



## Enjoying Richard Crowson and fellowship at December WPC luncheon

Richard Crowson is not only an editorial commentator for KMUW, but he is a cartoonist, an artist and a banjo player. Crowson will share his talents at the annual WPC Holiday Mixer.

Crowson will provide entertainment at this casual, fun luncheon that benefits the scholarship fund. You might have heard him play with his band Pop & The Boys or with his wife Karen at their standing gig at Watermark Books & Cafe.

It's time to reflect on the past year, network and get ready for 2019. Find out about some of the highlights of what our organization has done in the President's Column featured in this December nwsbrfs.

Please RSVP **no later than noon Tuesday, Dec. 4**, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wpc-monthly-meeting-lunch-program-december-2018-tickets-52448392554> Remember, the RSVP deadline is firm, and individuals must pay for cancellations received after the deadline.

## Donate for December silent auction

For our Dec. 5 WPC meeting, we will once again hold a type of silent auction. Please consider donating an item or two for this auction, which involves bidding by placing your \$1 purchased ticket into a drawing to win whichever particular item you want. In the past we've had items ranging from holiday decor to free classes. It's as easy as bringing an item the day of the auction.

**DATE:** Wednesday, Dec. 5

**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 if you did not make a luncheon reservation.**

### Reservations/cancellations required:

Go to [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wpc-monthly-meeting-lunch-program-december-2018-tickets-52448392554) by noon Tues.,  
**Dec. 4.** Payment may be made online, or you may pay at the door.

## Words from the WPC president: 5 accomplishments for 2018

Coming off the Thanksgiving weekend, I would be remiss if I didn't thank WPC members for putting their trust in me and electing me to serve WPC as president this year – and then re-electing me again for 2019. I also owe a debt of thanks to the wonderful board – with some members elected and others appointed – who did a lot of work for this organization this past year.

So here are five things we accomplished:

- Our scholarship fundraising efforts were fabulous this year. At our March meeting, Kristi Parker, who was serving as our webmaster, agreed to take over the raffle sales at our monthly meeting, using a strategy to greet people and sell tickets. She tripled our average sales to \$60 for that meeting. Just days later she died, but she'd set the bar for us to meet at subsequent meetings. We started offering some premium items, like gift cards and event tickets, to our monthly raffle to help increase sales, and it has proven successful. Then came our August mixer when we raised about \$1,500 for our scholarship fund. Stellar! Let's keep up that philanthropy at our December meeting, when we have our annual holiday fundraising raffle of various items.
- We are reinstating WPC's nonprofit status. We had lapsed on some required infrastructure reporting, but now we are back on track and will be a 501c3 organization. (We'd previously had another nonprofit designation.) That will help us in acquiring future sponsorships and donations.



- We are going to once again directly administrate our scholarship award process. A few years ago, WPC turned over the application and selection process to the Ellis Foundation in Fort Scott, Kansas. We now realize that the scholarship process played an important part in us working with and supporting area communications educators and students. We will soon have our application posted online for qualifying students to apply and are reconnecting with the educators, too. Look for more news on that so you can share the information to possible applicants.
- We updated our bylaws. Our nominations committee reviewed the bylaws – which is a process that should occasionally happen to make sure they are relevant and make sense – and the revisions were passed at the November general membership meeting. Among the changes, we replaced an article on objectives with one on our mission, cleaned up some grammar and some unclear language about dues and added an appendix describing expected duties of officers (that had been deleted from the bylaws in a prior revision).
- We are providing a literary memorial in Kristi's honor. Shannon has been working with the Wichita Public Library to find suitable LGBTQ books that we will purchase and have dedicated to Kristi's memorial to add to the library's collection. WPC traditionally does a book memorial in honor of a deceased member.

To help the 2019 board, please be sure to come to our Jan. 9 meeting – the second Wednesday and not the traditional first Wednesday of the month – when we do our round-table discussions and networking that helps provide insight into what we can do to continue to support you as communications professionals.

In the meantime, be sure to come to our December meeting for a light entertainment program and to bid often for raffle items to continue our philanthropy.

