

Scripps Howard Fund provides \$150,000 in journalism grants to increase diversity and inclusion

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CINCINNATI – The Scripps Howard Fund invested \$150,000 in 2023 for journalism grants to increase diversity and inclusion in the industry.

As part of its commitment to fostering environments where journalism students of all backgrounds can actively participate and feel included, the Fund selected one university and three nonprofits as recipients of its fall diversity and inclusion grants. The winning organizations submitted proposals demonstrating how its leaders would advance equity, diversity and inclusion in student media, journalism education and the journalism pipeline.

The four recipients of the fall 2023 grants are:

Durham Art Guild

The Fund is providing a \$15,000 grant to the Durham Art Guild to help create new opportunities for diverse reporting and coverage of the arts in the Triangle region of North Carolina. In partnership with Historically Black universities and other diverse universities in the area, up to six students will be hired as journalists to report on the diverse arts and culture in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill areas. Students will visit art exhibitions and performances by Black, Indigenous, Asian and Latinx artists and produce stories featuring artists in the region. The goal of the program will be to provide skills for students to enter the workforce with published work on arts and culture and have stronger and more diverse voices in the communities.

Investigative Reporters Workshop (IRW) – American University

The Investigative Reporting Workshop – a nonprofit news organization based at American University's School of Communication – will receive a \$25,000 grant from the Fund. IRW will use the grant to create a hands-on investigative reporting experience for a diverse cohort of about 20 graduate and undergraduate investigative journalism students. In collaboration with news organizations, particularly those that serve communities of color and underserved communities, the students will investigate the long-term impact of lead exposure in the city of Baltimore.

Right To Be

The Fund will provide a \$10,000 grant to Right To Be, a nonprofit that offers training to teach people to stop harassment. With the funding, Right to Be will develop a five-part e-learning curriculum designed to address online harassment impacting female journalists, LGBTQ+ journalists and journalists of color. It will equip students with tools to safely intervene, de-escalate harassment and affirm the importance of diversity in journalism. The pilot project will be offered at one of Right To Be's university partners. Right To Be will work with first- and second-year journalism students. The e-learning course will be offered as part of a certification program.

The University of Oklahoma Foundation – Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication

The University of Oklahoma Foundation will receive a \$25,000 grant from the Fund to benefit the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. The project will allow 10 Gaylord students of diverse backgrounds to report in two historically significant communities of color: the community surrounding George Floyd Square in Minneapolis and the Greenwood District of Tulsa. The project will delve into the shared history of these communities, particularly their experiences with violence, trauma and systemic racism. The students will produce work for Gaylord News, a student-powered news organization run by Gaylord College. The goal of the program will be to equip students with the skills and experiences to champion underrepresented stories in their future newsrooms.

Earlier this year, the Fund provided two universities and one nonprofit a combined \$75,000 for its spring diversity and inclusion grants. [Learn more about the spring 2023 recipients here.](#)

The Scripps Howard Fund will be offering another round of diversity and inclusion grants in 2024. To receive information about when the grant opens, sign up [for our journalism newsletter.](#)

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About the Scripps Howard Fund

The [Scripps Howard Fund](#), a public charity established by [The E.W. Scripps Company](#) (NASDAQ: SSP), is dedicated to creating informed and engaged communities through journalism education, childhood literacy and local causes. At the crossroads of the classroom and the newsroom, the Fund is a leader in supporting journalism through scholarships, internships, minority recruitment and development and First Amendment causes. The Scripps Howard Awards stand as one of the industry's top honors for outstanding journalism. The Fund's annual "If You Give a Child a Book ..." childhood literacy campaign has distributed thousands of new books to children in need across the nation. The Fund partners with Scripps brands to create awareness of local issues and support organizations that build thriving communities. The Scripps Howard Fund administers funding for the Scripps Howard Foundation, a private foundation established in 1962 to advance charitable causes important to The E.W. Scripps Company and the Scripps and Howard families.