

The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards Its Tenth Set of Scholarships (and exceeds \$200,000 in total scholarships and other program funding!)

Last December, the James Alan Cox Foundation awarded its tenth set of scholarships. Six college students each received \$2,500 (payable to their school); one graduate student received a \$2,500 scholarship (again, payable to her school); and five high school students each received a high-end digital camera, with lenses, case and memory card.

The application process was open to all U.S. citizens at accredited schools and programs and, as in previous years, the Foundation received hundreds of applications from across the country. Along with their portfolio of work, recipients were chosen based on several criteria, including financial need, an essay, letters of reference and their school transcript. As always, we would like to thank Steve Bodinet and Elise Wilson, highly respected journalists and friends of Jim Cox, as our guest judges.

In its ten-year existence, the Foundation has now provided over \$200,000 in scholarships, camera awards, grants and other student programs. 109 students have received grants, with award recipients coming from 30 states and the District of Columbia. The Foundation has also funded many other programs, including an annual internship at Jim's TV station.



"On Poisoned Land," Navajo Nation Reservation, Photograph by Gabriel S. Scarlett, 2017 College Scholarship Recipient

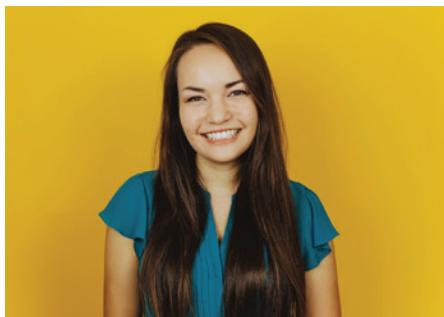
Since its inception in 2007, the Foundation's funding has included:

- \$140,500 in college scholarships to 55 college students and 4 graduate students
- \$37,874.50 for high-end cameras for 50 high school students
- \$12,882.53 to the internship program at KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5, Phoenix (now in its seventh year)

- \$17,174.90 in other grants to high schools and colleges across the country, including an editing bay at Arizona State University
- Donations of gently-used cameras and equipment to a variety of schools and organizations across the country

To see samples of this year's recipients' work, please go online to www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org and click on the link for the 2017 Scholarship Recipients. You can also access all previous scholarship and camera award winners.

The Foundation Funds its 7th Annual Fall Internship at KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5, Phoenix



Samie Gebers, 2017 Foundation Intern

Samantha (Samie) Gebers, a student at Arizona State University, joined the 3 TV – CBS 5 team last fall as the James Alan Cox Foundation's 7th annual photojournalism intern. While this is her first time with a broadcast news station, she was a photographer, videographer and staff writer at her hometown paper, The Signal, in Santa Clarita, California. She fell in love with feature storytelling and creating visual content while in community college and is now pursuing that dream at ASU. As she says, "Telling an amazing, heartwarming story in a visual and creative way is something that I strive for and take great pride in." Samie has a passion for all components of journalism: writing, shooting, and editing. It is her goal to one day work at a news station where she will be able to concentrate on feature, visual content. As always, the Foundation would like to thank KTVK KPHO for this wonderful funding opportunity, and, in particular Ed Munson, General Manager, Sean Gates, Chief Photojournalist, and Laura Peña, Human Resource Director.

Letter from the Foundation President

Ten years into the founding of the James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photojournalists, we are happy to report that the Foundation continues to expand with awards totaling over \$200,000 in scholarships, high end digital camera awards, scholarship grants and many other student programs. We now have a presence in 30 states and the District of Columbia plus an annual internship (now in its 7th year) at KTVK-KPHO in Phoenix, Jim's TV station.

I am particularly pleased this year as we have awarded our first scholarship to a veteran, Nevin Fowler from Colorado State University (CSU) and the USMC. (See accompanying article on the next page). As an Air Force veteran myself, I can relate to some of the difficulties in adjusting to civilian life after several years of service. Nevin has done that quite remarkably with his leadership role in Veterans Expeditions (VetEx), a non-profit group that provides a transition/connection between military

"Cox Family: I can't thank you enough for the wonderful gift you've given me ... the gift of education. I was worried about next semester's expenses for quite some time. Receiving the news about earning the scholarship honoring your 'Jimmy' was the greatest Christmas gift I could've ever hoped for. I hope this Christmas brings your family peace, love and happiness. Thank you for giving back to students and inspiring future journalists."

