

NSPA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Jennifer Bailey

“Why I'm choosing a career in journalism”

News never dies. News happens every second of every minute every day. For news to stop, the world would have to end. As that is unlikely to happen anytime soon, news is here to stay. News cannot be news without people to tell it, enter journalists. So, using the above logic, as long as there is news, there will be journalists. I hear people say that today's technology is killing journalism. These people are wrong. Today's technology is enhancing journalism.

Society today wants things to be attainable in an instant. People are constantly connected to their cell phones, which then connect them to the internet—allowing them access to the world. Journalists use this technology to report breaking news as it happens, instead of waiting until the next day to tell it. News publications now include web sites, magazines, newspapers, and even social networking sites such as Twitter. As a result, more people are up-to-date on world events, and thus more educated.

Essentially, a journalist's job is to educate the community. A good journalist needs to be able to decide news from gossip, be able to report the unbiased truth in any situation, and have a strong moral and ethical conscience. While these things can be hard to do, responsible journalists do them everyday. However, there are those journalists who do not do these things. There are reporters who are after the next big story and byline. There are reporters who use underhanded methods to get their sources. These are the journalists who have caused people to lose faith in journalists everywhere.

This is why I want to have a career in journalism. I want to educate others about the world—the good and the bad. I want people to be able to trust reporters again. They need to know we are there for the people, not the byline. I want to prove to the world that journalism will survive and adapt to the technological changes.