

2016-2017 Scholastic News Kids Press Corps Application

Thank you for your interest in becoming a *Scholastic News* Kid Reporter! In order to be considered, you must be between the ages of 10-14 (must be 10 years old by November 1, 2016) and complete and submit all of the following:

- * a typed news article (maximum 400 words) about a person or an organization making a difference in your community. The article must include at least two quotes from at least two interviews.
- * a typed essay (maximum 250 words) that answers the questions: Why do you want to be a Kid Reporter? What do you hope to learn as a Kid Reporter?
- * two ideas for stories about your community that you would like to work on as a Kid Reporter.
- * a basic background information form that lets Kids Press Corps editors know more about you.
- * a Student Release Form (form provided by Scholastic must be completed and signed by your parent/legal guardian).
- * a recent photograph of yourself that, if you are selected as a Kid Reporter, will appear on the Scholastic News website when we announce the new Kid Reporters (this can be a color printout or an actual photograph, but we cannot return any submitted photographs).

Send all of these materials to:

**Scholastic News Kids Press Corps/Apply
557 Broadway
New York, NY 10012-3999**

All applications MUST be postmarked by September 23, 2016

NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

**Scholastic News Kids Press Corps
Student Reporter Background Information**

Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Your Date of Birth:

Grade in School as of September 2016 :

(We need this information so we can send you materials as necessary through the year)

Home Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Parent(s) Name(s):

Parent(s) Work Phone Number(s):

Parent(s) E-mail Address(es):

Names of Siblings (if they are former members of the Kids Press Corps or are applying this year):

School Name:

Favorite Subject(s):

Favorite Book:

Favorite Music:

Extracurricular Activities and any Clubs or Organizations you are a member of:

What do you like to do most in your spare time?

Do you have a blog or, if you are old enough, are you on any social media (such as Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Instagram, etc.)? (If so, which one(s)?)

Besides English, are you fluent in any other languages? (If so, which one(s)?)

Which career are you most interested in and why?

Who has inspired you most in life?

WRITING SAMPLES

WRITING SAMPLES MUST BE TYPED. NO HAND-WRITTEN SAMPLES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

- 1) A 400-word news article about a person or an organization making a difference in your community. The article must include at least two quotes from at least two interviews.

- 2) Two ideas for stories in your community that you would like to work on as a Kid Reporter. These ideas can be about people, events, or organizations. But they must be in your community.

- 3) Answer the following questions in a total of 250 words or less: Why do you want to be a Scholastic Kid Reporter? What do you hope to learn from being a Kid Reporter?

**SCHOLASTIC NEWS KIDS PRESS CORPS
STUDENT RELEASE FORM**

I _____ am the parent/guardian of

_____ and for valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give my consent for my son/daughter to volunteer as a student reporter in the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps. In doing so, I acknowledge and agree that:

- I. Scholastic Inc. (“Scholastic”) will not financially compensate or reward my child for his/her service as a student reporter in the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps.
- II. I understand that my child’s participation in the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps will entail researching and writing articles during the school year, and that preparation of such articles may involve travel and/or on-site reporting, if appropriate to the story. Long distance travel required by Scholastic will be reimbursed in accordance with Scholastic’s travel policies. I understand that my child’s participation is subject to the Scholastic News Guidelines (Exhibit A).
- III. Scholastic may photograph and/or interview my child and use such photographs or quotes, either with or without his/her name and any biographical information and/or other materials supplied to Scholastic by my child in his/her application or otherwise, at any time, in any and all media now known or hereafter developed for editorial, illustration, promotion, advertising, trade and other similar purposes in connection with its various books, magazines and publications and other activities or for general corporate or institutional marketing, without further notice or any compensation. Further, I understand that, subject to age requirements, my child may use various third party social media outlets (such as but not limited to Twitter) in his or her capacity as a Scholastic student reporter in consultation with Scholastic News Kids Press Corps editors. I consent to such participation and acknowledge that I am responsible for reviewing the terms of use and privacy policies of any such sites.
- IV. All articles, reports, stories, or interviews that my child writes or otherwise produces, develops, or conducts on behalf of Scholastic, and all other materials related thereto that my child writes or otherwise produces, develops or conducts on behalf of Scholastic (collectively, “Articles”), will be deemed the exclusive property of Scholastic and may be used in connection with its various publications and other activities, without any further obligation to me or my child. I and my child hereby assign and transfer to Scholastic any and all rights, including without limitation copyright, in the Articles. Without limiting the foregoing, (a) Scholastic shall have the right to copyright the Articles in the name of Scholastic or any name that Scholastic may choose, and (b) I and my child will not use or authorize others to use any of the Articles without Scholastic’s prior written consent, except as part of my child’s personal portfolio for school or job applications purposes. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to obligate Scholastic to make any use of the rights granted herein.
- V. Scholastic may use any photographs or video of my child or that my child or I take or deliver to Scholastic while serving in the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps (collectively, “Photos”) at any time, in any and all media now known or hereafter developed for editorial, illustration, promotion, advertising, trade and other similar purposes in connection with its various books, magazines and publications and other activities or for general corporate or

institutional marketing, without further notice or any compensation. I represent and warrant that my child's Articles are and will be original work to him/her that have not been previously published. I and my child hereby assign and transfer to Scholastic any and all rights, including without limitation copyright, in the Photos, and I represent and warrant that I and my child have all rights necessary to make the grant of rights contained herein.

