

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 Awards Its Fifth Set of Scholarships (In five years, 49 students have now received awards, totaling \$76,124.75 in grants!)

Last July marked the fifth anniversary of Jim Cox's tragic death in a media helicopter collision. While Jim will never be forgotten, his family is so thankful that good work is being done in his name and numerous students have benefited from the organization created in his memory. This past December, the Foundation honored Jim again by awarding its fifth set of scholarships to high school and college students. Six college students each received \$2,500, payable to their school, and five high school students each received a high-end digital camera, with lenses, case and memory card.

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.

Foundation award recipients have now come from 21 states and the District of Columbia. \$56,000 in monetary scholarships has been awarded to 24 college students and \$20,124.75 worth of



Photograph by Hagen Brown, 2012 High School Scholarship Recipient

high-end digital cameras has been given to 25 high school students.

Since its founding, the Foundation has also purchased an editing bay at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, funded two internships at KTVK-3TV, Phoenix, and given grants to organizations such as the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington D.C. The Foundation has also provided

numerous gently-used cameras to schools and other organizations across the country. And this year, the Foundation is proud to announce the start of a new scholarship program for graduate students. (Please see inside this newsletter for more information about this latest award opportunity.)

To see samples of each recipient's work, please go online to: www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org and click on the link for the 2012 Scholarship Recipients.

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.



P. O. Box 9158
Austin, TX 78766

Second Annual Fall Internship at KTVK-3TV, Phoenix



Alan Michael Hersh, Photograph by Chris Morice

After an application and interview process, KTVK-3TV in Phoenix hired its second Foundation-funded intern, Alan Michael Hersh. Alan was born in Los Angeles, California and first started working in video with his father, cutting highlights for his little league baseball team. In high school, he balanced AP and Honors courses with varsity football and the school newspaper. Alan produced all of the football banquet highlight videos, including filming all the player and coach interviews. After a knee injury ruled out playing football in college, Alan decided to declare a journalism major, choosing Arizona State's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Though he started out on the print route, it took only one videography class to help him rediscover his love for video. Paired with a minor in film production, he developed a passion for visual storytelling. Alan says he was honored to be chosen as the Foundation's second intern and hopes to leave the internship with a great reel that will land him a fantastic job.

The Foundation's third annual internship at KTVK will begin in the fall. Many thanks to the station for their continuing support of this program, with particular thanks to Nick Nicholson, President and General Manager, Cameryn Beck, Executive News Director, Luis Olivas, News Operations Manager, and Lea-Ann Clement, Director of Human Resources.

To the James Alan Cox Foundation,

Words can't express how appreciative and thankful I am toward your generosity. That day, when I received the phone call, I was ecstatic. I could hardly believe that I won - it was a dream come true. I love photography and I have always wanted my very own professional camera, and you were able to provide that for me. I honestly can't thank you all enough.

SINCERELY,
Hannah Huang

Letter from the Foundation President

The James Alan Cox Foundation continues to grow countrywide with a presence in 21 states and DC, as more and more photojournalism students take advantage of this opportunity.

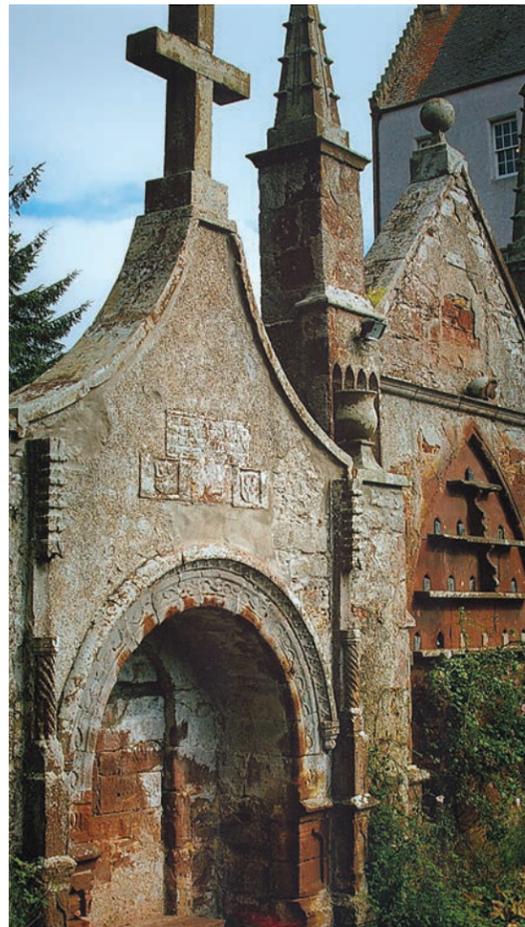
Jim's talent and passion for capturing surrounding scenes via the lens was evidenced on our trip to the "old sod", Scotland, in 2005. It was a wonderful father/son trek to the home of his ancestors with plenty of golf, driving on the "wrong" side of the road, "Nessie", pipers and OLD castles and kirks (churches). He was absolutely fascinated with the age of these structures and took numerous pictures from many different viewpoints – all treasured keepsakes. It was his perspective on composition (observed on this trip) that was the inspiration for the formation of the Foundation and the basis for judging all scholarship entries.

