



leroy f. aarons
journalism
education program

The Kay Longcope Scholarship Award

About the Kay Longcope Scholarship Award

Journalist Kay Longcope was co-founder of the statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) newsweekly, The Texas Triangle, and is generally regarded as the first out reporter at the Boston Globe newspaper. The pioneering Longcope started writing for the Globe in 1970 and was there for more than twenty years, including a tenure as the paper's religion editor. She died of pancreatic cancer on March 28, 2007.

The Kay Longcope Scholarship Award was established in 2008 through a gift from Longcope's estate and with the guidance of Longcope's partner Barbara Wohlgemuth.

NLGJA is pleased to be home to this unique scholarship opportunity which furthers the vision of founder Leroy F. Aarons and moves forward his belief in the critical role diversity plays in the education of the next generation of newsroom leaders.

The scholarship award for 2010-2011 academic year will provide tuition assistance to an LGBT student of color who plans a career in journalism and is committed to furthering NLGJA's mission of fair and accurate coverage of the LGBT community.

Quick References

Deadline:

Sunday, January 31, 2010

11:59pm (Eastern)

Application packages should include one original of all required materials plus five copies.

Complete application packages must be submitted to:
Kay Longcope Scholarship Award
NLGJA
1420 K Street, NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005
longcope@nlgja.org

E-mail info@nlgja.org with questions about applying. Please include your name and a phone number in your message.

NLGJA is an organization of journalists, media professionals, educators and students who work within the news industry to foster fair and accurate coverage of LGBT issues. NLGJA opposes all forms of workplace bias and provides professional development to its members.

Learn more about NLGJA, its student opportunities and its special student membership rate by visiting nlgja.org

Contributors

The National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) is grateful to Kay Longcope and her partner Barbara Wohlgemuth for establishing this award in her estate plan.

Administration

NLGJA partnered with The Philadelphia Foundation (TPF), a community foundation established in 1918, to administer the NLGJA Student Scholarship Fund. The Delaware Valley Legacy Fund, a component fund of TPF serving to advance philanthropy within the LGBT communities, will disburse the scholarship awards upon receiving recommendation from NLGJA during each award period.

Criteria

Applicants must be an LGBT individual of color planning to pursue a career in journalism and be able to demonstrate their passion and commitment to the profession. Selection will be based on journalistic and scholastic ability.

Applicants also must demonstrate an awareness of the issues facing the LGBT community and the importance of fair and accurate news coverage. For undergraduates, a declared major in journalism and communications is desirable but not required. Non-journalism majors may demonstrate their commitment to a journalism career through work samples, internships and work on a school newspaper, online news service or broadcast affiliate.



Who Can Apply

- High school seniors who have been accepted to attend a U.S. community college or four-year university, or who can show proof of application to a community college or four-year university and will attend full-time beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year.
- Undergraduate students who will attend a U.S. community college or four-year university full-time during the 2010-2011 academic year.
- Undergraduate students who have been accepted for their first year of a U.S. graduate school and have submitted a tuition deposit for the 2010-2011 academic year. Graduate students must be enrolled in a journalism program.

How to Apply

A complete application package should be submitted to NLGJA at the address below. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All materials should be typed 11-point font and double spaced; no handwritten materials will be accepted. Application package materials will not be returned.

Application packages should include:

- **Application.**
- **One-page résumé.**
- **Five work samples as described to the right.**
- **Transcript provided in sealed envelope.**
- **High school seniors must provide a copy of a letter of acceptance to a U.S. community college or four-year university.**
- **Three letters of recommendation. One must be from a teacher or professor. High school students may obtain letters from counselors and/or principals.**
- **An autobiography in the third person and written as a news story describing the applicant's commitment and passion for journalism and career goals. The autobiography should be no more than 1,000 words.**

Please send applications to longcope@nlgja.org* and include the name of the applicant in the subject line or mail applications to:

Kay Longcope Scholarship - NLGAJA
1420 K street NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005

Application Fee

There is no application fee for the Kay Longcope Scholarship Application.

Restrictions

The scholarship is available only to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who plan to attend a full year of school in the U.S. The scholarship may not be used to pay for course work or credits earned abroad. The scholarship award may pay for tuition only. The amount of the scholarship award will not exceed the student's annual tuition costs. Undergraduate applicants enrolled in non-news sequences must demonstrate their commitment to pursuing a journalism career through work samples, internships, work on a school news publication, online news service or broadcast affiliate. Graduate students must be enrolled in a recognized journalism program.

