

# **Send us your best student journalists!**

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is sponsoring the Urban Journalism Workshop for high school students in the summer of 2008. This workshop provides two weeks of intensive journalism skills training in writing and reporting, interviewing, editing and newspaper design to students (mainly rising seniors) who might be considering journalism as a course of study in college and as a possible career. The workshop, cosponsored with Virginia Commonwealth University and the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, will be offered at *no cost* to participants.

The program focuses on print journalism, mainly newspapers and news magazines. Reporters and editors from the Richmond Times-Dispatch, along with faculty members from the VCU School of Mass Communications, will provide instruction. Students are not required to be enrolled in journalism or be on their high school publications staff to be considered for participation.

**The workshop will take place June 15-27 at the VCU School of Mass Communications in Richmond. The deadline for applications is Monday, March 31, 2008.**

In years past, these programs were entitled 'High School Journalism Workshops for Minorities.'" This criterion has changed. There will be no preferential treatment for, or discrimination against, any applicant on the basis of race or ethnicity this year or in the future. All applicants, regardless of race, ethnicity, or other protected trait are welcome to apply and will be considered for participation without reference to their race, ethnicity or other protected trait.

#### *A summary of the criteria for selection:*

- \*\* The applicant ideally would be a junior in the current 2007-08 school year, although consideration will be given to current sophomores and graduating seniors.
- \*\* The applicant should be on the staff of his or her student newspaper in the 2007-08 school year, although consideration also will be given to students who are not now on the staff but plan to be on their publication staff in the next school year.
- \*\* The applicant should be showing interest in, as well as some skills in, print journalism (writing and editing).
- \*\* The applicant must submit a brief essay with the application, along with two letters of recommendation from a newspaper adviser / journalism or other teacher and current transcript.

#### *Among the benefits of the program:*

- \*\* Each student will write at least two stories for publication in a workshop newspaper, a profile story on another participant and an in-depth news-feature story.
- \*\* A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Times-Dispatch to the top student who plans a journalism / print communications course of study in college; the scholarship will be renewable through the participant's undergraduate college career
- \*\* The top story written by a rising senior will be nominated for a national \$1,000 scholarship from the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.

**The Urban Journalism Workshop is not intended to serve as a reward for a job well done or as a resume builder to help a student get into college.** Based on past experience, we expect the competition for admission to be strong, and the work will be intense, with students involved in instruction and completing assignments from early morning to late night, for most of the workshop.

We ask you to help identify not just established "stars," but also stars-in-the-making, those students who have shown the beginnings of real interest in journalism, those who have potential to become top-level student journalists, especially with a boost from a program like this. You will benefit, the students will benefit, and journalism as a whole will benefit.

**For more information, please contact CAROL MAWYER at VCU (804)-827-3725 or [cbmawyer@vcu.edu](mailto:cbmawyer@vcu.edu) or BONNIE DAVIS at VCU (804)-827-3775 or [bndavis@vcu.edu](mailto:bndavis@vcu.edu).**

# 2008 Urban Journalism Workshop

*A two-week residential workshop in print journalism for high school students sponsored by the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginia Commonwealth University and Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.*

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## Application for 2008 Workshop (June 15-27, 2008)

Please print or type

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Work telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Current year in school:     \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

School \_\_\_\_\_ School telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Scholastic journalism experience:

Introductory journalism class   \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

Advanced journalism class     \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

School newspaper staff         \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

Introductory yearbook /  
photojournalism class         \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

School yearbook staff           \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

Photography class              \_\_\_9            \_\_\_10            \_\_\_11            \_\_\_12

Most recent staff position, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Journalism teacher / newspaper adviser \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your involvement in scholastic journalism / publications to this point, along with any scholastic journalism accomplishments, honors or awards:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe why you would like to participate in the 2008 Urban Journalism Workshop:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approximate typing speed \_\_\_\_\_ WPM (You must be able to type by the time the workshop begins. No exceptions can be made.)

Your signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

ALL PARTS OF APPLICATION DUE NO LATER THAN March 31, 2008

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### Part 2 of Application for 2008 Workshop (June 15-27, 2008)

Please print or type

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Please attach an essay of approximately 300 words on how you will benefit from participating in a newspaper workshop such as this, perhaps relating this opportunity to your college and career goals. Mail the essay with this cover sheet and your application NO LATER THAN March 31, 2008, to  
CAROL B. MAWYER, VCU SCHOOL OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS,  
901 W. MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 842034, RICHMOND, VA. 23284-2034.
- (2) Please ask for a recommendation from two individuals. These could include a teacher, publication adviser, principal or guidance counselor. These individuals should write a letter of recommendation on your behalf, including an evaluation of your work as a student journalist, if applicable, and send it separately NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2008, to  
CAROL B. MAWYER, VCU SCHOOL OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS,  
901 W. MAIN ST. PO BOX 842034, RICHMOND, VA. 23284-2034.
- (3) Please have your high school send in a separate envelope a copy of your most current high school transcript NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2008, to  
CAROL B. MAWYER, VCU SCHOOL OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS,  
901 W. MAIN ST., PO BOX 842034, RICHMOND, VA. 23284-2034.

Interviews will be conducted in April, and the workshop advisers will select by early May (time approximate) 12 students to participate in the program. The workshop will be a resident program, with all students staying at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. The workshop will be offered at no cost to students. If you have any questions, please call:

**\*\* Carol B. Mawyer, VCU, 804-828-2660, or [cbmawyer@vcu.edu](mailto:cbmawyer@vcu.edu)**

**\*\* Bonnie Davis, VCU, 804-827-3775, or [bndavis@vcu.edu](mailto:bndavis@vcu.edu)**

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