



NEW ENGLAND FIRST AMENDMENT INSTITUTE
Presented by the New England First Amendment Coalition

Fellowship Application Materials
Deadline August 31, 2016

About the New England First Amendment Institute

WHAT IS NEFAI?

Now in its fifth year, the New England First Amendment Institute provides intensive training for 25 journalism fellows in the use of freedom of information laws and investigative techniques. In a rich and collegial environment, the fellows interact with acclaimed media lawyers and award-winning journalists and acquire knowledge designed to enhance their watchdog journalism skills.

WHO IS IT FOR?

NEFAI is designed for both up-and-coming and veteran print, digital and broadcast journalists working in New England. Applicants should have at least two years of professional news reporting experience and long-term plans to stay within the profession.

WHAT DO YOU LEARN?

Though our curriculum is often changed to reflect the evolving needs of journalists, each Institute typically includes lectures and workshops that focus on the following:

- State public records and open meetings laws
- The federal Freedom of Information Act
- Database reporting skills
- Security and Exchange Commission document review
- How to respond to FOI request denials and rejections
- Inspiring stories from award-winning journalists

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The 25 fellows selected for this year's Institute will attend at no cost. Light refreshments and meals are provided during the times the Institute is in session. Fellows, however, are responsible for their own travel and hotel accommodations, if needed. Local hotel rooms and shuttles will be available.

SPONSORS

Our Institute is supported each year by the generosity of many individuals and organizations. Major supporters of this year's Institute include:

PJF THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL
Charitable Legacy Fund

The Boston Globe



THE ROBERTSON FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIPS

Applicants are welcome to apply for a scholarship to cover all or part of their travel and hotel accommodations. Please note that scholarships are given based on individual need and, with the exception of the James W. Foley Scholarship (see below), are not guaranteed to be available each year.

JAMES W. FOLEY SCHOLARSHIP



A seasoned war correspondent for Boston-based GlobalPost, New Hampshire native James Foley committed himself to the truth and, in his words, "exposing untold stories." While working in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria, Foley reported on the lives of those disadvantaged and suffering. His barbaric death in 2014 reminded the nation of the dangers of his craft and the threats against freedom of information.

In honor of James, NEFAI established the James W. Foley Scholarship to provide funding for one fellow to attend the Institute without travel or lodging expenses.

STAY CONNECTED

Please stay updated on NEFAI news — including speaker announcements and faculty additions — by referencing the following hashtag: **#NEFAI2016**. You can also connect with NEFAI in the following ways:

 [@FiveFreedoms](#)

 www.tinyurl.com/nefaclinkedin

 www.facebook.com/groups/nefirstamendment

Subscribe to our mailing list to receive news alerts and the monthly NEFAI Report, featuring original reporting and a comprehensive round-up of First Amendment and FOI news from across the region: www.tinyurl.com/nefacsubscribe.

