



# nefac

## 2018



CELEBRATING  
**12**  
YEARS  
OF ADVOCACY  
2006 - 2018

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

**Fellowship Application Materials**  
Deadline August 1, 2018



# About the New England First Amendment Institute

## WHAT IS NEFAI?

Now in its eighth 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. The 2018 Institute will be held Sept. 16-18 at Northeastern University in Boston.

## 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
- 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.

## SUPPORTERS

Primary support for our Institute is generously provided by the Providence Journal Charitable Legacy Fund and Northeastern University.



**Northeastern  
University**

Other supporters of NEFAI in 2018 include:



**The Boston Globe**

The Robertson Foundation



**90.9 wbur**

## 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 limited in number, 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 Foley, 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: **#NEFAI2018**. You can also connect with NEFAI in the following ways:

 [@FiveFreedom](#)s

 [www.tinyurl.com/nefailedin](http://www.tinyurl.com/nefailedin)

 [www.facebook.com/nefac.org](http://www.facebook.com/nefac.org)

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/nefac-subscribe](http://www.tinyurl.com/nefac-subscribe).

# Former Fellows

## CONNECTICUT

2011

**Richard Campbell**  
The Register Citizen

**Jenna Cho**

The Day

**JC Reindl**

The Day

**Alexandra Sanders**  
New Haven Register

**Julie Stagis**

Hartford Courant

2012

**Shawn Beals**

Hartford Courant

**Beau Berman**

WTIC-TV

**Alexander Goldstein**

The Day

**Kevin Litten**

Republican-American

**Erin Logan**

WTNH

**Francine Silverman**

Hearst Newspapers

2013

**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

2014

**Jason Bagley**

TruthInAdvertising.org

**Kelly Catalfamo**

The Day

**Jennifer Swift**

New Haven Register

**Tess Townsend**

The Day

2015

**Lindsay Boyle**

The Day

**Suzanne Carlson**

Hartford Courant

**Susan Haigh**

The Associated Press

**Esteban Hernandez**

New Haven Register

**Patrick Skahill**

WNPR-Connecticut

2016

**Julia Bergman**

The Day

**Anna Bisaro**

New Haven Register

**Mikaela Porter**

Hartford Courant

2017

**Stephen Busemeyer**

Hartford Courant

**Jill Konopka**

WVIT-Hartford

**Kaitlyn Krassel**

Norwalk Hour

**Martha Shanahan**

The Day

## MAINE

2011

**Susan Cover**

Maine Today

**Emily Guerin**

The Forecaster

**Jesse Nankin**

Watchdog

New England

**Eric Russell**

Bangor Daily News

2012

**Will Graff**

The Forecaster

**Lindsay Tice**

Sun Journal

2013

**Matthew Curren**

WGME

**David Harry**

The Forecaster

2014

**Jon Chrisos**

CBS13/Fox23

**Michael Shepherd**

Kennebec Journal

2015

**Jordan Bailey**

Courier Publications

**Nate Holst**

WMTW-Portland

**David Sherwood**

Maine Center for

Public Interest

Reporting

2016

**Matthew Daigle**

Sun Journal

**Stephanie Grinnell**

The Republican

Journal

**Kyle Jones**

WMTW News

**Joshua Moore**

Maine Center for

Public Interest

Reporting

**Marina Villeneuve**

Associated Press

2017

**Abigail Adams**

Lincoln County News

**Charles Eichacker**

Kennebec Journal

**Callie Ferguson**

The Forecaster

## MASSACHUSETTS

2011

**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

2012

**Alex Bloom**

The Enterprise

**George Brennan**

Cape Cod Times

**Deirdre Fernandes**

The Boston Globe

**David Eisenstadter**

The Transcript

**Sarah Favot**

Lowell Sun

**Martine Powers**

The Boston Globe

**Patrick Ronan**

Patriot Ledger

**Shaun Sutner**

Worcester

**Brad Petrishen**

Telegram & Gazette

**Ryan Walsh**

WWLP

2013

**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

2014

**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

2015

**Samantha Allen**

Worcester

**Jonathan Dame**

Telegram & Gazette

GateHouse Media

**Nicole Dungca**

The Boston Globe

**Jenna Fisher**

GateHouse Media

**Allison Manning**

Boston.com

**Jordan Mayblum**

Wellesley Townsman

**Jan Ransom**

The Boston Globe

2016

**Zeninor Enwemeka**

WBUR

**Jordan Frias**

Boston Herald

**Phil Marcelo**

Associated Press

**Tom Relihan**

The Recorder

**Susan Spencer**

Worcester

Telegram & Gazette

**Gerry Tuoti**

Gatehouse Media

2017

**Collin Binkley**

Associated Press

**Amanda Drane**

Berkshire Eagle

**Melissa Hanson**

MassLive

**Brad Petrishen**

Telegram & Gazette

**Greg Ryan**

Boston Business

Journal

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

2011

**Joseph Cote**

Nashua Telegraph

**Mark Davis**

Valley News

**Maddie Hanna**

Concord Monitor

2012

**Maggie Cassidy**

Valley News

**Maryalice Gill**

Nashua Telegraph

**Meg Heckman**

Concord Monitor

**Annmarie Timmins**

Concord Monitor

2013

**Todd Bookman**

NH Public Radio

**Sarah Brubeck**

Valley News

**Christopher Garofolo**

Eagle Times

**Kathryn Marchocki**

NH Union Leader

**Kaitlin Mulhere**

The Keene Sentinel

2014

**Emily Corwin**

NH Public Radio

**Alyssa Dandrea**

The Keene Sentinel

**Nora Doyle-Burr**

Valley News

**Peter McGuire**

Forecaster Newspapers

**Kerry Miller**

Eagle Times

2015

**Jeremy Blackman**

Concord Monitor

**Megan Doyle**

Concord Monitor

**Rob Wolfe**

Valley News

2016

**Peter Biello**

NH Public Radio

**Tim Camerato**

Valley News

**Meghan Foley**

The Keene Sentinel

**Allie Morris**

Concord Monitor

**Ella Nilsen**

Concord Monitor

2017

**Caitlin Andrews**

Concord Monitor

**Allison DeAngelis**

Eagle-Tribune

**Casey McDermott**

NHPR

**Paige Sutherland** NHPR

## RHODE ISLAND

2011

**Amanda Milkovits**

Providence Journal

**David Scharfenberg**

Providence Phoenix

**Karen Ziner**

Providence Journal

2012

**Lynn Arditi**

Providence Journal

**Ian Donniss**

RI Public Radio

**Kathleen Mulvaney**

Providence Journal

2013

**Bill Malinowski**

Providence Journal

**Mark Reynolds**

Providence Journal

2014



# New England First Amendment Institute Fellowship Application Deadline August 1, 2018

The New England First Amendment Institute will select 25 journalists — including editors, reporters and producers — to attend a three-day intensive training course on freedom of information laws and investigative techniques from Sept. 16-18 at Northeastern University in Boston. 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 1, 2018, to [mail@nefirstamendment.org](mailto:mail@nefirstamendment.org). If there is no acknowledgment from NEFAC, please confirm that your application has been received.*



**New England First Amendment Institute  
Fellowship Application  
Deadline August 1, 2018**

**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 the level of investigative reporting the applicant is capable of currently?

(4) Why do you believe the applicant is firmly committed to freedom of information and will spread the knowledge gained through this fellowship?

(5) While the three days of training and meals are covered in full by the Institute fellowship, is your organization willing to sponsor the applicant for other associated costs, such as transportation and lodging?

Yes

No