



Open Letters to Parents and Guardians

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Students and teachers are looking forward to summer for many reasons. One of the best is that we have the opportunity to attend a workshop to improve our journalistic skills. We want to tell you about the North Carolina Scholastic Media Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, so that you can help your son/daughter attend. Even though on-campus summer camps are not being held at UNC-Chapel Hill this year, an online version of the annual Summer Institute called NCSMI is being offered. Statewide student media contest results will be revealed, and special guest speakers will join to celebrate student media in our state.

Your son/daughter will choose one of the following divisions: news, design, literary magazine, photojournalism, broadcast news or yearbook. Students will learn how to combine writing, design and photography into first-rate publications and news sites. Those in the broadcast news division will learn how to produce, direct, edit and announce. Students may also choose leadership, investigative reporting and creativity boot camps.

Workshop General Information:

- **Format:** Instructional sessions and guest speaker sessions will be offered online via password-protected Zoom under the guidance of the UNC Office for the Protection of Minors. Students may attend by phone or laptop. Detailed instructions will be sent to enrolled students on June 11.
- **Faculty:** Top-notch instructors from North Carolina and the nation will assist students in learning the journalistic techniques.
- **Rules and Regulations:** All rules in effect at N.C. high schools are in effect at the Institute, and students are expected to work with advisers, faculty and staff to make the Institute an enjoyable time for learning. Rules will be strictly adhered to. Participants and parents/ guardians must submit a signed Code of Conduct form and a Release form.
- **Registration:** Cost of the 2021 online workshop is \$50 per participant.
- **Refunds:** No refund can be made after June 1 because of budgetary obligations. Finding a replacement is best if a person must cancel.

Now that you know at least the highlights about this summer program and a little about how much students can learn in preparation for next year, we hope you will consider its benefits and help your daughter/son attend. Please contact me at the school if I can be of further help to you.

Sincerely,