Former Fellows

2011

CONNECTICUT

Richard Campbell
The Register Citizen

Jenne Cho

The Day

JC Reindl

The Day

Alexandra Sanders
New Haven Register

Julie Stagis

Hartford Courant

MAINE

Susan Cover

Maine Today

Emily Guerin

The Forecaster

Jesse Nankin

Watchdog

New England

Eric Russell

Bangor Daily News

MASSACHUSETTS

Keith Eddings

Eagle-Tribune

Jim Haddadin

Arlington Advocate

Laura Hutchinson

WWLP 22News

Lyle Moran

Lowell Sun

David Riley

MetroWest Daily News

Rory Schuler

Taunton Daily

Matthew Stout

The Enterprise

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Joseph Cote

Nashua Telegraph

Mark Davis

Valley News

Maddie Hanna

Concord Monitor

RHODE ISLAND

Amanda Milkovits

Providence Journal

David Scharfenberg

Providence Phoenix

Karen Ziner

Providence Journal

VERMONT

John Briggs

Burlington Free Press

Anne Galloway

Vermont Digger

Shay Totten

Seven Days

2012

CONNECTICUT

Shawn Beals

Hartford Courant

Beau Berman

WTIC-TV

Alexander Goldstein

The Day

Kevin Litten

Republican-American

Erin Logan

WTNH

Francine Silverman

Hearst Newspapers

MAINE

Will Graff

The Forecaster

Lindsay Tice

Sun Journal

MASSACHUSETTS

Alex Bloom

The Enterprise

George Brennan

Cape Cod Times

Fernandes Deirdre

The Boston Globe

David Eisenstadter

The Transcript

Sarah Favot

Lowell Sun

Martine Powers

The Boston Globe

Patrick Ronan

Patriot Ledger

Shaun Sutner

Worcester

Telegram & Gazette

Ryan Walsh

WWLP

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Maggie Cassidy

Valley News

Maryalice Gill

Nashua Telegraph

Meg Heckman

Concord Monitor

Annamarie Timmins

Concord Monitor

RHODE ISLAND

Lynn Arditi

Providence Journal

Ian Donniss

RI Public Radio

Kathleen Mulvaney

Providence Journal

VERMONT

Dan D'Ambrosio

Burlington Free Press

Jennifer Cleveland

Caledonian-Record

Andrew Stein

Vermont Digger

2013

CONNECTICUT

Lisa Backus

The Bristol Press

Jenna Carlesso

Hartford Courant

Tina Detelj

WTNH

Jessica Glenza

The Register Citizen

Maggie Gordon

Hearst Newspapers

David Iversen

WTNH

Alec Johnson

Republican-American

Viktoria Sundqvist

The Middletown Press

MAINE

Matthew Curren

WGME

David Harry

The Forecaster

MASSACHUSETTS

Doug Fraser

Cape Cod Times

Wes Lowery

The Boston Globe

Joshua Miller

The Boston Globe

Shawn Musgrave

MuckRock

Neena Pathak

Schuster Institute

Neal Simpson

The Patriot Ledger

Schuyler Velasco

Christian Science Monitor

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Todd Bookman

NH Public Radio

Sarah Brubeck

Valley News

Christopher Garofolo

Eagle Times

Kathryn Marchocki

NH Union Leader

Kaitlin Mulhere

The Keene Sentinel

RHODE ISLAND

Bill Malinowski

Providence Journal

Mark Reynolds

Providence Journal

VERMONT

Nathan Burgess

Stowe Reporter

Olga Peters

The Commons

Jennifer Reading

WCAX

2014

CONNECTICUT

Jason Bagley

TruthInAdvertising.org

Kelly Catalfamo

The Day

Jennifer Swift

New Haven Register

Tess Townsend

The Day

MAINE

Jon Chrisos

CBS13/Fox23

Michael Shepherd

Kennebec Journal

MASSACHUSETTS

Sean F. Driscoll

Cape Cod Times

Beryl Lipton

MuckRock

Priyanka McCluskey

The Boston Globe

Alexa Mills

The Boston Globe

Alex Ruppenthal

Medford Transcript

Eli Sherman

Waltham News Tribune

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Emily Corwin

NH Public Radio

Alyssa Dandrea

The Keene Sentinel

Nora Doyle-Burr

Valley News

Peter McGuire

Forecaster Newspapers

Kerry Miller

Eagle Times

RHODE ISLAND

Randal Edgar

Providence Journal

Paul Grimaldi

Providence Journal

Janine Weisman

Newport Mercury

VERMONT

Taylor Dobbs

Vermont Public Radio

Abby Ledoux

Milton Independent

Allison Teague

The Commons

2015

CONNECTICUT

Lindsay Boyle

The Day

Suzanne Carlson

Hartford Courant

Susan Haigh

The Associated Press

Esteban Hernandez

New Haven Register

Patrick Skahill

WNPR-Connecticut

MAINE

Jordan Bailey

Courier Publications

Nate Holst

WMTW-Portland

David Sherwood

Maine Center for Public

Interest Reporting

MASSACHUSETTS

Samantha Allen

Worcester Telegram &

Gazette

Jonathan Dame

GateHouse Media

Nicole Dungca

The Boston Globe

Jenna Fisher

GateHouse Media

Allison Manning

Boston.com

Jordan Mayblum

Wellesley Townsman

Jan Ransom

The Boston Globe

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Jeremy Blackman

Concord Monitor

Megan Doyle

Concord Monitor

Rob Wolfe

Valley News

RHODE ISLAND

Jennifer Bogdan

The Providence Journal

Alex Kuffner

The Providence Journal

Steph Machado

WPRI-Providence

VERMONT

April Burbank

Burlington Free Press

Lola Duffort

Rutland Herald

Lesley Engle

Fox44/ABC22

Courtney Lamdin

Milton Independent



New England First Amendment Institute

Fellowship Application

Deadline August 31, 2016

The New England First Amendment Institute will select 25 journalists — editors and reporters alike — to attend a three-day intensive training course on freedom of information laws and investigative techniques from Oct. 16-18 in Dedham, Massachusetts. To be eligible, an applicant must be a working journalist in print, digital or broadcast media in New England. The Institute is designed for both relatively new and veteran journalists, however, applicants should have at least two years of professional news reporting experience and long-term plans to stay within the profession. Applicants working for a news organization must submit letters of recommendation from their current editors or supervisors, along with the application and required attachments. One additional recommendation from a former editor or supervisor is optional. Self-employed applicants may submit recommendations as described below. Broadcast journalists should submit their stories via links if possible, and on DVDs if not possible.

Please fully answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper, restating the question.

- (1) Describe why you would like to attend the New England First Amendment Institute. What do you hope to take away from the program? What do you hope to add to the program?
- (2) Describe a problem you have encountered while investigating a story and how you reacted to it. Do you think attending the Institute might help you with similar difficulties in the future? If so, how?
- (3) Describe what you believe is your best asset as a journalist. Please tell us what you feel has been your greatest success as a journalist.
- (4) Tell us how you would spread the knowledge you gain at the Institute to others in your news organization.
- (5) The Institute is designed for professional journalists, with different levels of experience, who are committed to continue working in journalism after the Institute. What skills do you hope to acquire during NEFAI to help your journalism career over the next several years?
- (6) If you are selected as a fellow for this year's Institute, will your attendance be contingent on the availability of a scholarship to cover all or part of your travel and hotel accommodations?

Required Attachments

- (1) Resume
- (2) Recommendation from a current editor/supervisor or, if self-employed, a former or current editor of your freelance work. Please use the Recommendation Form included in this application.
- (3) Portfolio of your three best investigative stories. If you have not done investigative work, please attach three news-based stories that represent your best effort.

Please submit your application, resume, portfolio and recommendation via email by August 31, 2016, to mail@nefirstamendment.org. If there is no acknowledgement from NEFAC, please confirm that your application has been received.



**New England First Amendment Institute
Recommendation Form
Deadline August 31, 2016**

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Position _____

Your Name _____

Your Position _____

Phone/Email _____

Please fully answer the questions below in your letter of recommendation and attach your letter to this form.

- (1) How long have you worked with the applicant, and in what capacity?
- (2) How long have you known the applicant?
- (3) In detail, what is your assessment of the quality of the applicant's work, and is the applicant capable of investigative reporting?
- (4) Do you believe the applicant is firmly committed to freedom of information and will spread the knowledge gained through this fellowship?
- (5) Is your organization willing to sponsor the applicant for the costs of attending the program (i.e. transportation plus two nights hotel stay in Dedham, Massachusetts)?

Yes

No