- Adriana De Alba



Barbara Cox, celebrating her birthday with friends from The Christi Center, and receiving their generous gifts of donations to the Foundation.

and civilian life and offers grief support to those military members affected by what they have experienced in combat. There is also a connection for us between that organization and The Christi Center here in Austin, Texas, a grief support group that Barb and I found critical in bringing back the "new normal" to our lives. We are hopeful that Nevin's scholarship will inspire other veterans to apply for tuition support.

Please take the time to visit our website, www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org, to see the outstanding work of our scholarship winners. Your continuing support enables us to help so many deserving college and high school students. We are very grateful.

**Alan G. Cox,
PRESIDENT**

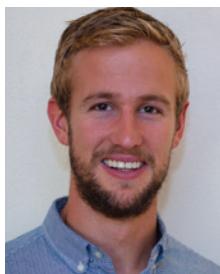
Foundation Mission Statement

Founded in memory of James Alan Cox, a television photojournalist, The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photojournalists aims to provide financial support to student photographers of high school and college age. Through a variety of funding, including equipment purchases and scholarships for college and technical school classes, the foundation's mission is to expand educational and developmental opportunities for student photographers demonstrating interest, talent and financial need.

The Foundation Awards its First Scholarship to a Veteran

Nevin Fowler, who was awarded a \$2,500 college scholarship this past December, is the Foundation's first veteran to receive this award. Here is Nevin's bio, along with an interview he did with Emily Busi, Jim Cox's niece who also attends Colorado State University.

Nevin Fowler, Colorado State University – Fort Collins, Colorado



Nevin Fowler discovered "his passion for photojournalism", while serving in the military in U.S. Marine Reconnaissance. "It was my job to report back information using photography and writing." He is honing these skills at CSU and producing, according to one of his instructors, Steve Weiss, "a number of visual, entertaining, and thought-provoking video projects." Another instructor, John Eisele, writes that Nevin, along with creating quality work, also showed "an enthusiasm for learning everything he could about photography." "When we learned about off-camera lighting in class, Nevin checked out equipment to explore and experiment on his own." Nevin's favorite subjects, he says in his essay, are people and the outdoors and this is perfectly exemplified in his two video submissions. The first is a caring portrayal of a regular man; a sometime bike mechanic, avid storyteller, and full-time dad to two autistic boys. The second video is even closer to Nevin's heart as it is a piece promoting Veterans Expeditions (VetEx), an organization that helps veterans adjust to life back at home with high adventure outings. With both videos, Nevin hopes to "tell the story of those who rise above hardships and inspire others to do the same."

Interview with Emily Busi*

Emily: Tell me a little about your background.

Nevin: I was born and raised in Fort Collins and was a recon scout sniper in the US Marine Corps. I joined the Marines right out of high school, as a way to help pay for school. I didn't think I was necessarily ready for

college at that point and wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I also wanted to have a bit of an adventure and to hopefully figure it out along the way. I spent 2 years in Okinawa, came back and finished in California. I did photography and writing to try to capture what was happening in the battlefield in order to report back.

Emily: Is that how you became interested in journalism?

Nevin: I've always been into photography but came into the writing side a little more through my job in the military; found it was a natural transition into a journalism degree when I got out. I thought about going to school for photography or videography but then found the journalism program at CSU.

Emily: Could you tell me more about Veterans Expeditions or VetEx?

Nevin: I got into videography about a year ago, around the same time I got into VetEx. I had brought back photos from the expeditions and decided to dig into it more and tell these veterans' stories. Having a group of people that all understand each other really helps them deal with a lot of difficulties they face getting back into the civilian world. I'm glad now that I was never deployed in a combat zone after meeting guys in VetEx that were and seeing how it changed them.

Emily: What do you plan to do after graduation?

Nevin: I'm working on building out a van to live in with my girlfriend so I can travel around and climb for about a year - and further develop skills in photography/videography and also get to know the outdoor areas I'm wanting to work in. I will be going to Yosemite and Alaska to climb. I'll also work on some small photography/videography projects.

Emily: Do you have any advice for high school kids?

Nevin: I think it can be really beneficial for some people to take a gap year or some time after high school before going to college to do something, whether that's serving time in the military, traveling, etc. It helps people mature and figure out what they want to do.

**Note: This article was paraphrased from the full interview conducted by Emily with Nevin.*

What Are Our Students Doing Now?

