News and feature styles in a range of media
Fall workshop to focus on writing

How to write news and features that engage school audiences through a range of media is the theme of this year’s fall workshop. Emphasis will be on writing and reporting in styles that suit broadcasts, magazines, newspapers, online publications and yearbooks. The workshop is Saturday, Oct. 19 from 2-4 at Boston University’s College of Communication.

The aim is for participants to learn to assign, write, edit and present information in ways that attract student audiences using various media: Twitter, podcast, broadcast, newspaper, news magazine and yearbook.

Participants will look at approaches, styles and formats:
• to advance events
• to report breaking news
• to follow up events
• to put events in a context
• to present engaging features
• to wrap up a series of events
• to help readers recall, years from now, what really mattered.

The workshop will also address how and where to find story ideas, how to proceed with effective research for timely news, along with features and longer term assignments, and how to assign stories effectively.

Writing techniques will include how to’s of leads for online, broadcast and print reporting along with different types of story structures.

The group will also look at ways to incorporate and attribute quotes, and keep readers’ attention through the use of transitions and endings.

Staffs and advisers from all student media are welcome to attend. Tuition is $25 per person.

The deadline for enrollment is Friday, Oct. 11.

See application page 3.
2013 Fall Contest on localizing

When you show how issues that affect people in your state, your country or around the world also affect people in your own school community, that’s localizing.

To enter the contest, please send the broadcast or published work with the entry form and fee.

Submissions can be artwork, blogs, charts or diagrams, documentaries, editorials, essays, fiction, news or feature stories, podcasts, single photos or photo illustrations, photo essays, poetry, podcasts, PSAs, special pages, special sections, slide shows or spreads.

For print media please send complete page, unmounted tear sheet on which entry appears.

Tape a filled out copy of the entry form to the upper right corner of each entry.

Broadcasters please send DVD Put the web link to each online entry on the entry form.

Limit of three entries per medium.

Each entry must have been broadcast or published between September 1 and December 31, 2013.

Entry fee: NONE for NESPA members in good standing as of May 2, 2013; $3 per entry for non-members.

Send entries to New England Scholastic Press Association, Helen F. Smith, executive director, Boston University, College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215.

The deadline for receipt of entries is Friday, Jan. 10, 2014.

Winners will be notified by April 1. Results will be announced at the annual spring conference and in the summer newsletter.

Suggested topics

First, NESPA listed 50 topics. Then 25 more. Again, 25 more. Now, here are 125 total.

absenteeism
academic exchanges
accreditation of your school
AIDS awareness and prevention
airport security
Alzheimer’s
animal rights
archaeological discoveries
artificial turf
babysitting as an income source
being bi- or tri-lingual
bicyclists and the law
boating safety
bullying
cancer
cell phones
children’s rights in custody disputes
college admission standards
college tuition
community service opportunities
construction of school buildings
cost of textbooks
credit cards
Deaf cultures
depression
dirt bikes
disabilities
economic recession
elections
eligibility requirements for scholastic
athletes
endangered species
environmental considerations
Facebook
federal aid to education
fitness and its challenges
First Amendment issues
food safety
foreclosures
funding for the arts
gambling
gap years
going green
hazing
health insurance
homophobia
human rights
hunting
immigration and emigration
internet use and misuse
internships and summer jobs
job market
length of school day and year
marketing on the internet
military and scientific advances
military recruiting
nutrition
obesity
OCD
political parties
public art
public transportation
privacy
professional sports
race relations
laws affecting jobs for teen-agers
religious holidays
safety helmets
SAT prep companies
scholarships’ availability
school bus safety
school lunches
school mascots
school safety standards
school security
sleep deprivation
social networking sites
special education
sports-related injuries
standardized testing
steroids
substance abuse
teen-age parents
toons’ rights in the work place
texting and driving
tipping
tourism
tsunami
tweeting
unions
user fees
vandalism and graffiti
veterans
video games
volunteer work
voter turnout
weather
web sites
wind turbines
women’s issues
yoga

