



Annual WPC mixer, fundraiser: 'Making Merry at the Marriott'
Deadline to RSVP is noon Monday, Aug. 27

Wichita Professional Communicators is hosting its annual networking mixer and scholarship fundraiser from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 29, at the Wichita Marriott, 9100 Corporate Hills.

Bring a colleague, co-worker, friend, partner, spouse or anyone else to join us for "Making Merry at the Marriott." This is a great networking opportunity and a chance to take home some wonderful items, donated by local businesses and individuals, that benefit WPC's philanthropy. Bring your checkbook, credit card or cash to bid on items in the silent auction* or purchase raffle tickets for door prizes.

Tickets are \$20 per person and include wine, appetizers and desserts. Proceeds from the event, silent auction and donations will benefit WPC's scholarship fund. Every year, WPC provides scholarships of up to \$2,000 for Wichita-area college students majoring in a communications field.

The deadline to RSVP is noon Monday, Aug. 27; to make your reservation visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wpc-networking-mixer-aug-29-2018-tickets-48149069162>

Special thanks to venue sponsor Wichita Marriott and wine sponsor Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits.

**If you or your company would like to donate an item for the silent auction or door prize drawings, please contact Shannon Littlejohn, silent auction chair, at shannon.littlejohn@gmail.com to arrange for a pickup or delivery.*

Words from the WPC president: Back to school

Classes are back in session at area public and private schools, colleges and universities, but learning is a lifelong venture.

Are you continuing to learn and grow your skills? As communicators, we tend to be a curious lot, but sometimes we're not always taking care of our professional lives. It's good to do an assessment of what's in your toolbox that gives you an edge or keeps you an effective team member. With marketplace changes, it is particularly important to keep your skills up-to-date.

As I look at the schedule of sessions for the NFPW conference I'll attend in September, I'm keeping an eye out for those sessions that will help keep me relevant. Among those sessions I plan to take are those that deal with digital content and podcasting, since one can't seem to get enough about the former and I know nothing about the production of podcasting.

Since 2017, I've been compiling a column for nwsbrfs about local and nearby resources that can help us stay relevant. If you come across meetups, workshops or other such resources, let me know. One of the best benefits of WPC, I think, is our goal to help one another be better communicators.



— Amy Geiszler-Jones

Special membership offer

New members who join Wichita Professional Communicators for the 2019 calendar year from now until the end of this year will receive membership for the rest of 2018 free.

Please invite other communicators whom you know to join our group. Let them know that as members they get lower monthly program fees, WPC enews alerts about job openings and other items of interest, and critical networking opportunities. The benefits of joining at the professional level include the opportunity to enter NFPW's communications contest, networking at a national level, job banks, discounted webinars and libel insurance.



If you know of a potential member, please share their information with Adrienne Churchill, vice president, membership, nachurch@k-state.edu or contact her for the customized membership application for this special offer.

Start thinking about 2019 renewal

Start thinking about renewing your membership for 2019 now, before the holidays, to ensure you have a seamless continuation of membership. WPC membership goes by calendar year, so your 2018 membership will expire Dec. 31.



Renewal payments can be made online at the WPC website. If you have a professional membership and choose to renew through NFPW, please provide proof of renewal to Adrienne Churchill, vice president, membership, nachurch@k-state.edu to ensure we have you on our rolls. Sometimes there is a lag time for NFPW to notify local affiliates of membership renewals.

If you are considering the benefits of joining at the professional level, check out the [NFPW](#) and [KPC](#) sites.

Applications will also be available at remaining WPC events for 2018 and online at the WPC website.

Member news

Laura Roddy Pedroja has been selected as one of 31 area citizens to participate in the 2018 Leadership Wichita class.

WPC members win Kansas Association of Broadcasters awards

Several WPC members who work at KMUW 89.1, Wichita's NPR station, won Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB) awards for excellence in broadcasting.

