



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: Beat Reporter, We’Ced Youth Media (<http://www.wecedyouth.org>)

LOCATION: Merced, CA

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: We’Ced Youth Media was founded in 2011 to train and equip young people in Merced with media production skills and a distribution outlet to share their stories with a wider audience. We’Ced writers are provided an opportunity to report on and discuss the issues closest to them and their communities, while also developing communication and leadership skills. These components are essential to building a base of knowledge that can empower and grow the capacity of youth in Merced to impact change in their community.

We’Ced operates under the umbrella of *Pacific News Service dba New America Media* (NAM), a non-profit news organization founded in 1970 that has since evolved to become a multimedia organization dedicated to inclusive journalism and communications in a global society, through growing the capacity of the ethnic media and youth media sectors.

THE POSITION: New America Media seeks a local resident of Merced who can take the role of Beat Reporter for We’Ced Youth Media. The Beat Reporter will work collaboratively with and report to the Youth Media Coordinator currently on staff in Merced.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities include:

- **Media/Journalism Production:**
 - File at least three stories a month (print articles or multimedia pieces) for publication on We’Ced.
 - Be available for field assignments from We’Ced Project Coordinator on short notice -- a “rapid responder” to cover breaking news or other time-sensitive content needs, as needed.
 - Be in regular communication with Project Coordinator to develop story ideas, and edit articles, using We’Ced’s office space – located within Merced’s LGBT Center – as a base of operations.
 - Explore platforms and strategies to promote distribution of media content, including social media.
 - Content produced by Beat Reporter should focus on issues broadly defined under the scope of “community health” in Merced as indicated by Project Coordinator, NAM and local Building Healthy Community (BHC) campaigns.

- **Youth Training/Development:**



- Support Project Coordinator in implementing a youth media curriculum that emphasizes community reporting and journalism, story research, development of individual voice / opinion, and critical thinking skills.
- Support Project Coordinator in sourcing additional stories (print articles or multimedia) from like-minded community contributors not in the core youth cohort.
- Support Project Coordinator to ensure youth receive adequate writing/editorial, technical and mentoring support to complete assignments.
- Honor the principles of youth development, including emotional/physical safety, healthy relationship building, leadership development, community involvement and skills building.
- Support Project Coordinator to ensure the program provides a safe space for youth reporters and staff.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Excellent writing and editing skills a must
- Journalism experience highly desired
- Familiarity with Final Cut Pro, and/or other digital editing tools
- Familiarity with social media tools (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc)
- Able to work independently, a self-starter
- Familiarity with and connection to communities in and around Merced and the general Central Valley
- Bilingual English / Spanish or Hmong a plus
- Bachelor's Degree and/or equivalent professional experience a plus but not required
- In possession of a valid driver's license and the ability to travel within California and the Central Valley occasionally

COMPENSATION: Dependent on Experience. This is a full time salaried position, with benefits.

TO APPLY: Email a cover letter and resume to New America Media Editor Peter Schurmann at pschurmann@newamericamedia.org

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Friday January 30, 2015