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

September 22-24 | Northeastern University | Boston, Mass.

Fellowship Application Materials
Deadline August 9, 2019
About the New England First Amendment Institute

WHAT IS NEFAI?
Founded in 2011, the New England First Amendment Institute provides intensive training for 25 specially selected 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 to acquire knowledge designed to enhance their watchdog journalism skills. The 2019 Institute will be held Sept. 22-24 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. Meals and light refreshments are provided while 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.

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, NEFAC 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: #NEFAI2019. You can also connect with NEFAC in the following ways:

@FiveFreedoms
www.tinyurl.com/nefaclinkedin
www.facebook.com/nefac.org

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

SUPPORTERS
Primary support for our Institute is generously provided by Northeastern University and the Academy of New England Journalists.

Northeastern University

Other supporters of NEFAC in 2019 include:

NEARICT | CTIC
The Boston Globe
Barr Foundation
BOSTON UNIVERSITY 90.9 wbur
Former Fellows

CONNECTICUT 2013
Richard Campbell
The Register Citizen
Jenna Cho
The Day
JC Reindl
The Day
Alexandra Sanders
New Haven Register
Julie Stajgs
Hartford Courant
2012
Shawn Beals
Hartford Courant
Beau Berman
WTIC-TV
Alexander Goldstein
The Day
Kevin Litten
Republican-American
Erin Logan
WNH
Francine Silverman
Hearst Newspapers
Lisa Backus
The Bristol Press
Jenna Carlesso
Hartford Courant
Tina Detelj
WNH
Jessica Gienza
The Register Citizen
Maggie Gordon
Hearst Newspapers
David Iversen
WNH
Alec Johnson
Republican-American
Victorina Sundquist
The Middletown Press
2012
Jason Bagley
TruthInAdvertising.org
Kelly Catalafuno
The Day
Jennifer Swift
New Haven Register
Tess Townsend
The Day
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

2017
Mikaela Porter
Hartford Courant
2017
Stephen Busemeyer
Hartford Courant
Jill Konopka
WTIT-Hartford
Kathlyn Krasselt
Norwalk Hour
Martha Shanahan
The Day
2018
Skyler Frasier
New Britain Herald
Ben Lambert
New Haven Register
Barry Lytton
The Stamford Advocate
Erica Moser
The Day
2011
Abigail Adams
Lincoln County News
Charles Eichacker
Kennebec Journal
Callie Ferguson
The Forecaster
2018
Anne Beleant
Penobscot Bay Press
Joe Glauber
WTIT-Portland
Rachel Ohm
Morning Sentinel
Amanda Post
WGME-Portland

2014
Sean F. Driscoll
Cape Cod Times
Beryl Lipton
MuckRock
Piranya McCluskey
The Boston Globe
Alex Mills
The Boston Globe
Alex Ruppenthal
Medford Transcript
Eli Sherman
Waltham
News Tribune
2015
Samantha Allen
Worcester
Telegraph & Gazette
Jonathan Dame
GateHouse Media
Nicole Dunga
The Boston Globe
Jenna Fisher
GateHouse Media
Allison Manning
Boston.com
Jordan Mayhamb
Wellesley Townsman
Jan Ransom
The Boston Globe
2016
Zeninor Enwemeka
WBUR
Jordan Frias
Boston Herald
Phil Marcelo
Associated Press
Tom Relihan
The Recorder
2011
Keith Eddings
Eagle-Tribune
Jim Haddadin
Arlington Advocate
Laura Hutchinson
WWLP 22News
Lyle Moran
Lowell Sun
2012
Alex Bloom
The Enterprise
George Brennan
Cape Cod Times
Deirdre Fernandes
The Boston Globe
David Eisenatser
The Transcript
Sarah Favot
Lowell Sun
Martine Powers
The Boston Globe
Patrick Ronan
Patriot Ledger
Shaun Sutner
Worcester
Telegraph & Gazette
Ryan Walsh
WWLP
2013
Doug Fraser
Cape Cod Times
Wes Lowery
The Boston Globe
Joshua Miller
Shawn Musgrave
MuckRock
Neena Pathak
Schuster Institute
Neal Simpson
The Patriot Ledger
Schuyler Velasco
Christian Science Monitor

