School of Journalism  
Jane Swicegood Student Exploration Grant  
Call for Proposals

You can’t actually report on a place thousands and thousands of miles away. You can have opinions, you can you know be an armchair warrior if you like, but you can’t really report. So, for journalists, you have the correct instinct, which is to get up and go to the places where news is happening.

—Christiane Amanpour  
*Arizona Daily Star*, September 8, 2019

What
A generous gift from UA journalism alumna Jane Swicegood will assist aspiring journalists by broadening the scope of their professional portfolio. The $1,000 funding will help defray the expenses for compelling journalistic projects at both local and offsite locations. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to, investigative reports, longform narratives, podcasts, photo projects, documentaries or anything else that gets students into the field and engaged in the community or beyond.

Why
Jane Swicegood wants her gift to make a difference for students by funding memorable projects and engaging them in their education – the kinds of activities that they will remember years from now.

Who
Any full-time undergraduate or graduate student majoring in journalism in the UA School of Journalism may submit a proposal. Recipients must register for at least one (1) unit of independent study or take a class with a journalism professor during the semester(s) the award is made. Students may reapply for consideration each year.

How
Student applicants must email the director a one-page proposal that includes the following:

1. **Project title(slug).**
2. A paragraph summarizing the project. **The nut graph.**
3. A paragraph clearly explaining **what makes your project engaging, compelling and different.** What will make it a possible candidate for a contest entry and/or publication? How will it help you be a better journalist? Avoid jargon. Address the criteria below.
4. **Timing.** When do you plan to carry out your project? It can span one or two semesters. Summer and winter projects can also be supported.
5. Identify **a professor with whom you plan to work.** The faculty member must affirm in writing willingness to serve as your mentor for the duration of the project, which may be as an independent study or as part of a class.

In addition, include a **budget** explaining how you will use the $1,000 grant. Itemize how much money you will need and for what, specifically. The funding can be applied to, but is not limited to, equipment, travel and research. Leveraging other funds is always good, but selection will be based primarily on the potential impact this money will have on your professional project.
Criteria
The selection committee will consider a variety of factors, including the following:

- The compelling nature of the project.
- The likelihood that the applicant will publish a result with the potential for significant, lasting public impact.
- The quality of the proposal (clear, thorough, to the point, well-written, free of jargon).
- Will the proposal rely on the grant to happen, or would it happen anyway?

Depending on the nature of the projects submitted for review and the available funds, the committee may elect to award an additional grant in any given year.

When
Email your proposal to Carol Schwalbe, director of the School of Journalism, by Friday, Dec. 20, 2019, for the 2020 grant. A committee selected by the director will pick the recipient. The donor will not be involved in the selection. (Donors aren’t allowed to be involved in the selection of recipients benefitting from tax-deductible contributions.)