Many people ask the Foundation what our past scholarship winners are doing now. Several years ago we started a new column, dedicated to looking at some of our former winners and their current pursuits.

Ana Perez, Daniel Pearl Magnet School – Van Nuys, California 2013 High School Scholarship Recipient

Ana followed her passion for journalism to Cal Poly Pomona where she just graduated (in only three years) in Communication with an emphasis in Journalism. She currently works at Motion Picture and Television Fund, a retirement home for people who worked in the film industry, in the food service department, but volunteers for its media department – Channel 22. She helps the media team set up productions that the residents write, direct and act in. She is hoping to find a job in the journalism field soon. Photography, Ana says, is still a major activity in her life and the "camera awarded to me by the James Alan Cox Foundation five years ago is still my only camera. It helped me shoot award-winning photos in high school and I shot photos for my college paper with it too." She has photographed "weddings, baby showers and sporting events with the camera I received ... and take it with me whenever I travel out of state and will always continue to do so."



Basil John, Stony Brook University – Stony Brook, New York 2014 College Scholarship Recipient

Eight months after graduating from Stony Brook University and finishing his internship with CBS News, Basil got a job at WWAY News, the ABC/CBS affiliate in Wilmington, North Carolina. He has been there for a year and a half now and has been helping to lead quality coverage and consistent community outreach at the station. For example, he reported on a toxic chemical that was affecting local drinking water from the Cape Fear River; did a story on HIV infections in New Hanover County and how the opioid epidemic has contributed to the problem; and covered a local church that was providing hundreds of bottles of water for free to local community members at the height of summer temperatures. Basil reports regularly throughout the week and anchors the 10 and 11 o'clock news shows every Friday.



The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards its Tenth Set of Scholarships

Once again, the Foundation received hundreds of applications from across the country. Along with their portfolio of work, recipients were chosen based on several criteria, including financial need, an essay, letters of reference and their school transcript. As always, the Foundation is indebted to guest judges Steve Bodinet, formerly of KTVK-KPHO, Phoenix and Elise Wilson, of Aspen PRO Media, Arizona.

NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE: This year's application process begins July 15, 2018 and ends on November 15, 2018. Please see page 7 for more information.

High School Winners

Five high school students each received a Nikon D3400 camera with lenses, carrying case and memory card.

Sam Adams, Pinecrest Academy – Cumming, Georgia



Sam Adams is passionate about photography, especially portrait photography. He believes that his portraits of New York City's homeless will help to draw attention to their needs and give a voice to those in our communities who are often overlooked. In Sam's words, "Through raising awareness for them, I believe that over time more and more people will come to realize that there are people who are struggling and need help both physically and mentally." Holli Griffis, a high school counselor who has known Sam since middle school, describes him as hardworking and engaged in projects within his school and his community. The words she chose to describe him are "driven, honest and respectful." Alison Stone, a teacher in the visual arts department also writes enthusiastically about Sam's achievements, his character, his creativity and strong moral compass. She selected him to receive the Outstanding Artist Award which is the highest art award given at Pinecrest Academy. Sam Adams is a fine example of a young person who will make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Hannah Mohr, Stony Point High School – Round Rock, Texas



Hannah has decided to pursue a career in photojournalism and her goal is to "show the quintessence of life through photography and share it with the world." She sold her camera with the idea of buying another but the expenses associated with college applications and admissions tests prevented her from replacing it. As a winner in the James Alan Cox Foundation competition, she is now the owner of a new Nikon DSLR. Rebecca Plumley, Hannah's student publications advisor, writes that, as an editor and photographer, Hannah was the creative force behind a yearbook that was honored with awards on the state, national and international levels. She writes, "Hannah's top quality is her ability to perform a variety of high level tasks" which includes working late nights and behind the scenes to ensure the success of the publication. Her journalism teacher, Holly Nichols, points to Hannah's creative flair and her "passion for photography that extends beyond the school day." The images that she submitted were meant to evoke an emotional response and she succeeded.

Shumesa Mohsin, Tokay High School – Lodi, California



"I can capture the bitter-sweet emotion of the final senior football game . . . and more, behind a viewfinder of a camera." This statement was made by a high school student who had no knowledge of photography when she joined the yearbook staff, went on to become the photo editor, and was awarded third place in a competition for an action image taken during a basketball game. Shumesa has learned how to capture the raw emotions on display at critical moments in the lives of her classmates. She is not shy about giving credit to her teachers, Roger Woo and Najwa Dougish, who wrote exceedingly complimentary recommendations describing her talent and ambition. Ms. Dougish writes, "Ms. Mohsin actively pursues opportunities and turns them into something special;" and Mr. Woo, who taught her in freshman honors English, describes her images as wonderful story telling photos. It is not at all surprising that this creative and self-confident young person would publish a blog of photography and commentary to reflect her world and her experiences.