VI. Without limiting anything contained herein, Scholastic may share any Articles and/or Photos either created by my child or featuring my child with outside news organizations including without limitation newspapers, magazines, and television and radio stations, whether in the form of press releases, electronic press kits or otherwise. Further, I understand that in connection with Scholastic's press outreach for the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps, Scholastic may arrange or facilitate interviews of my child with the media.

VII. I hereby release Scholastic and its affiliates and authorized representatives, as well as their officers, directors and employees ("Released Entities"), on behalf of me and my child, from any and all actions, suits, claims and demands of any kind whatsoever, which either of us, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, had, now have or hereafter may have, by reason of any matter related to the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps and the activities described herein. Without limiting the foregoing, the Released Entities will not be held accountable for any accident or injury sustained while my child attends or travels to/from an event, function, or interview on behalf of the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps.

VIII. My child may be allowed to communicate with Scholastic directly via e-mail or other media.

IX. I understand that Scholastic is not responsible for any child's behavior on the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps and that if my child breaks Scholastic's Kids Press Corps Guidelines (attached hereto as Exhibit A, and which I have read and acknowledge), I understand that my child's membership in the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps may be terminated, provided Scholastic shall retain any and all rights in the Articles and Photos set forth herein.

I have read the above and agree with and give my consent to what it says

Signature of parent or guardian

Date

Print name

Address (Street, Town, State, Zip)

Signature of Child

Date

Print name

Exhibit A

Scholastic News Kids Press Corps Guidelines

Dress

The dress code is casual and neat. We will provide you with a red polo shirt with the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps logo on it, along with a press badge identifying you as part of the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps. When on assignment, you must wear your badge and red shirt with a nice pair of slacks, preferably khakis or black pants, or for girls, nice pants or a skirt. Dress shoes are not necessary, but you should look neat, clean, and comfortable. No T-shirts with slogans or logos, please! You are not only representing yourself, but you are also representing your school and Scholastic.

Supplies

We will provide you with press credentials. You must be prepared to take notes (have a small note pad and pen with you at all times), and if possible, record the interview. If you do not have a tape recorder or smart phone with recording capabilities, you need to have someone with you to help take good notes during interviews.

Photographs

If you have access to a digital camera, still or video, please use it. You can e-mail pictures to us to accompany your article. You may also enlist a teacher or family member to help with taking pictures. Take a variety of shots. Be sure to tell us who took the photographs and/or videos you submit.

Transportation

It is up to your parents/guardians or teachers to transport you to and from an event or interview. When necessary, the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps editor will work with you to get credentials for both you and a parent/guardian. You should **never** arrange to do any interviews alone. You must have an adult with you at all times.

Talking to the Press

You may be interviewed by other members of the press about your experiences as a Scholastic News Kid Reporter. Someone from our Corporate Communications office will be in touch with you and your parents about how to answer questions about the program and your availability for interviews throughout the year. In some cases, your parent/guardian may need to arrange for your transportation to and from such interviews. If reporters approach you, please let us know **ASAP**. Be sure to get their name and contact information. We're here to help!

Kid Reporter Conduct

As a Scholastic News Kid Reporter you are an important “ambassador” of Scholastic and your school, and we expect you to represent us the best you can – whether it’s on location for an assignment, in an interview with media outlets, or in social media. What does that mean?

- Be respectful: Always behave in a polite and professional way.
- Be on time: Punctuality shows respect for the person you’re interviewing and the story you’re covering.
- Be prepared: Do your research, and have your questions ready.
- Be honorable: Ask for help if you need it, but never plagiarize or copy someone else’s work, even in part. Always cite your sources.
- Be a team player: There are other Kid Reporters across the country. Occasionally, you may have the chance to help one another to write a story or cover breaking news!

Social Media

If you are 13 years or older and have your parents’ permission to use social media, we encourage you to share your Kid Reporter stories with your followers. Here are a few Do’s and Don’ts for using social media as a Kid Reporter:

If you are **under the age of 13:**

- **DON’T** identify yourself as a Scholastic News Kid Reporter on social media.
- **DON’T** share your Kid Reporter stories on social media.
- **DON’T** reach out to people you would like to interview through social media. As always, story ideas should be submitted to your editor, Suzanne McCabe, for approval first.
- **DON’T** respond to interview requests from other members of the press that come to you through social media or any other way. Please send all requests from the media to Kristen Joerger.
- **DO** have a discussion with your parent or guardian before creating accounts or doing anything on social media.
- **DO** encourage your parents or guardians to share your Kid Reporter stories with their followers.

If you are **13 years old or over:**

- **DON’T** share information about stories you are working on that have not yet been published.
- **DON’T** reach out to people you would like to interview through social media. As always, story ideas should be submitted to your editor, Suzanne McCabe, for approval first.
- **DON’T** respond to interview requests from other members of the press that come to you through social media or any other way. Please send all requests to Kristen Joerger.
- **DON’T** create fan pages using the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps brand (for example: a Facebook fan page for your work as a Kid Reporter).
- **DO** identify yourself as a Scholastic News Kid Reporter on your social media accounts if you wish.
- **DO** share your published stories with your followers, or share Scholastic social media posts about Kid Reporter stories if you wish.