We continue to be humbled and grateful for the support of hundreds of donors to the foundation. Thank you for honoring our son.

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.



Scotland, Photograph by Jim Cox

New \$2,500 Graduate Student Scholarship!

Over the years, many graduate students have asked the Foundation if they are eligible for a scholarship. While, up until this year, only undergraduates have qualified for monetary awards, the Foundation's Board of Directors recently voted to approve a new scholarship program, specifically for graduate students. Therefore, starting in the fall of 2013, a \$2,500 scholarship, payable to the student's school, will be awarded to one graduate student each year. (The award will be for video work.)

Thank you to all of the students, along with the many colleges and universities, who have contacted us about this need. And thank you to our donors for making this new program possible. As one student at Columbia University recently told us, "it would be wonderful if you were able to add a scholarship ... there are very few opportunities available for graduate students!"

What Are Our Students Doing Now?

Many people ask the Foundation what our past scholarship recipients are doing now. With last year's newsletter, we started something new – a column dedicated to looking at some of our former winners and their current pursuits. We continue this year with a look at four more students.



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

2009 High School Scholarship Recipient

James Fanucchi is currently studying journalism at City College of San Francisco. As photo editor of the campus newspaper during the fall of 2012, James received two photography awards from California's Journalism Association of Community Colleges. Last March he travelled to Dharamsala, India to photograph the Hindu spring festival of colors called Holi. This summer James is a freelancing for his hometown newspaper, The Sonoma Index-Tribune.



Rachel Richardville, Rivet High School, Vincennes, Indiana

2009 High School Scholarship Recipient

This fall, Rachel will be a senior at Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois and will be graduating in 2014 with a major in Television Media, focus in writing and production, and a minor in photography. Rachel says she loves photography and continues to submit pictures to contests and magazines. She was a finalist in the Photography Forum Magazine earlier this year. This summer, she is working as a marketing intern at her hometown hospital and is hoping to be able to go to Los Angeles in 2014 as part of Columbia's Semester in L.A Program for television majors. She would like to eventually be a freelance photographer and have her photos used in a variety of media outlets. Rachel says that "winning the camera through the James Alan Cox Foundation based on my photographs three years ago helped give me the confidence I needed to pursue what I really want to do in my career."



Jessica Hodder, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida

2010 College Scholarship Recipient

Jessica Hodder, a 2010 College Video Scholarship recipient, has been working at the Everglades Foundation since her graduation from the University of Miami in 2011. She is the Multimedia Associate for the South Florida environmental non-profit, spearheading their efforts in multimedia. The organization focuses on the protection and preservation of America's Everglades by working to advance Everglades restoration initiatives. Jessica regularly produces photo and video content for the web, maintains the Foundation's website and also manages its social media accounts. Please see their website: www.evergladesfoundation.org to see Jessica's work and for more information on this group.



Laura Palmisano, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona

2010 College Scholarship Recipient

Laura began working as a Morning Edition producer for KJZZ-FM, Phoenix's local NPR-affiliate in 2012. This position gave her a start in public radio. Working as a producer, she says, has helped her learn the ropes of public radio and is a step towards her goal of becoming a public radio reporter. Laura's other goal is to become bilingual. In February 2013, she completed a four-week immersion program in Guatemala. She went through this program to sharpen her Spanish-language skills, a tool that is incredibly valuable as a journalist working in the Southwest. (Laura just informed the Foundation that she has accepted a senior radio/television reporting position with Arizona Public Media. She will start in July and is excited to relocate to Tucson and work for AZPM, a hybrid public radio and television media outlet.)

The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards its Fifth Scholarships

This past December, The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photojournalists awarded its fifth set of scholarships to five high school students and six college students. The Foundation would like to thank guest judges, Steve Bodinet, of KTVK-3TV, Phoenix, and Elise Wilson, of Aspen PRO Media, Arizona. Their help was invaluable in the selection process.

NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE: This year's application process will begin on July 15, 2013 and conclude, with the deadline for applications, on November 15, 2013. Please see the website (www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org) for more information on applying.

High School Winners *Five high school students each received either a Nikon D3200 Digital SLR camera with lenses, carrying case and memory card or a Canon EOS Rebel T3i DSLR camera with lenses, carrying case and memory card.*



Beteal Alemseghed, Lotus School for Excellence, Aurora, Colorado

Beteal's essay begins with a quote, "If I could tell the story in words, I wouldn't need to lug around a camera" (Lewis Hine) which, she says, sums up the way she feels about photography. She continues, "Photojournalism is like opening a book with a variety of options to choose from." All the photos that she submitted for the competition were taken on a school trip to Turkey, which she remembers as beautiful, and inspiring. Four were in black and white and the fifth, a color image, is of a small boat anchored in a narrow canal. With the eye of a photographer, she writes that she was drawn to taking photos of everyday people and the city alleyways, which she found throughout the country. Betty, as her classmates know her, is the daughter of Ethiopian immigrants who place an extremely high value on education. Jennifer Floersch, her college counselor at the Lotus School for Excellence has high praise for her perseverance, motivation and creativity, adding "She is one of the most creative and hardworking students in the class of 2013."



Hagen Brown, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Lexington, Kentucky

"Hagen Brown always looks for ways to make the lives of people easier," writes Mary Molsky, a former teacher at Beaumont Middle School. She has high praise for Hagen's work ethic and adds, "He has outstanding verbal communication skills, and is the perfect ambassador for each of the many organizations with which he is affiliated." Look with your Heart is the motto of The Gummy Bear Club, to which Hagen, as a founding member, has volunteered endless hours to helping his peers with special needs while still finding time for sports and marching band. Photos taken on a mission trip to Kenya showing children playing in trash and scavenging for food serve as powerful visual lessons, as they reveal his compassion for the less fortunate. Hagen summarizes his love of photography in this way: "Photography has no boundaries and gives me a chance to capture images of people and things that bring smiles to the faces of many."



Kelci Davis, Francis Howell Central High School, St. Charles, Missouri

Kelci thinks like a photographer. "Something in our blood forces us to tell the story ... to find the truth in a still moment and to alter time by holding it still." One of her photos is of parents holding an American flag as they stand at the graveside of their 19-year-old son who was killed shortly after his arrival in Afghanistan. In other photos, she has the ability to capture raw emotions on the faces of her teachers and classmates. An all-round journalist, she is praised by Matthew Schott: "As Visuals Executive Editor, she's in charge of photography, videography and the appearance of our newspaper, website and broadcast." Ted Noelker, the Multimedia Executive Editor of her high school online publication writes, "As I've watched Kelci immerse herself in an ever-broadening role, it is plain to see her evolution as a journalist." The camera Kelci received as a winner in the competition is the first she has owned.



Hannah Huang, Queens School of Inquiry, Flushing, New York

Hannah developed a passion for photography even though she did not own a camera. Using a borrowed school camera, she was able to capture photos that told stories without words ... "moments frozen in time" as she calls them. One of her photos taken after Hurricane Sandy shows a gas station with no gas and another shows volunteers cleaning up a beach. She loves photojournalism because "it captures the truth and the facts, which, sadly, are the things that society sometimes lacks" she says in her essay. Barry Frank, a professor who has known Hannah for six years, writes of an assignment in which Hannah's use of "clear and concise language" to illustrate complex ideas was "well beyond her years." Lindsey Wolf, her school counselor and advisor, writes that Hannah has worked tirelessly to overcome the obstacles of growing up in an immigrant family and "she has earned close to 50 college credits ... and maintains a 4.0 GPA in her college and high school coursework." Mr. Frank adds that Hannah's photos for the yearbook "remind us of the many lives that pass through our school."



Lisseth Lopez, Summer Creek High School, Houston, Texas

Lisseth Lopez writes that she loves photography because it "can capture a moment and tell a story that can last a lifetime." A striking black and white photo of two children playing basketball, an up-close picture of a young boxer, a soccer match catching the intensity of the moment on the players' faces – perfectly capture the moment. Her high school publications advisor, Megan Ortiz, writes, that in addition to her skill as a photographer, Lisseth is a talented writer and editor and is knowledgeable in all areas of the journalistic process. She adds, "There is no doubt in my mind she will continue to find success with her versatility and determination." Last summer Lisseth was chosen to attend a workshop at the Houston Chronicle and traveled by bus at 7 am every weekday morning for four weeks in order to learn from photographers, editors and reporters at the paper. Lauren Allen, who has taught Lisseth in history and serves as National Honor Society advisor writes that "she has had an opportunity to see her grow as an academic, photojournalist and individual during her time at Summer Creek High School."