Jose Romero, Lexington High School – Lexington, Nebraska



Jose obviously loves being behind a camera and as Photographer-in-Chief of his school's yearbook he is charged with recording events that happen during the school year. His journalism advisor, Erica Brockmoller, has observed Jose's growth throughout his high school years, lists numerous journalism awards that he received in sports action photography and in news feature photography, but the thing she likes best is "his ability to self-motivate. Most impressively he is confident enough in his skills to sit among professional photographers during events." In his own words, "I believe that a simple image can tell a whole story" and each one of his submissions for the competition proves that point. Since Jose was using school cameras and didn't have one of his own, he was concerned about how he would continue his photography in the summer after graduation. As a James Alan Cox Foundation winner, he now has a Nikon DSLR to take to the University of Nebraska. He plans to study photojournalism.

Riley Trujillo, Fruita Monument High School – Fruita, Colorado



Riley Trujillo believes that we all have a story to tell and that our stories serve to enrich the human experience. In her essay she explains her belief that our stories are often best told by photographs that are able to portray human emotions. Although the images that she submitted display an obvious talent and desire to report on the concerns of ordinary citizens, her essay reveals a passion for sports journalism and she hopes to make a career in that field. Certainly, the joy and agony of winning and losing will provide her the perfect venue for telling stories through photographs. Gaylene Ludwig taught Riley in an Honors Composition and Literature class and reports that Riley achieved a 3.83 GPA while participating in a lengthy list of extracurricular activities. One of the most important being part of the founding of Break the Silence, an organization designed to end the stigmatization of mental health. She goes on to say that it was Riley's "incredible kindness and compassion for all of her peers which marked her as an exemplary teenager in my eyes." We have no doubt that Riley will continue to use images to tell stories that need to be told.

College and Graduate Student Winners

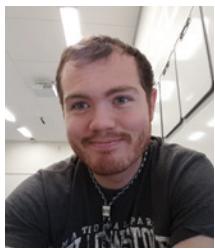
Six college students each received a \$2,500 scholarship, payable to their school. Five awards were for video work, while one was for still photography. The Foundation also awarded one \$2,500 scholarship to a graduate student, also payable to her school. (Please see Nevin Fowler's bio, one of the college award recipients, on page 3.)

Jordan Elder, Arizona State University – Tempe, Arizona



Jordan Elder has been a videographer for a very long time. As she states in her application essay, she has been “shooting solo since I was a freshman in high school.” For her, it’s an extremely important part of the job. As she says, “I believe that to be an effective journalist, you need to know how to shoot and edit video by yourself.” Her two submitted videos reflect her many years of study and practice. The first one, about a pumpkin patch in Arizona, is an affectionate look at a traditional fall outing for many local families. The second one, about a band called “Don’t Tell Mom”, is an enjoyable, and very funny, piece about a rock group made up of middle and high school students. Jordan’s reference letters are excellent, with Nancy Held Loucas, the CEO of Student Television Network, noting her impressive background, writing that she was “Executive Producer of her high school’s broadcast program that won many awards from our national organization.” Justin Ford, a broadcast instructor at her high school also says that Jordan received a very special honor while still in high school, “a national student Emmy Award for Best Talent.”

Bo Lamb, Utah State University – Logan, Utah



It’s obvious, from the videos Bo Lamb submitted, that he cares deeply about his school, town and community. In particular, he appears to be very proud of local heroes. His first video, for instance, covers the funeral of a reserve police officer who was tragically killed, while his second story is about Merlin Olsen, the famous football player and philanthropist from the area. Both videos are touching tributes to these men and exemplify Bo’s belief that “images are the truest and purest form of storytelling.” As he also states in his application essay, “a skilled photographer has the ability to capture a moment in time, store it, and allow future generations to learn from it.” Bo had extremely strong reference letters from two professors, with both referring to him as a hard worker, dedicated to his field, and with a strong “love of learning”. One professor, Christopher Bennion Garff, writes that “Bo has always gone above and beyond what is required of him,” while another, Thomas C. Terry, says that he is “always willing to take on new challenges.” Professor Terry also comments on Bo’s personable nature and maturity, saying his “fellow students genuinely like him and look to him for leadership inside and outside the classroom.”

