



## **Murray Scholar Print Journalism Scholarship Program**

### **2017 Essay Question and Guidelines**

*The Jim Murray Memorial Foundation (JMMF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, established in 1999 to perpetuate the Jim Murray legacy, and his love for and dedication to his extraordinary career in journalism. The JMMF mission is to award five (5) \$5,000 scholarships annually to sports journalism students through a nationwide essay competition.*

### **2017 Essay Topic:**

**Write a column that tells the story of an event, incident or person who figures prominently in the sports history of your university. It could be a memorable game, or coach, or player, or even an artifact that has become an indelible part of the story of your college (or maybe town).**

#### **I. Conditions of Eligibility:**

- A. An applicant **must** be a citizen of the United States; pending application for citizenship **does not** qualify a person to apply.
- B. An applicant **must** have achieved academic standing sufficiently advanced to assure completion of his/her second and/or third year of undergraduate study, achieving junior or senior status for the fall 2017 semester at the University's School of Journalism, **who will graduate in Spring of 2018 or 2019 and not mid-year.**
- C. An applicant must have at least a "B" (3.0) grade point average and be enrolled full-time.
- D. An applicant **must** show, integrity of character, interest in and respect for his/her fellow humans, and the energy to use his/her writing talents to the fullest extent.

#### **II. Essay Format Guidelines:**

##### **A. Essay Format:**

- 1. Essay must be **ORIGINAL** and not a pre-published article.
- 2. No more than 1000 words, but no less than 750 words.
- 3. Must be prepared with a one-inch (1") margin, 12-point font, **double-spaced.**
- 4. Applicant's **first and last name** and **word count** in the **upper right** corner of **each** page.
- 5. **Multiple pages must be numbered bottom-center.**

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### **B. Additional items to submit with the essay**

1. Completed essay Application, including full name, email address, cell phone number, and date of birth.
2. **PDF** of essay emailed to [jabari.brown@usc.edu](mailto:jabari.brown@usc.edu)
3. In lieu of the student's official transcript, the J-school must submit an official Letter of Student Eligibility verification.

### **III. Student Submission Guidelines:**

- A. The Jim Murray Memorial Foundation **WILL NOT** accept essays sent by students and will be returned accordingly. It will be the responsibility of the journalism school to submit its selected essay to the Foundation.
- B. Essays **MUST** be original for the JMMF scholarship competition. Pre-published articles or columns will be disqualified.
- C. Submit all applications materials to JaBari Brown by March 20, 2017

\*Financial need gives no special claim to a Murray Scholarship. No student shall be qualified or disqualified on account of race or religious opinions.

**Criteria** – Murray Scholar Essays will be chosen based on the following criteria:

1. Integrity of content
2. Creativity
3. Grace with language

Ability to answer the essay question in its entirety