



# North Carolina Scholastic Media Association

## 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 child attend these 15 hours of hands-on instruction in lifelong skills. Dates are June 20-22.

Your child 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 sites. All students will gain hands-on experience in the division they choose to attend.

### **Workshop General Information:**

- **Housing:** Students will be housed in Ganville Towers. All students will come with their advisers or with a teacher chaperone the adviser has selected, and groups from the same school will be housed together. Advisers will monitor the residence halls so that workshop participants can study and live comfortably with their neighbors. All students will be required to be in the residence hall by 10:30 p.m. and in their own rooms and quiet by 11:30 p.m., with rooms checked by advisers. Lights must be out by midnight.
- **One-Day Day Camp:** NCSMI 2024 will include a one-day day camp for up to 25 individual students in the Chapel Hill area. Participants are invited to join NCSMI programs on June 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will be given an opportunity to experience pre-set sessions from each of the sequences. Parents/Guardians must accompany students to registration and check out. Students may not drive their own cars; parking will not be provided. Students are required to provide their own meals. Day camp fee is \$150 per person.
- **Faculty:** Top-notch instructors from North Carolina and the nation will assist students in learning the best journalistic techniques.
- **Other 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, and anyone not following the rules will be sent home at his or her expense. NCSMA will follow up with more information about release and conduct requirements. We will forward to all advisers UNC Protection of Minors and COVID-19 requirements when the information is made available to us.
- **Registration:** Cost of the workshop is \$200 per participant if received by May 1. After May 1 the fee is \$300 per person until June 1, or until registration is filled. This fee covers tuition, housing and two meals. Participants will need to purchase remaining meals (generally costing at least \$12 in restaurants on Franklin Street).
- **Refunds:** In case a participant has to cancel before June 1, a 50 percent refund will be made. No refund can be made after June 1 because of budgetary obligations. Finding a replacement is best if a person must cancel after registration is submitted.

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 child attend. Please contact me at the school if I can be of further help to you.

Sincerely,