Deborah Shaar, Nadya Faulx, Carla Eckels and LuAnne Stephens will receive their awards at an awards banquet and ceremony in October. Overall, KMUW won 13 awards, and was named the KAB Large Market Radio Station of the Year. This is the fifth year KMUW has won the prestigious title.

Shaar, who serves on the WPC board as reservations manager, won awards for her reporting in four categories: first place in hard news/enterprise reporting, second place in news feature, second place in severe weather coverage and honorable mention in sports feature.

Carla Eckels won first place in sports feature, second place in spot news, and first place for DJ personality air check. Nadya Faulx won second place for the KMUW website. LuAnne Stephens won first place for a station promotion announcement.

We need you to serve on the WPC board

WPC is looking for a few good women and men to serve on its board. As a board member, you'll be able to help this organization evolve, grow and offer relevant programming, as well as fundraise for WPC's scholarship mission.

A nominations committee, headed by Amy Geiszler-Jones, is seeking people to run for the elected offices of president, president-elect, treasurer and secretary. The committee is also looking for others who'd like to serve in the other, appointed positions. Some positions hold specific duties like programming, membership or reservations, while others are at-large, where we need people to offer perspectives and input.

If you've never served on a board, the WPC board is a great gateway to developing some leadership and service skills. Please consider serving and having a voice in this organization. If you have any questions about board service, please contact Geiszler-Jones at algj64@sbcglobal.net or 316.210.4931.

WPC-ICT to hear from library experts

Join WPC-ICT members at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Aug. 27, at Wichita's new central library, 711 W. 2nd, as we learn from director Cynthia Berner and staff about free library programs that can benefit our businesses. We'll explore the Ask a Librarian program, new technology training opportunities and research capabilities.

Please mark your calendars for 10:30 a.m. on the following Mondays: Sept. 24, Oct. 29 and Nov. 26 at the library until further notice.

Wanted: WPC reservations manager

Now's the time to get involved with Wichita Professional Communicators in a leadership role. Fall elections are coming up soon, and we are looking to fill several board positions as terms expire in January.

One of the positions that will be open is the WPC reservations manager. This person handles the monthly meeting email invitations, creates name tags for the meetings and assists with check-in at the monthly meeting.

As you may know, we use an electronic system called Eventbrite to handle the reservations. This is easy to use and doesn't require technical skills.

If you are interested in taking on this role, we will train you on the process and system. If you have questions, please contact Deborah Shaar at wichitaprocom@gmail.com.



Community resources for communicators

WPC strives to offer networking opportunities, help fulfill professional development, provide insight to issues and be a resource. With an eye on the latter, we will make you aware of other resources available in the community that can benefit or may interest you as communicators.

Mastering Media Crisis talk

Eric Wilson from the Elliott School of Communication at Wichita State will talk about Mastering Media Crisis at the **Aug. 28 PRSA program**. Wilson plans to offer takeaways on delivering strategic counsel, training executives for on-camera interviews, and more. The meeting is 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Abode Venue. **RSVP by noon Monday, Aug. 27** Ticket prices range from \$15-27. <http://prsakansas.org/current-program/>

WordPress meetup group

Lee Media Group has started a WordPress ICT meetup group. According to the [WordPress ICT Facebook](#) page, the intention is to develop a WordPress community for users to develop awesome websites and learn more about better ways to use it. Check out the page for upcoming meetup times.

Screenwriting, grant writing blogging and social media marketing classes at WSU

Classes on screenwriting, grant writing, blogging and social media marketing are among the community education offerings at Wichita State this fall. [Marketing with Social Media](#) meets for three weeks, starting 6-9 p.m. Aug. 28. Cost is \$69. [Basic Blogging](#) meets for three weeks, starting 6-9 p.m. Aug. 30. Cost is \$69. The eight-week [Foundations of Screenwriting](#) class meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, starting Sept. 5, while [Grant Writing for the Not-for-Profit Community](#) is a four-week class, meeting Thursdays 7-9 p.m. starting Sept. 6. Cost is \$89 for the screenwriting class and \$119 for the grant writing class.