Questions?

Contact the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association National Office.

Please include your full name and phone number in every inquiry.

info@nlgja.org

(202) 588 - 9888

Or write to:

Kay Longcope Scholarship Award
NLGJA
1420 K Street, NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005

Work Samples

- **Print** - Samples written by the applicant and published in a high school, college or community newspaper, magazine or online news service. Print entries should be no larger than 8.5x11 inches.
- **Video** - Should be submitted on DVD. Clips submitted must be able to be played in either a DVD player or using a standard PC or Mac media player. Please test all DVDs prior to submission. Work samples may contain more than one story but should be no longer than 10 minutes.
- **Audio** - Should be submitted on compact disc. Work samples may contain more than one story but should be no longer than 10 minutes. No web addresses will be accepted for audio files. Please test compact discs prior to submission.
- **Photographic** - Images should be examples of published work from a high school, college or community newspaper, magazine or online news service. Published submissions and/or original prints must be reduced or printed to 8.5x11 inches or submitted on a compact disc.

NLGJA Convention

The recipient of the Aarons Scholarship Award will be required to attend and participate in the Student Project at NLGJA's National Convention. NLGJA's Student Project brings together student journalists and mentors from major media outlets to cover the National Convention & LGBT Media Summit. The expense-paid experience is designed to further the student's understanding of NLGJA's mission of fair and accurate coverage and provide additional practical experience.

NLGJA's 20th Anniversary - **The 2010 National Convention & 7th Annual LGBT Media Summit** will take place in San Francisco, CA from Sept. 2-5. Student Project participants will be required to arrive on site on Tuesday, Aug. 31 for the start of the program.

Deadline and Schedule

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Sunday, January 31, 2010. E-mailed applications must arrive in full by January 31, 2010 at 11:59pm (Eastern). NLGJA is not responsible for any incomplete or late applications, nor any late applications due to e-mail delays. The recipient will be notified about their award on March 1, 2010. The scholarship award will be announced through a national press release and in various NLGJA publications. The recipient will be honored at NLGJA's annual New York Benefit. Travel and accommodations will be provided. Event location and date TBA.

Excellence Contract

Scholarship recipients will be required to sign a Contract of Excellence with NLGJA. The contract commits the student to a level of academic achievement and to a continuing role as a member of NLGJA.

Specifically, the contract requires the scholarship recipient to:

- Maintain a 3.2-point grade average during the academic year that the scholarship is awarded. If the grade point average falls below 3.0, the student may be ineligible to receive subsequent scholarship disbursements.
- Provide NLGJA with transcripts for each term covered by the scholarship.
- Originate and complete a project designed to advance the mission of NLGJA. A project can be done in conjunction with class work or work done for student publications, broadcast or online media. Examples of a project include:

- o Produce a project or other body of work for a campus or LGBT news organization that focuses on diversity themes.
- o Produce a project or other body of work for a class that focuses on diversity themes.
- o Participate in a campus diversity event where the student will speak or organize a program focusing on the importance of news coverage of diversity issues.
- o Work with a local or student NLGJA chapter to produce a significant program focused on news coverage of diversity issues.

- Work with an assigned mentor to meet the terms of the contract. The mentor will be responsible for working with the student to conceive and produce the project.
- Attend the NLGJA National Convention and participate in the Student Project. More Information to the left.

Terms of Awards

Awards usually will be disbursed in equal increments at the beginning of each quarter or semester. The Delaware Valley Legacy Fund (DVLFF) will work with college or university financial aid offices to determine the best schedule for distributing awards, which will be sent directly to the institution. No payments will be made directly to students. The scholarship award will not exceed the cost of tuition.

Return of Awards

Recipients who are unable to finish the academic year because of illness or family emergencies may be asked to reimburse DVLFF for awards provided for the uncompleted quarter or semester. Students suspended from school for inadequate academic performance, disciplinary action or who were charged with a criminal offense will be asked to repay their entire scholarship. DVLFF will return the unused funds into NLGJA's distribution account or endowment, at NLGJA's recommendation.

*Any undelivered application will be considered incomplete.