

2015 NJPF INTERNSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The summer of 2015 will be a special time for seven young journalists, all winners in the New Jersey Press Foundation's several summer internship competitions.

The NJPF Summer Internship Program placed two collegiate journalists in NJPA member newspapers' newsrooms for an 8-week internship. The three winners in the Mac Borg New Media Internship competition will each serve an eight-week internship in a digital newsroom of a press association member media company. The winner of the annual Lloyd P. Burns New Media Internship will also spend their internship in a digital newsroom. The winner in the Isaac Roth Media Business/Circulation Internship serves his/her internship working in various business departments at a member media organization. In all cases, The Press Foundation covers two-thirds of the intern's salary while the host newspaper/media company picks up the balance.

John O'Brien, director of the NJPF said, "I am very proud of the 2015 internship class. They were chosen from an impressive field of applicants in a very competitive competition." Because of a grant from FirstEnergy/Jersey Central Power and Light and another from the Ellis Family Foundation, NJPF is able to offer three Borg winners positions this year instead of the traditional one internship.

This year's Summer Internship winners:

Aleksandra Liftshits, from Holmdel, NJ is a sophomore at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. She is a staff writer at the *Brown Daily Herald* and spent last summer as an intern at *Rolling Stone Magazine* in Moscow, Russia. Alexandra grew up in Russia as part of an American family there. She was educated in American schools in Moscow. She said, "Growing up in a Russian family setting, I was taught to read news stories twice, once from a Russian perspective and again from a western angle. I have always dreamed of becoming someone who can communicate the untainted truth to the people.....a journalist!" Aleksandra will be spending her summer "down the shore" at the *Asbury Park Press*.

The Record will be home to **Taylor Swaak** this summer. Taylor lives in Fanwood, NJ and is a sophomore at the University of Maryland. She is a journalism major and a staff writer for her college newspaper, *The Diamondback*. In her application, Taylor said, "Since I learned to put sentences together in kindergarten, all I have ever wanted to do is write! I chose to attend the University of Maryland for its stellar journalism program and am eager to utilize the lessons and opportunities it offers."

George Tatoris, a sophomore at The College of New Jersey, hails from East Brunswick and will be heading to *The Home News-Tribune* this summer. George is a journalism and interactive media major and is a writer for the campus's student-run newspaper, *The Signal*. "My two main reasons for pursuing a career in journalism are I can meet new people and gain new perspectives" George said.

Packet Media Group in Princeton will be home for **Madhumita (Maddy) Anand** this summer. Conveniently, Maddy hails from Princeton and is a junior at Penn State University. Maddy said, "I never had that one clear moment of epiphany that made me realize what I wanted to do with my life. It was more of a gradual feeling that kept escalating and is now at a peak. I not only earned a multitude of media and news reporting skills in college, but also garnered a passion for the industry."

Lisa Ryan is a freshman at the University of Delaware and lives in Moorestown, NJ. She will be spending her summer at a familiar place, the *Burlington County Times*. Lisa has been a contributor to the newspaper since last year. She is also a staff reporter for her student newspaper at U of D. Lisa said in her application, "I never considered being a journalist, but then I went to the prom! I'm sort-of joking, however, in the spring of 2013 a writer for the New York Times interviewed me for an article on what influenced prom fashion. I immediately thought "That's the job for me!"

North Jersey Media Group will be home to **Sydney Shaw** this summer. Sidney is a sophomore at The College of New Jersey and lives in Wayne. She has been a news editor and opinion editor at her college paper, *The Signal*. "When I was accepted into the College of New Hersey's journalism and writing program, I had no idea how much I would learn – not only about being a good journalist, but about the world around me."

The 2015 Isaac Roth internship goes to **Khadrice Rollins** of Swedesboro. Khadrice is a sophomore at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. He is a reporter for *The Daily Northwestern* and *cslinsider.com*. He said, "During my time at Northwestern, I have been able to study how media outlets work, speak to some of the brightest minds in all of media and become part of the media myself." Khadrice will serve his internship at the *South Jersey Times* in Woodbury.