



# Journalism

[www.medillcherubs.org](http://www.medillcherubs.org)

June 24 - July 27, 2012

## Why journalism?

When a high school junior applied to the Institute, she admitted she “wasn’t sold” on a journalism career – even though she already was the top editor of her school newspaper.

However, she knew she wanted to become “a more organized, more coherent, and more forceful writer.” Also, she said she wanted to learn more about digital media as well as to experience college living and dorm life “before I make a (four-year) commitment to any university.”

Most students come to the Medill-Northwestern Journalism Institute with similar goals. And most students go home, as she did, wanting a career in journalism and knowing a lot more about life on a college campus.

This summer 84 high school journalists from around the country and abroad will be immersed in the news media, the world of ideas, and college living. The program takes place in a residential college setting – a community of scholars – where students learn by doing and by careful evaluation of their work.

## Educational philosophy

The program is designed for students who wish to become better writers and editors for print, online and broadcast. Much of what you learn you can apply to your school newspapers and websites. But the program is broader than a workshop for high school editors. You’ll study journalism from a “professional’s perspective,” learning from top-notch practitioners and distinguished college teachers.

The training you will receive in writing clearly, concisely, and accurately will serve you for years to come, no matter what your college major or chosen career. Also, you’ll study with people from all parts of the country (last year, students came from 23 states, Canada and Taiwan). Frequently, students form lasting friendships with classmates and teachers.



Alex Fiedler/john

**The 2011 Institute staff, from left: Elise Butler, Sarahmaria Gomez, Cynthia Wang, Charles Whitaker, Mary Lou Song, Jean Williams, Kit Fox, Olivia Bobrowsky, John Kupetz, Lindsey Kratochwill, Roger Boye, Bret Begun, Joe Grimm and Stacey Wilkins.**

## Course offerings

- Lab sessions to sharpen journalistic skills (such as reporting; writing and editing for print, broadcast and digital media; writing editorials, columns and blogs; taking news and feature photos; and recording audio and video news).
- Seminars with university professors and outstanding journalists to discuss subjects such as ethical considerations, interviewing techniques, and investigative reporting.
- Workshops to teach freelance writing, sports reporting, and magazine publishing and to discuss issues concerning high school journalism, among many other subjects.
- Field trips to Chicago media companies and other locations.
- Discussion sessions to analyze contemporary journalistic issues.
- Special classes to study story-telling forms such as podcasting and video blogging.
- Film showings to review works of and about journalism.
- Weekly one-on-one sessions with teachers to evaluate and analyze writing assignments. (The student-teacher ratio is 10:1.)

## What some 2011 students said:

I learned more in your program than I have throughout my entire high school career and I have met friends I'll know for a lifetime. I've grown as a writer and a person and found my passion and my voice.

*Michele Ko, New York*

I've never been taught by a funnier, friendlier or more intelligent group of instructors. I felt I could approach any of them and they would all be able to help me. After five weeks, I still wanted them to teach me more.

*Gabriel Rosenberg, Pennsylvania*

The other students were all extremely smart yet not a single one was arrogant. It made for an amazing summer.

*Jesse Dembo, New York*

The more I look back and the further away I get from the program, the more I realize how much I loved every minute of it, how much I learned, how much I cherish and how much I miss it.

*Emerald O'Brien, Colorado*

I went to bed exhausted every night but I can honestly say I enjoyed every day of the program. I met the most encouraging people who want to see me succeed. It was the best feeling in the world. I left with new best friends and a drive even stronger than before.

*Alyssa Fisher, Florida*

I will forever remember the instructors' passion and dedication to journalism and to the program.

*Charles Lee, Canada*

The balance of academic rigor and structured relaxation was perfect. I've never been surrounded by such a diverse, intellectual and inspiring group of friends.

*Katherine Sowa, New Jersey*

I loved every second of the program and wish I could go back for another summer. This truly was the best summer of my entire life.

*Chelsea Katz, Florida*

## About the Institute

The Medill-Northwestern Journalism Institute is the nation's most prestigious university-based summer program for high school journalists. It was established in 1934 as the "National Institute for High School Journalists" and for many years was known as the "National High School Institute, Journalism Division." Over the years, students often have been called "Cherubs," a tradition that began in the 1930s.

## Campus living and fun

While on campus, you will share a Northwestern residence hall with the program's other participants, as well as with faculty and staff. Your meals will be eaten in a University cafeteria located in or near your dorm. Meals offer you a wide selection, including vegetarian options, and University dietitians are happy to accommodate special dietary needs. Living, dining, and learning together, you will have ample opportunity to get to know your fellow participants and to make lasting friends.

Just 12 miles north of Chicago, the Evanston campus stretches for a mile along Lake Michigan's western shore and offers you jogging trails, a beautiful private beach, and a state-of-the-art fitness and athletic facility.



