

PUT YOUR REPORTERS TO THE TEST
OPEN TO 12 CHICAGO-AREA HIGH SCHOOLS
APPLY NOW FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Got news literacy? Prove it. Use it.

Because smarter reporters practice
smarter journalism.

Here's an opportunity for your journalism
students to connect with other teen
reporters from across the Chicago area.



A McCormick Foundation-funded project can help your high school reporters create a comprehensive media package that will address and critically analyze a topic of great interest to teen readers. Teachers will select the topic prior to the 2012-13 school year and student journalists will produce a print, broadcast or digital report that analyzes the topic and how it impacts their audiences.

The project is open to 12 Chicago-area high schools. Teachers will attend an in-service prior to the 2012-2013 school year to learn how to apply news literacy to their journalism curriculum. Regular interaction between the student journalists is included in this program.

During this one-year collaboration, journalism and media advisers from across the city and suburbs – print and broadcast alike – will decide on the timely topic to cover. Participating journalism programs will go about their usual reporting, but also produce a special report on the topic chosen by the group.

Stories will be due in early 2013 and compiled on a dedicated website and disseminated to mainstream news organization partners.

The project will:

- Provide great clips for participating students and lead to wide distribution of their work in the Chicago area.
- Furnish teachers instructional materials about news literacy.
- Offer journalism advocates and educators insights into how a newsworthy topic of importance to students is playing out at the local level across our diverse region

This project is open to schools in the Chicago metropolitan area. Schools with a diverse student population are encouraged to apply. Participating students do not necessarily need to be a staff member of a school's journalism or mass communications program.

Interested? Here's how you apply:

- E-mail a one-page letter of application detailing a) the media you advise, b) a description of your school and of the student journalists you work with, and c) an idea or two for what might make an interesting reporting package topic.
- Include your school name, phone number, and the names of your school's media adviser and principal.
- Advisers should include their summer contact information.

This project is coordinated by the Midwest Journalism Education Initiative, which supports and promotes journalism education through advocacy, outreach and resources. Letters of application should be sent to the Midwest Journalism Education Initiative at MidwestJEl@gmail.com by April 30, 2012.

Sponsored by the
**ROBERT R.
McCORMICK**
FOUNDATION