– Amy Geiszler-Jones

### Get those contest entries ready

The Kansas Professional Communicators' annual communications contest is accepting entries now. Administrated by our national parent organization, NFPW, this year's contest has undergone several changes, ranging from the types of categories to the requirements for submission. All entries and payments will be handled digitally.

Because communicators now do all kinds of work, several new categories have been added. New categories include ghostwriting, web content writing, personal website, essay writing, social media management, authoring novellas and more.

The contest is open to both members of KPC/NFPW and nonmembers. Winning first-place entries in the state level will advance to the NFPW contest if the entrant is a member. A nonmember first-place winner will be given the option to join KPC/NFPW to move on. KPC will pick up the cost of NFPW contest entries.



Here are some tips and the deadlines you should be aware of:

- Go to [nfpw.org](http://nfpw.org), hover over the Events option in the upper-right-hand corner to find the Professional Contest option on the dropdown menu.
- Read through the categories and descriptions and the rules to find out eligibility of entries and also requirements. The categories are defined by genres, such as writing, editing, radio and television, web and social media etc.
- You can create your profile and begin the entry process now. For example, if you plan to enter a newsletter that has finished publishing for the year, go ahead and upload that entry now. It will be saved and you can continue uploading other entries at a later date.
- To save on entry fees, enter by Wednesday, Jan. 9. All entries received after that date will be charged a one-time \$25 late fee. The final deadline for book submissions is Tuesday, Jan. 15 midnight in your time zone. The final deadline for all other entries is Tuesday, Jan. 22 midnight in your time zone.
- Cost to enter is first entry \$25, all other entries \$20 each for members; first entry \$30, all other entries \$25 each for nonmembers.

KPC contest winners will be determined in late February, with national winners determined in March.

– Amy Geiszler-Jones

## KPTS-Channel 8 Creates Documentary & Cookbook Featuring Beth Bower

KPTS – Channel 8 will debut its new documentary about pies called “The Pie Way...Kansas Style,” with Beth Bower, local food writer and freelance editor, at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3. Bower also wrote the companion cookbook featuring pie recipes from restaurants across Kansas and from the winners and runners up in the KPTS Pie Contest. On Dec. 3, Bower and pie contest winners will be in the KPTS studio to discuss the delicious pies featured in the documentary and cookbook.

Viewers will be able to make a one-time pledge of \$96 or pledge \$8 per month and receive a copy of “The Pie Way...Kansas Style Documentary,” “The Pie Way...Kansas Style Cookbook,” KPTS Passport Membership (watch PBS/KPTS shows anytime/anywhere), and a KPTS 2-for1 Member Card.

“This project was so much fun,” Bower said. “I learned about many great places to sample pies in Kansas and tips and techniques to make my own pies better. I hope people will enjoy both the pie documentary and the cookbook.”

### Renew or join for 2019

WPC has maintained a diverse, vibrant membership, and we want to build on that success, as well as contribute to yours. Membership in WPC is by the calendar year, so please remember to renew or join for 2019, if you haven't already. Download the 2019 app from the WPC [website](#), fill it out and mail it or bring it to the next meeting.

Join early in the year so that you can reap the benefits of membership the entire year. We'd also appreciate your help in letting other potential members know about WPC.

JOIN OR  
RENEW  
NOW

### 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.

### Mix it up

Spend Wednesday, Dec. 5, mixing it up with communications professionals – with the WPC luncheon holiday program and mixer at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas, in the Douglas Design District and then after work with the PRSA holiday mixer at Aero Plains Brewing, 117 N. Handley, in Delano. The PRSA mixer cost is \$15 for members and students, \$20 for nonmembers and includes heavy appetizers and one alcoholic beverage. Registration closes at noon Tuesday, Dec. 4.

### Upcoming library sessions

The Wichita Public Library offers several free classes. Here are some that might interest you:

- Using Evernote, 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, Rockwell branch. Evernote is a cloud-based app that reportedly can help organize various types of digital files that you want to save, like notes, photos, videos and more.
- Community Poetry Workshop, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, Advanced Learning Center. Join other poets for a mini-writing and reading session.