College Winners *Six college students each received a \$2,500 scholarship, payable to their school. (The Foundation normally gives out five college scholarships per year but, due to a tie in judging, a sixth award was given.) Five awards were for video work, while one was for still photography.*



Tiana Chavez, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona

Tiana Chavez's videos are creative and fun. One of her submitted pieces, about the San Diego Padres during spring training, is a great, often funny, video about pitchers versus catchers and their complimentary roles in baseball. Tiana has captured some wonderful, witty dialogue between the two, along with great action shots. Her other video, about a South African Olympic swimmer who attends college in Arizona, is an informative, yet fun, portrait of this athlete, interspersed with terrific swimming scenes. Both videos are original and inventive and support Tiana's statement that she sees "the world differently through my camera lens." Greg Boeck, a former sports journalist and professor at Arizona State, says that Tiana's "broadcast work is beyond her years" while Jose M. Romero, another faculty member at ASU, writes that Tiana is a "go-getter, a person who is very detail-oriented and truly cares about the quality of her work." Both reference letters also note that Tiana was hand selected, from a very competitive field, for the two classes that produced her application videos.



Vicki Chen, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Vicki Chen is truly dedicated to broadcast journalism and has worked at USC's Annenberg TV News (ATVN) for six semesters. While she loves telling many different types of stories, "because I truly believe that the most rewarding part of journalism is sharing important moments in people's lives," her specific passions "include community-based reporting, breaking news, international news and politics." Her two application videos, while professional and very polished, are also artistic, heartfelt and extremely interesting. One is a story about a non-profit barn that uses horseback riding to teach leadership and teamwork skills to underprivileged girls. The other is a feature about teens training to become professional circus performers. Judy Muller, one of Vicki's professors, says that she can do it all, from producing day-of-air news packages and feature stories to covering live, breaking news events. "She is indefatigable and loves working with the camera." Alan Mittelstaedt, another faculty member, also admires her work and gives her perhaps a journalist's highest compliment, stating that Vicki "is committed not only to journalism, but to contributing to the higher public good."



Madeline Hays, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

Madeline Hays' two submitted videos are both in-depth portraits of individuals. Though succinct and concise, they get to the heart of the person being interviewed. The viewer can tell that Madeline is truly interested in her subjects. As she states in her application essay: "I have yet to find another career path that lets you get to know so many interesting human beings, and get to know them intimately enough to have them tell you their secrets, heartaches, struggles, passions, and dreams." While her first video, about a woman with gluten intolerance, is professional and interesting, it is the second one, about UT football coach, Darrell K. Royal, that is a true standout. A moving and poignant piece, she also had to finish it quickly, as the coach died suddenly last fall after struggling with Alzheimer's for many years. According to her professor, Kris Wilson, Madeline "showed tremendous poise and grace under pressure to tackle this story as it was developing on a national stage." Kate Dawson, another professor, also sings Madeline's praises, saying she is "very bright, hardworking" and "really deserves to be recognized for her accomplishments."



Clayton Hotze, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri (Still Photography Winner)

While Clayton Hotze has long been interested in photography, for many years it was more art-based photography. Joining the yearbook staff in high school, however, and being assigned to cover football games changed his focus. Photojournalism is now his passion. As he writes in his application essay, "Nothing can relate to standing on the field with thousands of fans going crazy and getting to capture everything." His submitted images, mostly sports-related, are all dynamic, fun and, of course, beautifully shot with dramatic angles and vivid color. Pure athleticism is displayed in the photo of female runners at a track event and there is infectious joy captured in an image of fans at a game. Kathryn Sternhagen, who has known Clayton for years through a fellowship youth group, says that his work brings "to life the ordinary, making it seem extraordinary" and that "he can truly capture the emotion behind the story." Mitch Eden, of Kirkwood High School, also notes Clayton's kindness and leadership abilities. He brings "a positive energy to every place and situation he inhabits" and, as a leader, transfers his "passion for journalism to his classmates."



