



2011 American Indian Journalism Institute graduates, faculty and staff.

## AMERICAN INDIAN JOURNALISM INSTITUTE

*An academic, scholarship and newsroom internship program of the Freedom Forum*

Al Neuharth Media Center, University of South Dakota  
555 Dakota St., Vermillion, SD 57069  
June 13 – 22, 2012

### Applying to the American Indian Journalism Institute

Submit by postmark deadline March 1, 2012

The American Indian Journalism Institute offers a concentrated 10-day journalism course and paid summer internships for college students. The institute is funded by the Freedom Forum, an organization promoting employment diversity in America's newsrooms. AIJI students may be eligible to earn 3 hours of college credit if they successfully complete the class, which is taught at the Freedom Forum's Al Neuharth Media Center on the University of South Dakota's Vermillion campus.

Students attend AIJI for free and receive other financial assistance. Applications are welcome from any Native American college student hoping to become a journalist. Application forms are available at [www.freedomforumdiversity.org](http://www.freedomforumdiversity.org). Preference will be given to those applicants interested in journalism careers and who show the greatest potential.

AIJI graduates compete for six-week paid internships as reporters, copy editors, photographers and multimedia journalists in daily newsrooms. The internships begin about July 1.

#### Applicants must submit a signed application and:

- A written essay (at least 500 words). The essay will be read for content and to determine ability to think and to express thoughts and ideas cogently. The essay should be autobiographical, with an emphasis on interest in journalism and what the applicant hopes to accomplish through AIJI.
- A color headshot photo in JPEG format e-mailed to [darlene.schieffer@usd.edu](mailto:darlene.schieffer@usd.edu).
- Two letters of recommendation, preferably from teachers, work supervisors, former employers and members of the journalism community. (No letters from relatives.)
- A copy of a current college transcript.
- A resume or year-by-year listing of education and work history.
- Four to six work samples of any writing/editing/photography/Web experience or classroom assignments.

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## STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

Submit by postmark deadline March 1, 2012

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  M  F Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

*Home address or school address where you can be reached before June 1, 2012:*

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Twitter username: @ \_\_\_\_\_ MySpace URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Facebook username or URL: \_\_\_\_\_

*Address where you can be reached after June 22, 2012, if different from address above:*

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested and available for a six-week paid newsroom internship after AIJI?  Yes  No

Are there any geographic restrictions on where you're willing to work as an intern? (Please explain)  Yes  No

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*Please note: AIJI interns are required to comply with personnel policies and practices at their internship sites, which may include drug testing. Interns must have a valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle with insurance during their internship.*

Do you have a valid driver's license?  Yes  No Driver's license number: \_\_\_\_\_ Which state? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have access to a reliable, legally registered and insured vehicle to use during a six-week paid newsroom internship?  Yes  No

Who owns the vehicle? \_\_\_\_\_

College where enrolled currently or where you attended in the past: \_\_\_\_\_

College location (city and state): \_\_\_\_\_

Two-year or four-year school? \_\_\_\_\_ College enrollment date: \_\_\_\_\_

Major/minor: \_\_\_\_\_ Overall G.P.A.: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of semesters completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate number of credit hours earned: \_\_\_\_\_

College where you will enroll for the fall semester of 2012: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current student status (full-time, part-time, inactive or graduated): \_\_\_\_\_

High school name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

High school location (city and state): \_\_\_\_\_

*Emergency contact. Person to be contacted in case of an emergency, illness, injury, etc. during the institute:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship (relative, friend, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

*Contact information for two references who will supply letters of recommendation (should not be relatives):*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Honors, awards, scholarships, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

*Scholastic journalism (check any that apply):*

- College/university newspaper and position(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- College/university TV, radio, online or other media position(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other media-related experiences: \_\_\_\_\_
- High school newspaper or other media position(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any recent extracurricular and community activities: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about AIJI? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your tribal affiliation, if any? \_\_\_\_\_ Are you enrolled?  Yes  No

If yes, what is your enrollment or tribal membership number? \_\_\_\_\_

If selected, what do you hope to gain from and contribute to AIJI? \_\_\_\_\_

Three years from now I want to be: \_\_\_\_\_

*I agree that, to the best of my knowledge, the information given on this application is true, that I meet the eligibility requirements for the American Indian Journalism Institute and that I have a genuine interest in participating in the full 10-day program if I am selected. I understand that the program forbids the use of alcohol, other intoxicants and illegal drugs at any time from June 13 through June 22, 2012. Violators will be dismissed from the institute. My signature is mandatory for this application to be valid.*

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Submit by postmark deadline March 1, 2012 to: Jack Marsh, Al Neuharth Media Center, University of South Dakota, 555 Dakota St., Vermillion, SD 57069. E-mail [jmarsh@freedomforum.org](mailto:jmarsh@freedomforum.org). Fax 605/677-6388. Questions? Call 605/677-5424.*