Multimedia instructor Sarahmaria Gomez directs students on the Northwestern News Network set.

## Admission requirements

To apply to the Institute, you must:

- Rank academically in the top quarter of your high school class.
- Submit a current high school transcript and letter of recommendation.
- Submit results of the PSAT, SAT, ACT and/or other standardized tests.
- Complete your junior year of high school in May or June of 2012.
- Meet a high standard of character, dependability, and intelligence.
- Give specific evidence of background and/or special ability in journalism.

Admission is competitive; decisions are based on ability and merit.



David Rohde, a 1984 Institute student who was kidnapped by the Taliban while reporting for *The New York Times* in 2008, signs copies of his book "A Rope and a Prayer" for Institute students after a lecture.

## Faculty

Professor Roger Boye is director of the Medill-Northwestern Journalism Institute. For many years he was assistant dean of Northwestern's Medill School, one of the nation's most distinguished journalism programs. He has taught in the Institute since 1971.

The program's full-time teachers have rich and varied backgrounds in journalism. Lecturers include journalists from the media in Chicago and elsewhere, as well as Northwestern faculty members. Past guest speakers have included television journalists, newspaper editors, columnists, and Pulitzer Prize-winning reporters.



Roger Boye

Students pose for a photo during a boat ride on Lake Michigan.

## Application deadline

Applications, recommendations, and transcripts must be received by 4 p.m. on March 23, 2012. Decision letters will be mailed to applicants on or before April 2, 2012. Students are strongly encouraged to submit three to five samples of their work, such as stories published in high school newspapers (see list of items at bottom of application form). **The Institute does not accept applications by fax or email.**

## Fees

The basic fee for this program is \$4,800. The cost includes tuition, room, board, health service, field trips, and group events. Any additional expenses are at your discretion.

## Scholarships and financial aid

Last year, 20 students shared \$46,100 worth of scholarships and financial aid awarded through the Institute. If you wish to apply for assistance, you should complete and return the financial aid section of the application form. Grants are made on the basis of financial need and academic achievement.

In addition to grants made directly from the Institute's budget, these special awards will be available:

**Joan Beck and Ruth Moss Buck  
Journalism Scholarships**

**Norma Kinsel – Linda Foley Cherub  
Scholarship**

**Samuel May – Institute Class of 2010  
Memorial Scholarship**

**Mary Lou Song Cherub Alumni  
Scholarship**

**Diane Granat Yalowitz Memorial Fund  
Scholarship**

**Wrigley Foundation Scholarships**

## For more information

If you are admitted to the Institute, you will receive information about housing arrangements, when to arrive on campus, what to bring, and transportation to Evanston. To receive additional copies of this folder, contact:

**Medill-Northwestern Journalism Institute  
Northwestern University  
1845 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, IL 60208-2101**

**Phone: 847-491-2069**

**Fax: 847-491-3956**

**Email: [r-boye@northwestern.edu](mailto:r-boye@northwestern.edu)**

**Web: [www.medillcherubs.org](http://www.medillcherubs.org)**

Note: All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the website prepared by 2011 Institute students at: [www.medillcherubs.org](http://www.medillcherubs.org)

## Typical daily schedule

9 am

*Attend lecture by  
Northwestern professor*

9:45 am

*Write editorials*

11:45 am

*Lunch*

1 pm

*Discuss reporting with  
multimedia journalist*

2 pm

*Conduct interviews for  
feature articles*

4:30 pm

*Free time*

6 pm

*Dinner*

7 pm

*Write television news scripts  
to go with video*

9 pm

*Attend movie*

Northwestern University does not discriminate or permit discrimination by any member of its community against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age, disability, citizenship or veteran status in matters of admissions, employment, housing or services or in the educational programs or activities it operates.

Any alleged violation of this policy or questions regarding the law with respect to nondiscrimination should be directed to Director of Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Labor Relations, 720 University Place, Evanston, IL 60208-1147, phone 847-491-7458; Office of the Provost, Rebecca Crown Center, Evanston, IL 60208-1101, phone 847-491-5117.

Northwestern University reserves the right to change without notice any statement in this folder concerning, but not limited to, rules, policies, tuition, fees, curricula, and courses.

Sarahmaria Gomez

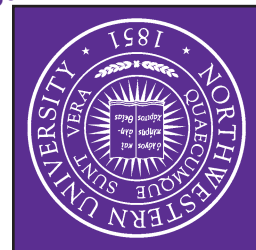


“It was wonderful to be surrounded by other students who are as passionate about journalism as I am.”

*Tracy Cook, Pennsylvania  
2011 Institute student*

Journalism students enjoy an evening on Northwestern University’s lake front.

Application Deadline:  
March 23, 2012



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Evanston, IL 60208-2101

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