Gabriel Stephen Scarlett, Western Kentucky University – Bowling Green, Kentucky



Gabriel Scarlett, the Foundation’s still photography winner, is not afraid to try something new. As he stated in his application essay: “For the last two years, I have always felt in over my head, and I would have that no other way.” He constantly pushes himself to do something different and expand his education and experience. The last two summers, for instance, found him working at interesting, yet demanding, jobs: at an internship in New Mexico (which also included trips to the Navajo reservation) and at The Denver Post. For both jobs, he says, “I struggled, made mistakes, I learned.” As Tim Broekema, one of Gabriel’s professors, says in a reference letter, that while his photos seem effortless, “I know behind that seeming ease is a dedicated, thoughtful and hard working person.” Patrick Taylor, of The Denver Post, writes that Gabriel is always ready to “learn something on an assignment.” His education and experience seem to be paying off, as he submitted a beautiful portfolio with his application. There is a photo from his work with the Navajo; a moving image from a vigil; and a incredibly unique shot of a sailor standing at attention, while horses race by, at the Kentucky Derby.

Samantha Gebers, Arizona State University – Tempe, Arizona



Samantha (Samie) Gebers, who was also the Foundation’s KTVK-KPHO intern last Fall, loves taking risks and being original with her photojournalism. With both subject matter and style, she tries to be “visual, be creative and be compelling.” Both of her submitted videos, in fact, reflect this creativity. One, a profile of a high school football player who is also a devoted dad, seamlessly combines a wide array of videos and interviews, while the other, about a hiker on the Pacific

Crest Trail, skillfully uses still images and videos to evoke the experience of walking this demanding trek. As Samie says in her essay, she fell in love with a particular style of photojournalism and attempts to incorporate “this visual, fast-paced, sound-driven style into many of my news packages.” David Brill, a former instructor, admires her approach, saying she “is one of the few students who pushed herself considerably out of her comfort zone.” A supervisor, Austin Dave, at The Santa Clarita Valley Signal where Samie interned, also notes this, writing that she “strived to try new methods of storytelling.” One story she did with them, he recalls, was so creative and fun that it went international, reaching “the shores of London and the banks of Australia.”

Anna Muckerman, University of Maryland – College Park, Maryland



Anna, while being a talented journalist, is also a very compassionate person. She loves photojournalism, in part, because it “allows people to feel the triumphs and pain of others in a way that creates empathy and even action.” This struck home personally for her when she did a story on a camp for teenage siblings separated by foster care. The piece, which she included with her application, “challenged me personally” after she realized she attended class with one of the counselors, who had been in the foster care system. “I hadn’t known he was in foster care and the piece opened my eyes to the difficult situation he faced.” Her other submitted video is equally moving and is the story of a D.C. bakery, run from a homeless shelter, that teaches people baking and business skills. Josh Davidsburg, one of her professors, notes Anna’s caring nature, saying that while “she has an innate eye for video production,” she is also “ethically centered.” Another professor, Bethany Swain, further states that Anna is involved with a variety of extracurricular activities and is a “leader around campus,” acting as the news director for the college radio station and the arts and culture editor for the school newspaper.

Adriana De Alba – Graduate Student Recipient, Arizona State University – Tempe, Arizona



Adriana De Alba is, to put it lightly, a hard worker. She finished her undergraduate studies at ASU in three years and started working on her Master’s in her fourth. She has also interned at several TV stations while in school (PBS, CBS and the CW), but, as Mike Wong, of ASU, says in his reference letter, “Even though she has worked multiple internships, Ms. De Alba finished her undergraduate studies with a near-perfect 4.0 GPA.” While it is evident from her submitted videos that she is a gifted reporter (a fascinating story about a Mexican-American family’s tequila business and a moving portrait of Navajo Reservation students being helped through a veterinary sciences program), her favorite part of the process is videography. While she knew “that becoming a skilled videographer” would be extremely helpful, she didn’t know that she “would fall in love with the craft and it would have an immense effect on my career.” Robert McJannet, one of her professors, sums up Adriana perfectly in his glowing reference letter for her. “Having the privilege of knowing and working with Jim Cox,” he says, she “exemplifies all that Jim stood for: Excellence, drive, and the desire to put forth your best effort every single day with passion and conviction.”

