Survivors

Amanda J. Crawford, an assistant professor in journalism, is leading a series of writing workshops and organizing visual art workshops in 2017-2018 for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. She is then publishing art “zines” to highlight that work and organizing public art, music and literature events to raise awareness about domestic and sexual violence in the community. The project is supported by a grant from the Kentucky Foundation for Women.

Update on the SJ&B Director position

The School of Journalism & Broadcasting is still seeking applicants for the position of School Director. The new director will have a focus on local, national and international journalism; will be able to engage an active alumni network; will work with faculty, staff and students from a variety of disciplines; and will foster multidisciplinary cooperation. Working with the school’s 25-plus faculty, instructors and staff, the director will provide the visionary leadership to maintain excellence and meet the challenges and opportunities presented by the evolving media landscape. For more information, visit the WKU SJ&B website: https://www.wku.edu/journalism/position_openings.php.

In Focus profiles on recent SJ&B graduates



Trey Crumbie

A 2015 WKU journalism graduate, Trey Crumbie, recently was named communications specialist for the Kentucky House of Representatives. During his time at WKU, Crumbie worked at the College Heights Herald as an editor and reporter. Previously he has worked for the Lexington Herald-Leader and Kentucky Standard. “I feel pretty excited about taking the job. I’ve wanted to eventually transition into public relations since starting my journalism career, and I feel like this is a nice step for me,” Crumbie said.



Daniel Vorlet

A 2016 WKU Photojournalism graduate residing in Nashville, Tennessee, Daniel Vorlet travels the country touring with country artist Dustin Lynch. His work can be seen through various publications, social media sites, and ad campaigns (notably with Dr. Pepper and Firestone). In addition, Daniel’s videos of Dustin’s life and live concerts can all be seen on all of Dustin’s social media platforms.

Hot Off the Press

WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting Alumni win Pulitzer Prize

Cameron Knight, ‘05 grad and Cara Owsley, ‘06 grad were part of the Pulitzer Prize winning team at The Cincinnati Enquirer for local reporting. The Photojournalism alumni credit their time at WKU as crucial to their success in their fields. Owsley is the Director of Photography at the paper and Knight is a crime beat reporter. See the project at: <https://cin.ci/2H3nbYE>



Stay in Touch: WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting, 1906 College Heights Blvd., Bowling Green, KY 42101. 270-745-4144

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<https://tinyurl.com/y7zz28gu>

Be a Mentor: Do you want to be paired with a student working toward a goal like your career?
If so, contact photojournalism professor Jeanie Adams-Smith: jeanie.adams-smith@wku.edu