Sean Patrick Lewis, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Sean Patrick Lewis, a previous Foundation scholarship recipient, wants to be a positive voice in broadcast journalism. "I don't like to do stories that tear down an individual," he says, "but rather ones that uplift and unite communities." He also wants "to make a difference for the 'smaller guy.'" His goal is to produce stories that make people care and possibly even get involved. His two submitted videos do just this: enlighten and promote action, while also being interesting and artistic. The first one is an entertaining, yet informative, report about a community trying to create a dog beach in southern California. The second one, about cyber hate, is an award-winning piece about this problem and what is currently being done to curb it. Carol Lin, a USC professor, says that part of Sean Patrick's appeal as a reporter is that he "is a wonderful combination of smart, persistent, and visually artistic." Miriam Hernandez, a reporter at KABC-TV, reiterates this, especially concerning Sean Patrick's artistry, writing that his "creative juices are always at work" and in "his head is a studio of multi-media ideas."



Brittany Morris, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona

Brittany Morris, in her application essay, writes that she has "a passion for individuals and I know that everyone has a story worth sharing." She also says "imagery and vivid messages are my aid to change the world." This is evident in her submitted video about Teach for America members. It is a moving story about teachers wanting to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged children. Mark Montesano, a professor at Arizona State, has witnessed Brittany's caring and compassion first-hand and states that she "has a budding interest in human rights" and "a passion for people and changing the world." Brittany, though, is a versatile journalist and can also do the "fun" stories, as evidenced in her second application piece about an Arabian horse show in Scottsdale. Her video and editing skills, on display here, are noted by Gilbert Zermeño, another ASU professor and professional photojournalist. He also comments on Brittany's exceptional work ethic. As he writes, "James had a great reputation for his energy and hustle ... so I know he would approve of Brittany's enthusiasm and approach to her work."

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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+ Board Member

Letter from the Foundation Vice-President

As we approach the 6th anniversary of the tragic accident that claimed the life of our son, the open wounds have healed enough for us to be introspective. I know, without a doubt, that we are doing good things because we are helping kids who really need us. These are kids whose stories we would never have known, kids who need a helping hand, who really value an education and, ultimately, will be an asset to their communities and our country. A year ago, on the 5th anniversary of Jim's accident, we invited scholarship winners from the Arizona area to have lunch with us at the Phoenix Art Museum. The opportunity to meet some of the scholarship winners means a great deal to our family. Since our winners come from all over the country, getting together with the majority of them is not possible, so the next best thing is to stay in touch by email and share some of their responses with all of you.

This year has been an eye opener for me personally with regard to our high school winners. While I've always known that this program is valuable and appreciated by our recipients (some even cry when they receive the phone call from AI, telling them that they've won), the rewards for us have been far greater than we could have dreamed. The students are asked to submit 5 images with an emphasis on photojournalism. Along with their application, they must submit an essay, a financial statement, their transcript and 2 letters of recommendation. These kids are amazing! Some of them have never owned a camera, some of them come from immigrant families and every one of them has learned the value and rewards of hard work. All are determined to go on to college even though there will be little or no help from their families. We get a lot more than we give and we are able to give because you give. I hope you will take a few minutes to go to our website and see the awesome work submitted by our winners.

Barbara H. Cox, VICE-PRESIDENT

"Some people come in your life as blessings. Some come in your life as lessons."

- Mother Teresa



The Board with former scholarship recipients at the Phoenix Art Museum. Front row, left to right: Alan Cox, Jennifer Cox, Barbara Cox, Leslie Cox, Laura Palmisano, Lisa Alering, Steve Bodinet. Back row, left to right: Christie Roshau, Chris Morice, Gabriel Vest.

A Message from the Board of Directors

The Foundation's Board of Directors takes great pride in meeting, and sometimes exceeding, our mission statement's goals and adhering to our non-profit designation. We are proud that the majority of our expenses go towards programming costs (our high school and college scholarships, the annual KTVK internship, and other grants). We have no employees or salaries and no large office expenses (such as rent or utilities). We are strictly volunteer-run and try to keep all expenses, save those for programming, to a minimum. We also constantly strive to get as many discounts and in-kind donations as possible. In the spirit of transparency and accountability, the Board would like to point out some important documents pertaining to our non-profit status and fiscal management.

First, a copy of the Foundation's 501(c)(3) charitable status letter can be found on our website: www.jamealancoxfoundation.org. (The link for this IRS determination letter is on the "About the Foundation" page.)

Just like all non-profit groups, the Foundation's annual 990 tax returns are open to the public. Copies of these forms are available online, through various sites, including the Foundation Center (www.foundationcenter.org).

Please also note that the Foundation has earned an important distinction from GuideStar, an organization dedicated to providing the public with information about non-profits. The Foundation has received the GuideStar Exchange Seal, which demonstrates the Foundation's commitment to transparency. Please visit their website at www.GuideStar.com.