

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, Channel 3. 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



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

of his 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. Natalie, 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 Photographers is a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Code. Contributions are tax deductible, as provided by law.



P. O. Box 9158
Austin, TX 78766



FOR STUDENT
PHOTOGRAPHERS
JULY 2010

The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards Its Second Set of Scholarships (and increases the number of grants given)



Untitled, Elite Henenson
(Other winning photo and video submissions may be viewed online at www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org)

Arizona State University Editing Bay

Jim loved his college, Arizona State University, and was particularly proud of its journalism school, the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. The school recently moved to a wonderful new, state-of-the-art building in downtown Phoenix, in the center of the city's media market. With the building's six stories and 223,000 square feet of space, the television department is as high tech and advanced as any professional TV station. The school's program, with its hands-on, practical approach to journalism, started Jim on his career in the early 90s, and gave him a solid foundation in the industry he so loved. Jim's family therefore thought it was appropriate to give back to his school and help as many students as possible with their own careers. In the summer of 2009, The James Alan Cox Foundation purchased an editing bay at the school. With this contribution, hundreds of students each year will have access to the latest equipment and technology. It is a gift that will provide opportunities for ASU students for years to come.



Alan and Barbara Cox in front of the new Walter Cronkite School editing bay

In December of 2009, the second set of scholarships from The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photographers was awarded to five high school students and five college students. (For the college grants, this was an increase over the three scholarships given the previous year.) The Foundation again received hundreds of applications from students from across the country. And, once again, it was extremely difficult to choose the recipients, as the quality of work was very high. Respected photojournalists Steve Bodinet, of KTVK, Channel 3, Phoenix, and Elise Wilson, of Aspen PRO Media, Arizona, were the jurors for the competition. Please see the list of students, with accompanying biographies, inside this newsletter.



Fire Dancer, James Fanucchi

“Photography records the gamut of feelings written on the human face, the beauty of the earth and skies that man has inherited, and the wealth and confusion man has created. It is a major force in explaining man to man.”

- Edward Steichen



Jim Cox

Letter from the Foundation President, Alan G. Cox

We have now completed the second year of competition among high school and college photojournalism students for The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photographers. At the end of 2009, we awarded five high-end digital cameras to high school students from across the country and increased our college scholarships to five \$2,000 awards (see article). We continue to be overwhelmed by the outstanding quality and innovativeness of the entries and are pleased that Jim’s legacy will be continued through his foundation. We have also underwritten an editing bay at Jim’s college, the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, and given gently-used high quality cameras to the George Washington Carver Museum (see articles).

Our next competition begins on July 15 and concludes on October 15, 2010. Please visit the website at www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org for application instructions. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the numerous contributors whose generosity ensures that the Foundation stays healthy and enables the board to increase the number of scholarships awarded.

From the entire Cox family and the board of the Foundation, we thank you for your continued support. It means so much to us, as our goal is to remember and honor Jim always.

Alan G. Cox, PRESIDENT

Founded in memory of James Alan Cox, a television photojournalist, The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photographers 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.

James Alan Cox Foundation Donates Cameras to George Washington Carver Museum, Austin, Texas



Students from the Carver Museum’s SMILE program (Photograph: Jeffrey McWhorter)

This past fall, The James Alan Cox Foundation donated several gently-used high-quality 35mm and digital cameras to the George Washington Carver Museum in Austin. These are to be used for the museum’s program SMILE. Offered twice a year for students ages 11 to 19, the program is a series of 35mm photography and darkroom workshops. Participants focus on the art and science of photography while gaining an awareness of cultural pride. The program is offered free of charge. With the gift of the Foundation’s cameras, the museum can make sure that each child has equipment to use. With the addition of the digital cameras, the program can also begin to expand its focus to include training in the digital medium.

Many thanks to all of the people who donated cameras to the Foundation. They are being put to very good use!