2017
Angela Rowlings
Boston Herald
Bridge Turcotte
The Daily Item
Grant Welker
Worcester Business Journal
2011
Caitlin Andrews
Concord Monitor
Allison DeAngelis
Eagle-Tribune
Casey McDermott
NHPR
Paige Sutherland
NHPR
2018
Brenna Edelestein
The Eagle Tribune
Sierra Hubbard
The Keene Sentinel
Meg McIntyre
The Keene Sentinel

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 Brubek
Valley News
Christopher Garofolo
Eagle Times
Kathryn Marchocki
New Hampshire Union Leader
Kaitlin Mulhere
The Keene Sentinel
2014
Emily Corwin
NH Public Radio
Alyssa Dandrea
The Keene Sentinel
Nora Doyle-Burr
New Hampshire Public Radio
Peter McGuire
Newspapers
Kerry Miller
Eagle Times
2015
Jeremy Blackman
Concord Monitor
Megan Doyle
Concord Monitor
Rob Wolfe
Valley News
2016
Kate Bransom
Providence Journal
2012
Bill Malinowski
Providence Journal
Mark Reynolds
Providence Journal
2014
Randal Edgar
Providence Journal
Paul Grimald
Providence Journal
Janine Weisman
New Hampshire Public Radio
2015
Jennifer Bogdan
Providence Journal
Alex Kuffner
Providence Journal
Stefh Machado
WPRI-Providenc
2016
Jacqueline Tempera
Providence Journal
2017
Kate Bransom
Providence Journal
2018
Sarah Betancourt
Boston Globe
2019
Peter Biello
NH Public Radio
Tim Camerato
Valley News
Meghan Foley
The Keene Sentinel
Allie Morris
Concord Monitor
Ella Nilsen
Concord Monitor

RHODE ISLAND 2013
Amanda Milkovits
Providence Journal
2014
David Scharfenberg
Providence Phoenix
Karen Ziner
Providence Journal
2015
Lynn Arditi
Providence Journal
Ian Donnis
RI Public Radio
Kathleen Mulvaney
Providence Journal
2016
Bill Malinowski
Providence Journal
Mark Reynolds
Providence Journal
2017
April Burbank
Boston Herald
Lola Duffort
Rutland Herald
Lesley Eagle
Fox44/ABC22
Courtney Lamdin
Milton Independent
2016
Jesse Aloe
Boston Herald
Burlington Free Press
Colin Flanders
The Essex Reporter
and Colchester Sun
Stephanie Gorin
NBC5-Vermont
Katie Jickling
The Herald
Elizabeth Murray
Boston Herald
2017
Alicie Freese
Seven Days
Tommy Gardner
Stowe Reporter
Hilary Niles
Independent
Adam Silverman
Burlington Free Press
Greg Sukiennik
New England Newspapers
2018
Catherine Buni
Independent
Staci DaSilva
WFFF-Burlington
Xander Landen
VTDigger

Kim Kalunian
WPRI-Providenc
VERMONT 2011
John Briggs
Burlington Free Press
Anne Galloway
Vermont Digger
Shay Totten
Seven Days
2012
Dan D’Ambrosio
Burlington Free Press
Jennifer Cleveland
Caledonian-Record
Andew Stein
Vermont Digger
2013
Nathan Burgess
Stowe Reporter
Olga Peters
The Commons
Jennifer Reading
WCAX
2014
Taylor Dobbs
Vermont Public Radio
Abby Ledoux
Milion Independent
Allison Teague
The Commons
2015
Christian Charles
WWLP
2018
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2011
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. 22-24 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 9, 2019, to mail@nefirstamendment.org. If there is no acknowledgment from NEFAC, please confirm that your application has been received.
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