Donations and Donors

The Board of Directors would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their generous donations and wonderful support. Their contributions will be used to help deserving students realize their dreams of becoming a photographer or photojournalist like Jim. Thank you for honoring our beloved son, brother and friend.

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Lou and Karen Cannatti	Lee and Ned Givens	Martie Jean Linville	Nancy and James Raper *	Cornelia and Lloyd Wilson *
Roy Capaldo	Marjorie Goldner, in memory of Norman Goldner *	Beata Liszka	Sandi and Larry Rebeck, in memory of your sweet son, Jim *	Elise and Robert Wilson +
Annette Carlozzi and Dan Bullock	Geoff Gorka, in honor of all who have lost a loved one unexpectedly *	Jennifer Long	Michelle Reynolds-Ricart, West Coast Plumbing & Air *	The Sam and Sonia Wilson Family Foundation *
Carolyn and Gordon Carlson *	Thomas Gorka *	Susie and Michael Lynch	Pamela Robbins, in memory of Cheryl Robbins Laing *	Rebecca Witter
Judith and Terence Casey *	Jo A. and Billie Jo Graves Family Foundation *	Diane & Ron Mahan, in memory of Jimmy *	David Romm	Brenda and Carson Woodall *
Brad Cesmat	Dorcus Green	Anne and Arthur Maple, Jr., in memory of James Alan Cox *	Christie Rosbau	Frances and James Woodrick
Jami Champagne	Isabelle and Bill Griesmeyer	Karen Martin, Karen Martin Photography	Carol and Gordon Ross *	Wally Workman, Wally Workman Gallery *
Norma Chapa	Teresa Griffin *	Todd Martin	Ann and David Rouse	Christine Wotkyns, in memory of Herk Wotkyns
Susan Charney	Mike Guerrero, in honor of Leslie Cox and all the wonderful work she does	Jennens and Ray Mashburn	Terri and Ron Rumin	Julie and Erik Zimmerman
Portia Chiarella	The Haffner Family	Gail Mazur *	Ann and Tom Russell *	* Multiple donations
The Christi Center Moms, in honor of Barbara's 80th Birthday	Rose Marie Hagman *	Traci and Steve Mazur *	Lucille Ryan	° In-kind donations
Kate and Larry Clarkson and Family *	Carol and Robert Hall *	Tom Mazur *	Emy Lou Sawyer, in celebration of Drew G. Sawyer and David Gamble *	+ Board member
Elaine Cleveland	Bonnie and Denny Hamill, in memory of Holly Hamill *	Beth A. McDonald, in celebration of more great photos!	Rex and LuAnne Sawyer, in celebration of Barbara's success on the Camino de Santiago *	
Ellen and Michael Clowes *	Kathy and Jim Hancock, in memory of Jimmy Cox *	Marianne McDonald, in memory of Dylan Graves and Jimmy Cox *		
Amy Bowerbank Crochram *		Mary and David McDonald and family		
Jim Cole				

Letter from the Foundation Vice-President

Angels Among Us

The James Alan Cox Foundation has been an integral part of our family for over 10 years now. It has filled part of the gaping hole left in our lives and hearts by Jim's death in 2007. Leslie had a desire to honor her brother's memory and forged ahead, hell bent on establishing a foundation to award need-based scholarships to students studying photojournalism. Dear friends, who believed in her vision, made a sizable donation and the JACF was launched in record time. Every applicant is thoroughly vetted and their personal stories never cease to inspire us. Several of our kids and their parents have stayed in touch over the years and we feel honored.

A couple of years after the inception of the JACF, we discussed how to list our donors in the newsletter and decided that there would be no grouping according to the amount of the gift. Instead, we simply use asterisks to designate those who have given more than once. Every year we are thrilled when past donors choose to support us once again and we are equally delighted to receive a first-time gift of any amount, from someone we know or from a complete stranger. We publish this newsletter every July and it is our only vehicle for fundraising. We run a lean operation with two offices . . . our kitchen and Leslie's guest room/ office . . . and no salaries, all volunteer-run.

We are strong supporters of The Christi Center, a grief support group that is unique to Austin. On my 80th birthday, several of my CC friends threw me a surprise birthday party and each one of them made a contribution to the JACF. I would never have known these beautiful women had we not been brought together in our shared grief. Angels, indeed.

