Frank McCullough Investigative Reporting Scholarship

Journalism majors: Apply for a $1000 to $2,000 fall 2014 semester scholarship to support investigative and/or in-depth articles, series or joint reporting and photography projects that might not otherwise be reported because of research and travel costs. The purpose is to give students first-hand experience in planning, organizing and reporting in-depth stories for possible publication on issues, events and personalities of social significance.

AWARDS

Two $1000 scholarships for individual projects or one $2,000 scholarship for a team project will be awarded. Teams are defined as (1) two reporters or (2) one reporter and one photographer working as partners. A panel including a reporter from the San Francisco Chronicle and journalism faculty member will judge the applications. Awards will be made based on the merit of the proposal and its potential for completion and publication.

PUBLICATION

Publication is not a requirement to receive a scholarship, but the selection committee would like to see recipients’ articles or photographs published in Xpress. If the publication does not wish to publish the material, recipients are encouraged to seek publication in other newspapers and magazines and are asked to acknowledge the support at the end of their reports with the following suggested wording: “Research for this report was made possible by a Frank McCulloch Investigative Reporting Scholarship.”

ELIGIBILITY

The scholarship is open to juniors who have completed Newswriting and Reporting and will be registered full-time in fall 2014 and plan to be enrolled in JOUR 609 Publication Lab.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Submit copies of unofficial transcripts showing all college work.
- Include a cover sheet with name, address, e-mail, and student I.D. number.
- Submit a 500-word proposal describing the article, series or reporting-photography project. It should demonstrate that some preliminary research and reporting has been done. It also should include 1) the public interest the reporting serves and possible outcomes—e.g., exposing a wrongdoing, better informing the public, debunking political rhetoric, putting a human face on a social issue, etc.; 2) a brief, general budget; and 3) publication possibilities. Examples of eligible research costs include but are not limited to copying, public record and database searches, film, and travel and accommodation.
- Submit one or more examples of your reporting or three or more examples of your photography. Written submissions need not be investigative and photo submissions need not be documentary. Neither must they be published, but they should demonstrate your skill or potential for investigative and/or in-depth reporting in words and/or photographs.

Frank McCulloch retired in January 1991 as managing editor of the Hearst owned San Francisco Examiner. His more than 40 years in journalism took him from Elko, Nevada, to Sacramento, Dallas, Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Saigon, Washington, New York and San Francisco. He was managing editor of the Los Angeles Times, Saigon bureau chief for Time Magazine, Washington bureau chief for Life Magazine and executive editor of McClatchy newspapers. He was a fine investigative reporter, and, as a wise and courageous editor, taught many reporters how to develop their skills as investigative reporters. Contributions for this scholarship fund were given by former Examiner staff members, the McClatchy Newspapers and former colleagues and friends of McCulloch from throughout the nation.

DEADLINE: February 21, 2014

Submit applications to Kevin Cox: kcox@sfsu.edu