### KPC conference to be in March

A final date has not been set, but the KPC annual conference is set to happen on a Saturday in March in Emporia. The KPC board is in the process of scheduling the conference based on venue space availability. If you have any ideas for programming, please contact WPC president Amy Geiszler-Jones, who is an ex-officio member of the KPC board, at [algj64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:algj64@sbcglobal.net) or 316.210.4931.

### WPC Programs & Calendar 2018

Dec. 5	WPC monthly luncheon program, 11:30 a.m., Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas, holiday fun and entertainment provided by Richard Crowson
Dec. 10	WPC board meeting, noon, Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas
Dec. 12	WPC-ICT annual “unoffice” party, 5 p.m., Playa Azul restaurant, 111 N. Washington

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.

### Remember former WPC member Con Van Zandt's Birthday

A friend and longtime member of WPC, Con Van Zandt, needs our support. Van Zandt is a photographer and writer from Wichita who moved to Memphis 15 or so years ago. She has a history with WPC and NFPW and is facing short-term memory loss.

Van Zandt moved in with a longtime friend and caregiver, Lynette and her husband. I recently spoke with Lynette and shared that Van Zandt has a group of communicator friends in WPC, and she thought it would be great to share their address. You can send a note to: Con Van Zandt, 6426 Hawks Call Lane, Bartlett, TN 38135. If you want to join in sending her a card for her birthday on Jan. 3, then contact Angela Gaughan, [angela.gaughan@wichita.edu](mailto:angela.gaughan@wichita.edu) This is not a monumental birthday, but Van Zandt's symptoms have progressed.

– Angela Gaughan

### COMM LINKS

Wichita Professional Communicators: [www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com](http://www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com)

Kansas Professional Communicators: [www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org](http://www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org)

National Federation of Press Women: [www.nfpw.org](http://www.nfpw.org)

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

### 2018 WPC Board

President: Amy Geiszler-Jones, [algj@64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:algj@64@sbcglobal.net)

Vice president: Elizabeth Bower, [beth@goodlifeguy.com](mailto:beth@goodlifeguy.com)

Secretary: Judy Conkling, [judyconkling@Cox.net](mailto:judyconkling@Cox.net)

Interim treasurer/scholarship chair: Rebecca Funke, [rfunke3@cox.net](mailto:rfunke3@cox.net):

VP, membership: Adrienne Churchill, [nachurch11@gmail.com](mailto:nachurch11@gmail.com)

VP, programs: Dawn Monroe, [dawnmonroe.training@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmonroe.training@gmail.com)

Courtesy/reservations: Deborah Shaar, [deborahshaar@yahoo.com](mailto:deborahshaar@yahoo.com)

Newsletter/enews editor: Wilma Moore-Black, [wilma.black@wichita.edu](mailto:wilma.black@wichita.edu)

Webmaster: Melinda Schnyder, [mvschnyder@gmail.com](mailto:mvschnyder@gmail.com)

Past president/historian: Shannon Littlejohn, [shannon.littlejohn@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.littlejohn@gmail.com)

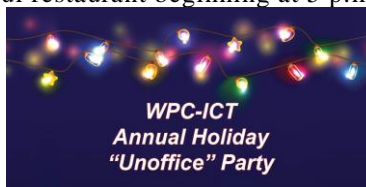
At-large members:

Carreen Gibbons [carreens@gmail.com](mailto:carreens@gmail.com)

Cindy Kelly, [thecindykelly@gmail.com](mailto:thecindykelly@gmail.com)

Annie Welsbacher [awelsbacher@gmail.com](mailto:awelsbacher@gmail.com)

If you're a freelancer or independent contractor in the communications field, you don't have to miss a traditional holiday party with co-workers. Join WPC-ICT for its annual "unoffice" party on Wednesday, Dec. 12, at Playa Azul restaurant beginning at 5 p.m.



We're going "Dutch" so you will pay for your own food and beverages. **Please RSVP by Tuesday, Dec. 11, so we can call ahead to ensure our large group is accommodated.**

If you haven't been to an ICT meeting, now's the time! All are welcome to attend!

\*Stay informed about WPC's Independent Communications Talent group by visiting the WPC-ICT Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/970155536333935/members/>