25 more ideas . . .
1. allergies
2. anorexia
3. caffeine addiction
4. Common Core
5. composting/waste disposal
6. dating violence
7. distance learning
8. driving license age requirements
9. drug use among athletes
10. e-books
11. food trucks
12. gluten-free trend
13. gun control and gun laws
14. head injuries
15. honor codes
16. jury duty
17. price of gas
18. public transportation
19. Puerto Rican statehood
20. regional stereotypes
21. skateboards
22. tattoos
23. traffic tie-ups
24. voter registration
25. welfare
Fall workshop on news and features
at Boston University Saturday, Oct. 19 from 2-4 p.m.

Yes, I will attend. Please send me details about room location.

Please send tuition fee of $25 per person payable to NESPA to Helen F. Smith, NESPA executive director, Boston University, College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215 by Friday, Oct. 26.
e-mail: phsmith@igc.org or helenfs@bu.edu

Title of entry __________________________________________________________________________

publication/broadcast name_____________________________________________________________

student(s) name(s) to be recognized_____________________________________________________________________

school’s full name____________________________________________________________________________________

school address_______________________________________________________________________________________

school phone____________________________________           e-mail_________________________________________

adviser’s signature___________________________________________________________________________________

Fall Contest entry form 2013

Take this opportunity to join NESPA

school name_________________________________________phone (                    )

address_________________________e-mail_________________________

publication or production name______________________________

adviser(s) name(s)____________________________________________________________________________________

take this opportunity to join NESPA

school name_________________________________________phone (                    )

address_________________________e-mail_________________________

publication or production name______________________________

adviser(s) name(s)____________________________________________________________________________________

Mail check for $50 for each publication or broadcast unit to Helen F. Smith, executive director, NESPA, Boston University, College of Communication  640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215
How staffs can honor professionals

NESPA gives awards to individuals who provide exemplary support to school journalists

Staffs and advisers can nominate individuals for special awards who contribute significantly to New England’s scholastic press.

With the Robert Baram Award the Association honors a distinguished adviser from this region who has helped students raise their sights and their standards in the practice of school journalism.

The award is named for the late Robert Baram, founder and for 46 years the executive director of the Association.

Consideration for the award is based on an adviser’s
• contributions to the cause of ethical, thorough and articulate scholastic journalism in the adviser’s school and community; and
• support for school journalists in all facets of their efforts to present credible and useful material to their audience.

The Freedom to Write Award honors school administrators who actively inspire students and faculty to use journalism as a way to participate more fully in a democratic society.

In addition, the Association honors professors and members of the professional press with Awards of Special Recognition.


Winners receive their awards at the annual conference on the Boston University campus.

Program for advisers next summer

Advisers and journalism teachers are invited to a workshop on How to Advise a Scholastic News Publication June 30-July 3 at Boston University’s College of Communication.

This past July 1-3 and 5, faculty from a variety of scholastic media met, conferred and completed projects.

Sessions included how to
• keep a journalistic balance
• deal with legal and ethical considerations
• teach the staff to cover the school and its community
• teach the staff to write and edit

• motivate the staff
• teach fundamentals of photojournalism and design
• maintain a good relationship with the principal, faculty and parents
• use special pages, special sections and spreads as training vehicles
• plan, set goals and schedule copy flow for print and online
• manage the business side
• critique the publication
• make the most of professional resources.

Teaching with Helen Smith were Harry Proudfoot, retired adviser of The Villager, which was a daily at Westport High School in Westport, Mass., and Dan Levinson, adviser of Voice, a news magazine at Thayer Academy in Braintree, Mass.

Advisers from Massachusetts can earn professional development points for their work during the week with additional PDPs for their related curriculum development over the rest of the summer.

The fee will again be $300. Final application date is Friday, June 6.

For more information contact Helen Smith at phsmith@igc.org or helenfs@bu.edu.