Photography, digital arts classes at CityArts

[CityArts](#) is offering digital photography and Photoshop classes, when its fall classes resume Sept. 10. The photography classes cover various levels of DSLR camera basics, sports photography, portraits and business headshots. The digital arts classes cover intro to Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom.

Kansas Authors Club conference

The [Kansas Authors Club state writing conference and convention in early October](#) in Salina will feature Kansas poet laureate Kevin Rabas and workshops on fiction writing, journaling for writers, historical nonfiction, memoirs, personal essays, poetry and more. The conference is **Oct. 5-7** at the Quality Inn & Suites, 2110 W. Crawford Street in Salina. Other details are yet to be announced.

Job, advice postings

Openings for communications, marketing, writing, graphic design and other similar jobs are regularly posted on the [Wichita Professional Communicators Facebook page](#). If you are a freelancer in the field or considering

joining the gig economy, check out the [WPC-ICT Facebook group](#) where members regularly share professional advice.

WPC Programs & Calendar 2018

Aug. 29	Annual scholarship fundraiser mixer/silent auction, 6-8:30 p.m., Wichita Marriott, 9100 Corporate Hills
Sept. 6-8	National Federation of Press Women conference, Bethlehem, PA
Sept. 13	WPC board meeting, noon, Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas
Sept. 24	WPC-ICT meeting, 10:30 a.m., Wichita Central Library, 711 W. 2nd
Oct. 3	WPC monthly luncheon program, "Fake News," LaRissa Lawrie, Wichita State University graduate student, 11:30 a.m. Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas
Oct. 15	WPC board meeting, noon, Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas

WPC offers professional development and major networking opportunities for working communicators, freelancers and career-directed students. Membership is open to any person who is paid as a communicator. We welcome visitors to our monthly luncheon meetings. Members \$15, students \$10, all others \$20. Check in and pay at the WPC table inside the banquet room, or prepay through Eventbrite. Members: please leave your name tag with our check-in hostesses. In times of inclement weather, WPC will follow the status of USD 259 closures in deciding to cancel a monthly program meeting.

October luncheon topic: Navigating political polarization, echo chambers & fake news



Media professionals have to operate in an increasingly digital and connected world. Social media and the internet have allowed us to share information in real time and all over the world. Come learn how to face these rapidly changing best practices during the Wichita Professional Oct. 3 monthly luncheon program.

LaRissa Lawrie is an independent journalist and photojournalist, strategic branding adviser and public speaking consultant. Lawrie is a graduate research assistant and graduate teaching assistant at Wichita State University while working on her Master of Arts in communication.

DATE: Wednesday, October 3

TIME: 11:30 a.m. *sharp*

PLACE: Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas

COST: Members \$15, students \$10, guests \$20

There is a \$5 walk-in fee for members and nonmembers

COMM LINKS

Wichita Professional Communicators: www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com

Kansas Professional Communicators: www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org

National Federation of Press Women: www.nfpw.org

NFPW Agenda newsletter: <http://nfpw.org/pdf/currentissue.pdf>.

2018 WPC Board

President: Amy Geiszler-Jones, algj@64@sbcglobal.net

Vice president: Elizabeth Bower, beth@goodlifeguy.com

Secretary: Judy Conkling, judyconkling@Cox.net

Interim treasurer/scholarship chair: Rebecca Funke, rfunke3@cox.net:

VP, membership: Adrienne Churchill, nachurch11@gmail.com

VP, programs: Dawn Monroe, dawnmonroe.training@gmail.com

Courtesy/reservations: Deborah Shaar, deborahshaar@yahoo.com

Newsletter/enews editor: Wilma Moore-Black, wilma.black@wichita.edu

Webmaster: Melinda Schnyder, mvschnyder@gmail.com

Past president/historian: Shannon Littlejohn, shannon.littlejohn@gmail.com

At-large members: Carreen Gibbons carreens@gmail.com

Cindy Kelly, thecindykelly@gmail.com

Annie Welsbacher awelsbacher@gmail.com

Brian Whepley bwhepleycomm@gmail.com