Al's sister Gail surprised us last Christmas with the extraordinary gift of six beautiful handmade quilts (see picture) for each member of our family. Each one follows a theme, which is centered around Jim's life or the interests of our grandchildren. Besides being a talented quilter, Gail and her family are very generous supporters of the foundation.

Granddaughter Emily who is in her senior year at Colorado State, helps us with the data base and personally interviewed our first veteran winner who is an ex-Marine attending CSU. More angels!

When we meet someone and they hear our story, they are reluctant to ask questions for fear of causing us pain but we love to talk about Jim and we're anxious to talk about the foundation whenever anyone shows the slightest interest. Jim was a handsome, hardworking and talented television photojournalist with a fearless spirit who lived every day to the fullest and loved his job at KTVK Channel 3 in Phoenix. The station has been extremely generous in their support of the foundation. Angels!

We are so grateful to everyone who has held our hands through the early years, laughed and cried with us and supported the James Alan Cox Foundation. You are our angels.

Barbara H. Cox,
VICE-PRESIDENT



The Cox family with their Christmas gifts of handmade quilts by Jim Cox's aunt (and Al's sister), Gail Mazur.

NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE

This year's application process will begin on July 15, 2018 and conclude, with the deadline for applications, on November 15, 2018. To apply for a scholarship, please see the Application Requirements on the website: www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org

Type of Awards:

- Five (5) Digital Cameras will be awarded to five (5) high school students.
- Five (5) \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded to five (5) college or technical school students. Four awards will be for video work while one will be for still photography.
- One (1) \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to one (1) graduate student. The award will be for video work.
- One (1) or Two (2) \$1,500 Honorable Mention scholarships will be awarded to one (1) or two (2) college students. These awards will be for video or still work. (The number of awards given each year in this category will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.)

Jim Cox—our son, brother, and friend—lived an all-too brief life, dying on July 27, 2007 in a mid-air collision of two media helicopters over Phoenix. While he was only 37 when he died, Jim's life was happy, full and jam-packed with adventure and fun. He ran "full throttle" all of the time, and accomplished twice as much as most people do in an entire lifetime.

Jimmy to his family, or Cox to his co-workers, was born in Kingston, New York, but spent most of his childhood in Huntington, Long Island. While he loved his adopted state of Arizona, he was a true New Yorker, through and through. After graduating from Huntington High School, Jim moved out to the southwest to attend Arizona State. He took advantage of his new environment from the very beginning; going to the Grand Canyon; skiing outside of Flagstaff; or driving over to California or another neighboring state for the weekend. Whenever his family called him, during college, he seemed to be on another road trip. They often wondered if he attended classes or if the diploma he received on graduation was actually real. He did and it was. That was just Jimmy for you—he could do it all and have a lot of fun doing it.

After college, Jim worked for the Arizona Cardinals before going to work for KTVK-3TV. He loved his job there and the people with whom he worked—and they loved him. Reporters knew that Jim was a perfectionist and that their work would be even better because of his



James Alan Cox
February 20, 1970 – July 27, 2007

creativity and professionalism. They also loved working with him because he was a great, nice guy and very, very funny—a "nut" as some have said. His colleague and friend Steve Bodinet commented: "We all like to laugh and that's why we all wanted to work with Jimmy."

Besides work, Jim was passionate and talented at so many other things. He spent years, for instance, renovating his home in a historic district of Phoenix. Every nail, every board, was lovingly placed by him—and all to code! But that was not too unusual, as Jimmy could build, fix, take apart and then put back together just about anything—cars, motorcycles, sailboats, you name it. As his friends have joked, Jimmy was the second "MacGyver." Jim was also extremely athletic, becoming proficient at numerous sports: skiing, sailing & golf to name a few.

But Jim's true passion was his family. As he stated on his MySpace page, his parents were his heroes—a feeling, which was, and is, reciprocated by them. He also adored his sisters, Leslie and Jenny, and his nieces and nephew. Natallie, Emily and Nate always looked forward to getting together with their "Uncle Dude."

Jim will be dearly missed by everyone who knew him. It is hard to imagine a world without this funny, intense, passionate "ball of energy." If anything can be gained from this terrible tragedy, perhaps it is the lesson that we should all try to live life like Jimmy—passionately and with conviction. That would make him smile.

The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photojournalists is a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Code. Contributions are tax deductible, as provided by law.



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