Camera donors: Steve Bodinet, Elizabeth Hawkins, Becky and Richard Herrington, Traci Kuhfuss, Mary Beth and Jeff Payne, David Peña, Diane and Stan Spence, Karen and Larry Turner, Vivienne and Bill Wardle, Francine and John Webb.

Recorder Purchase for Hopi High School, Keams Canyon, Arizona

When The James Alan Cox Foundation found out that the Hopi High School radio club, in Keams Canyon, Arizona, needed high-quality recorders for its radio program, they decided to slightly extend the Foundation’s mission for this important school and program. Hopi High performs the only live remote Native American high school teen talk show in the nation each Thursday afternoon. Radio club members interview teachers, administrators, community members and classmates on KUYI, the Hopi community radio station. Barbara Cox, the Foundation’s Vice President, was impressed with how “the students are getting such valuable hands-on training in reporting, writing, and producing.” It is the Foundation’s hope that Hopi High will next branch out into television production.



Hopi High School radio students display professional quality tape recorders donated by The James Alan Cox Foundation (Photograph: Stan Bindell)

The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards Its Second Scholarships

This past December, The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photographers awarded its second set of scholarships to five high school students and five college students. The recipients were chosen based on interest, talent and financial need. They also had to complete all of the many parts of the application process, including writing an essay, submitting school transcripts, and providing letters of reference.

College Winners *Five college students each received a \$2,000 scholarship, payable to their school.*



Elite Henenson, Santa Barbara City College

Elite Henenson, who is the Foundation's college still photography award winner, is a student at Santa Barbara City College, pursuing a bachelor's degree in photography and anthropology. One of her goals, she states, is "to create strong images that will raise global awareness about issues such as poverty and cultural differences." "Your scholarship," she also writes, "will help me to bring a new vision into the world." Her submitted images, while all very different, do exactly that: highlight various cultures and diversity, from student life in her own town, to children she met on her travels in Bolivia. One photograph of a young girl in this South American country is mesmerizing. Noel Gomez, an advisor at her school, states that Elite combines "intellectual depth and rigor with a strong commitment to helping others" and "has fulfilled many roles crucial in developing the field of documentary photography in the Santa Barbara County by increasing awareness to important issues within the community."



Alexa Keeley, Pennsylvania State University

Alexa Keeley, one of four \$2,000 winners in the college video category, states in her application essay that she loves "taking the responsibility of making sure a story is told right." She also likes the technical challenges and approaches and, during the past school year, "worked very hard and produced many stories using different multimedia techniques." Her two video submissions, about Penn State's mascot, the Nittany Lion, follow these criteria. Although both are instructive, carefully researched pieces, they are also creative and well produced. One is a fun portrait of a seemingly enviable job, while the other is a more somber look at the responsibilities involved in being a Big Ten mascot. Curt Chandler, a senior lecturer at Penn State University, thinks that Alexa is "the kind of student this industry needs." She can "track down sources, get them to talk, gather supplemental information and combine it all in a complete web package, which we showcased on the Penn State student showcase website."



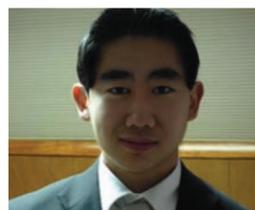
Demetrius Pipkin, Arizona State University

Demetrius Pipkin, another \$2,000 winner in the video category, submitted two very strong pieces with his application. The first one, about gun violence, is informative and probing, while the second one, about a young high school student named Jonathan Roberts, is very moving and relates the story about Roberts finishing his senior year while his mother battles cancer. Both videos demonstrate a commitment to the facts, as well as an understanding and caring for the subject matter and people being interviewed. Robert Nino, 12 News Phoenix's News Operations Manager, feels very strongly about Demetrius and his potential as a photojournalist. Robert even sees some of Jim Cox in Demetrius. "Having worked next to Jim for many years in Phoenix, Arizona, I witnessed his competitive passion daily. As competitors, I enjoyed this passion because it raised the bar for everyone on the story knowing Jim's work ethic and desire to win the story. I see similar qualities in Demetrius."



