

# ***Hugh N. Boyd Journalism Diversity Workshop***

The following information items are excerpted from the June, 2016, summary update issued by JDW Workshop Director Karyn D. Collins, on the revival of the Hugh N. Boyd Journalism Diversity Workshop.

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The workshop, which was originally founded in 1979, had been offered annually each summer until 2009 when it was canceled because of administrative issues.

The program is now scheduled to be held July 24-30, 2016 for 10 students. The program will be based at Rutgers University School of Communication and Information's Department of Journalism and Media Studies. Students will live on campus for the entirety of the workshop.

## **Target Student Population:**

This program's purpose is encouraging youth to consider journalism careers to emphasize the media industry's interests in ethnic and cultural diversity, both in staffing and in content.

Eligible students must be rising sophomores, juniors or seniors attending high school in New Jersey.

Efforts were made to recruit students from a variety of income levels who represent a range of high schools across the state including high schools that do NOT have journalism programs. The revised Boyd Workshop worked with educators as well as community organizations to identify students with an interest in media work or potential to work in media.

## **Purpose:**

The Hugh N. Boyd Journalism Diversity Workshop was designed to encourage youth to consider journalism careers and to emphasize the newspaper industry's efforts to assure diversity in staffing and content.

The revived program continues the workshop's original mission: inspiring a diverse group of talented high school students to pursue careers in journalism, encouraging them to pursue a course of study that will prepare them for these goals, and developing and improving skills in writing and editing as well as the digital skills necessary for the type of multimedia journalism that have become standard for New Jersey's media companies.

## **Format:**

The Boyd Program is a residential summer workshop program with students living on campus. Students will work in a campus journalism lab. In addition, students will be asked to bring laptops, tablets and smartphones and will work with these devices throughout the workshop including "in the field" reporting activities.

Students will write stories and blogs with the help of professional mentors. Stories and blogs will be featured on a workshop webzine. Students will be given printed copies at the end of the workshop week.

Students will also be expected to be familiar with current events and the latest news events and will have a news quiz every morning.

Other activities during the week will include a visit to a newsroom and news meeting, and sessions with working journalists in the field and in the laboratory. In addition, students and their parents will hear from college and career advisors and receive a tour of the Rutgers campus.

Students will also enjoy leisure activities including possible outings to area cultural and sporting events.

## **HUGH N. BOYD JOURNALISM DIVERSITY WORKSHOP STAFF - 2016**

### **Director - Karyn D. Collins**

Karyn D. Collins is an award-winning professional journalist who specializes in feature writing including lifestyle stories, dance criticism, arts and entertainment stories and fashion style editing. In addition to her work as a journalist she is an educator and serves as an adjunct at Rutgers University, William Paterson University and Bloomfield College.

## Assistant Director – Melissa Cornick

Melissa Cornick is an award-winning investigative journalist and television producer whose work has been seen on “60 Minutes,” “20/20,” “Nightline,” “Dateline,” “NBC News Now” and “CBS Reports with Walter Cronkite.” She is an adjunct at Adelphi University, and serves on the advisory board for Fordham University’s Department of Communications and Media Studies.

## HUGH N. BOYD JOURNALISM DIVERSITY WORKSHOP 2016 STUDENTS

NAME	School	GENDER	Year in School for 2016-17	Details/Background
<b>Daniella Ignacio</b>	West Essex Regional HS in North Caldwell	Female	Senior	Will be Managing Editor and Special Projects Editor in 2016-17. Has worked for her school paper’s Opinion section, an apprentice to the editor, junior copy editor and staff writer. “This craft allows me to share the stories of real people and give them recognition – I can make a difference with my writing. That’s truly powerful and rewarding.”
<b>Suubi Mondesir</b>	Red Bank Regional HS in Little Silver	Female	Junior	Blogger, poet, writer. Interested in journalism because “journalism, writing and words, touch people in a way nothing else can. Words force people to think and question what they have always accepted. I want to be a part of that!”
<b>McKenna Samson</b>	Lenape Regional HS, Medford	Female	Senior	Manages, edits and coaches writers and designers as Opinion Page editor for her school paper. “When I’m writing for The Fanscotian, my school newspaper, I tend to experience an adrenaline rush.”
<b>Trina Sanyal</b>	Bridgewater-Raritan HS, Bridgewater	Female	Senior	News anchor for school television channel, freelance writer who covered competition for a swimming magazine. “The experiences gained through this workshop would be truly transformative, and will serve as the first step towards making my passion for journalism more than just a hobby.”

<b>Rohan Kremer Guha</b>	Columbia HS, Maplewood	Male	Senior	Has been staff writer for school paper, specializing in impact stories and stories focusing on public policy and inequity. Will be News Editor for 2016-17. “I want to become part of a journalism that takes into account the unlikely voice and the overlooked story.”
<b>Serena Chen</b>	Lawrenceville School, Lawrenceville (commutes daily)	Female	Sophomore	Staff writer for school paper. Has an independent health and nutrition blog with followers from around the world. “Journalism is an amazing tool because it enables us to become global citizens.”
<b>McKella Sylvester</b>	Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS, Scotch Plains	Female	Senior	Writes for the teen section of the Burlington County Times. “I would be able to improve the quality of my writing with the help of experienced journalists. I believe that any good writer can become better with access to the right professionals and resources. “
<b>Michael Pereira</b>	St. Benedict’s Prep., Newark	Male	Senior	Will be editor-in-chief of his school paper in the fall. “Journalists can have a huge impact on getting the truth about the situation many immigrants face. I would like to be part of that kind of work and get the truth out to the world.”
<b>Emma Wilenta</b>	Communications HS in Manasquan	Female	Junior	Reporter, assistant web editor for her school paper. “From serving as an editor on our school paper, to attending conferences and workshops on journalism studies, I have tried to learn as much as I can to become a better student journalist. I am excited to even be able to apply for this workshop that I feel would be a blessing in my life.”
<b>Alyssa Calubayan</b>	Cherry Hill West HS in Cherry Hill	Female	Senior	Creative director of school paper, staff writer, interested in fashion journalism. “I need to spend a week learning not only a few basic skills of journalism but other skills as well like writing for a blog/web, news, or features.”

# **Hugh N. Boyd Journalism Diversity Workshop**

## **Advisory Committee:**

- *Ron Czajkowski, New Jersey Press Foundation trustee*
- *Dr. Jack Bratich, chair, Department of Journalism and Media Studies at Rutgers University School of Communication and Information*
- *Karen Novick, associate dean, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information*
- *Stephen Chiger, former head of the Boyd Workshop who is now director of literacy at the North Star Academy Charter School in Newark*
- *Chanta Jackson, former Newark Star-Ledger editor who is now communications officer for the Asbury Park School District and a member of the Neptune Township Board of Education*
- *Dr. Eleanor Novek of Monmouth University's School of Communication who was the longtime academic advisor for the Boyd Workshop*
- *Andi Mulshine of Communications High School in Wall, NJ, and an officer with the Garden State Scholastic Press Association*