Christie Roshau, Arizona State University

Another scholarship winner for video work, Christie Roshau, also from Arizona State University, says that "videography for me is more than simply a camera, tripod, and a subject correctly framed and sound-checked. Its goal should not only be to tell a story, but to stir passions." Her two video submissions, while of different subjects, both stir the viewers with their message. The first one, of the Tempe Symphony rehearsing, shows the dedication and passion of the performers, as well as the appreciation of the audience. The latter's enjoyment is beautifully captured in the faces of both young and old. The second video is about cornea donor families and the donor recipients. As Christie wrote in her application essay, she thought it was "healing for the donor mother to share her story." Michele Fortin, one of Christie's teachers at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism at ASU, knows that Christie has a bright future ahead of her. Christie "knows how to put together a well-orchestrated story. Much of what she turns in is at the professional, not collegiate, level."



Lufei "Chris" Yu, University of Maryland

Chris Yu, from the University of Maryland, states that, "for me, the line between art and photography is blurred and I feel turning video into art should be what every journalist strives for." Another \$2,000 scholarship winner in the video category, Chris submitted two very informative, professional and artistic pieces, with the first video about a man, walking from Texas to Massachusetts, with his two dogs to raise awareness about canine cancer. The second is about Car Free Day, a worldwide celebration of public transportation. Stan Heist, a professor at the University of Maryland, is impressed with Chris and says he "has demonstrated a remarkable eye for visual communication, a steadfast desire to improve his craft, and the willingness to go wherever it is necessary to do the story the right way."

High School Winners *Five high school students each received a Nikon D5000 camera, with an additional lens and camera case.*



James Fanucchi, Sonoma Valley High School, El Verano, California

James Fanucchi, one of five winners in the high school category, writes that "throughout high school, wherever I have gone so has my camera. I was there with my camera when my friend Gabe fractured his spine long-boarding, when the streaker ran across the field during halftime, and my camera was there to document my early journey with Multiple Sclerosis." James' photos are of many different themes (as James refers to it – the "flexibility of my journalist subject matter") but all seem "alive" and sometimes, like the "Fire Dancer," capture a truly magical moment, with great color, detail and superb lighting. A. Mitchell, from Sonoma Valley High School, who wrote one of James' reference letters, says that "in my twelve years as a photography instructor at Sonoma Valley High School, very few students have shown the interest and dedication to photography that James shows." As photo editor of his school's yearbook, James uses "the camera not only to express himself but to explore and document the world around him."



Keami Hepburn, SEED Public Charter School, Washington, D.C.

Keami Hepburn, a high school scholarship winner from the D.C. area, likes action photos. Many of her submitted images are scenes from skateboarding contests or concerts; photos that all require great skill in capturing movement at the right angle and at the right time. For Keami, each photograph showcases her skill, abilities and technique. In her own words, each is testament to "dedication, perceptiveness, and the agitation it took to create it." Kerry Richardson, the Director of College Counseling at SEED Public Charter School, says that the day Keami "was introduced to a camera lens was a transformative day for her because it enabled her to share her point of view in ways that words alone could not express." She "translates the energy of the movement, the sound and the texture in a way that invites the viewer in and makes you want to know

what she was thinking at that precise moment when she captured the shot."



Sally Nelson, Homeschooled, Moores Hill, Indiana

Sally Nelson, from Moores Hill, Indiana, is not afraid to take the difficult shot. "I want to photograph not just the pleasant aspects of life; I want to capture the difficult, raw moments. I want to present the world as it is: a sometimes beautiful, sometimes horrible mosaic of lives and moments." Her submitted images, many focusing on her time living in Africa while her parents awaited the adoption of her little sister, are often sad or even heartbreaking. A photograph of a child's grave; a man despondent over some news he has just received. There are also the happy pictures, though; of a proud World War II veteran or of her younger brother playing with new friends in Africa. Sally's images, whether joyful or sad, are always passionate, moving images. As Marilyn Childress states in her reference letter, Sally "approaches all of life with remarkable

passion and energy, pouring herself into whatever is at hand, whether performing a task, photographing a moment, debating a point, or showing compassion to a hurting friend."



Brandon Rabbie, Roslyn High School, Roslyn, New York

Brandon Rabbie, another winner in the high school category, is involved in multiple activities at school, from football to viola, to computer programming and, of course photography. The latter, he feels, is "my most passionate hobby" and it certainly shows in the stunning photographs he submitted to this year's competition. One of his photographs is a beautiful image of Chinatown in New York City. There is also a stunning, nighttime shot of the George Washington Bridge and a dynamic photograph of a horse in full gallop at a polo match. Brandon, along with being well known for his artistic abilities, is also recognized as a kind and giving young man by his teachers and peers. With his photography, he has managed to combine both. Liza Nathan, in a reference letter for Brandon, said that, in addition to donating his services as videographer and photographer to a recent fundraiser, he also donated over a dozen framed photographs. "To no great surprise," she writes, "all of his photographs were sold at the event."



Rachel Richardville, Rivet High School, Vincennes, Indiana

Rachel, a high school foundation winner from Vincennes, Indiana, submitted photographs of a flood that happened in her hometown several years ago. One of the worst floods in over a hundred years, the images capture the enormity of the disaster, but also the strange beauty that can sometimes accompany such events. A sunset, with three silhouettes in the foreground, is a beautiful image against the flooded field behind it. "The ability to document events, both personal and historical, through photography is the reason why I want to pursue it as a career," Rachel writes. Her school principal, Janice Vantlin-Jones, is confident that Rachel will achieve her goals. A hard worker, with interest and talent in many school programs and extracurricular activities, Ms. Vantlin-Jones knows Rachel's "love for the art of photography" and is "sure she will acquire her dream."

NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE

Each year, through a juried selection process, several deserving students are chosen by The James Alan Cox Foundation to receive equipment or tuition help. This year's application process will begin on July 15, 2010 and conclude, with the deadline for applications, on October 15, 2010. To apply for a scholarship, please see the Application Requirements on the Web site (www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org).

Type of Awards

- Five (5) Digital Cameras will be awarded to five (5) high school students.
- Five (5) \$2,000 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.

The focus of work and entries is photojournalism. Scholarships will be awarded to those students whose work "tells a story." This is a fairly broad topic and may include a variety of subject matter and approaches (breaking news, sporting events, etc.)

"Your faith in me as a photographer encourages me to realize my dreams and aspirations." -Elite Henenson

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 son, brother and friend.

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* Multiple donations

Your Support is Greatly Appreciated

Since the loss of our son Jim three years ago, one of the primary goals of The James Alan Cox Foundation has been to offer tuition assistance to college students who have chosen a career in the field of photojournalism. This year Al and I were privileged to meet two of the winners who are students at Arizona State's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. We arranged to meet Christie Roshau at the school's new downtown Phoenix location and she gave us a guided behind-the-scenes tour of the amazing new facility. Demetrius Pipkin joined the three of us for lunch near the ASU main campus in Tempe and we

were tremendously impressed with their accomplishments to date and enthusiasm for the future. We wish we could have the opportunity to meet all those who have been selected, but for now, the thrill of calling to tell them they are winners will have to do.

Your continued support of the Foundation is vital and will enable us to increase the number and amount of scholarships awarded to talented students like Christie and Demetrius. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and your gifts are fully deductible. Thank you all for your generosity and caring.

- **Barbara H. Cox**, VICE-PRESIDENT



Christie Roshau and Demetrius Pipkin



Jim Cox



Angie Rushing

"Without the scholarship you gave her, I don't believe she ever would have pursued her photography seriously. Thank you again for the blessing you gave my daughter."

-Barbi M. Rushing,
 Mother of Angie Rushing, 2008 scholarship recipient