

## The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards Its Eighth Set of Scholarships (and creates a new category – to support even more students!)



Photograph by Christina Owens, 2015 College Scholarship Recipient

Last December, the James Alan Cox Foundation awarded its eighth set of scholarships. Six college students each received \$2,500, payable to their school, and five high school students received a high-end digital camera, with lenses, case and memory card (valued at approximately \$800 each). For the first time this year, the Foundation also awarded two Honorable Mention Awards, worth \$1,500 each, to support even more college photojournalism students.

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.

The Foundation has now provided over \$150,000 in scholarships, camera awards, grants and other student programs. In eight years, 84 students have received grants, with award recipients coming from 26 states and the District of Columbia. The Foundation has also funded many other programs, including an annual internship at Jim's station, KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5, Phoenix.

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

- \$104,000 in college scholarships
- \$32,874.60 for high-end cameras for high school students
- \$7,707.12 to the internship program
- \$6,174.90 in other grants and donations
- \$10,000 for an editing bay at Arizona State University

*To see samples of this year's recipients' work, please go online to [www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org](http://www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org) and click on the link for the 2015 Scholarship Recipients. You can also access all previous scholarship and camera award winners.*

## The Foundation Funds its Fifth Fall Internship at KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5

Joey Hardy, of Arizona State University, was hired last fall as the Foundation's fifth annual intern at KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5 (the station where Jim worked for twelve years). Currently a junior at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at ASU, with an emphasis in broadcast production, Joey told the Foundation that he loves storytelling and being behind the camera, driving the action. He also said that he applied for the internship in the hopes of advancing his photojournalism skills and is excited to learn from some of the best in the business. Along with this internship, Joey also works at KAET-PBS on the production crew for "Arizona Horizon," as well as on other PBS specials. Joey hopes to become a news or a sports producer for a major network one day.

As always, many thanks to KTVK 3TV KPHO CBS 5 for their continued support of this program, and in particular, Ed Munson, General Manager, Luis Olivas, News Operations Manager, and Laura Peña, Human Resource Director.



Joey Hardy, 2015 Foundation Intern

*"I am Angie Rushing's mom. As you may recall, Angie was one of the first scholarship winners back in 2009. . . . You and your husband personally delivered her camera to her at our house in Georgetown. I still remember that day as if it were yesterday; she was so very excited. You have no idea what doors that camera opened for her and the pursuit that grew in her."*

*"I'm not sure you ever hear about the impact your generosity has on young lives; so, I wanted to share Angie's success with you. . . . You played such a crucial role in her success. Winning that scholarship gave Angie the confidence that she did have an 'eye' for photography."*

**- Barbi McDonough**



Al and Barbara Cox with quilt by Carolyn Carlson; Photograph by Jennifer Cox



Jim and Al Cox at KTVK, Channel 3

## **Letter from the Foundation President**

We are pleased to report that the James Alan Cox Foundation continues to flourish having passed \$150,000 in college scholarships, high-end digital camera awards, grants and other programs. The Foundation now has a presence in 26 states and the District of Columbia.

We are very grateful for the continued support and the love that we receive daily. Please note the beautiful hand-crafted quilt featuring some of Jim's photographs that was given to us recently by Carolyn Carlson, the wife of one of my dear friends. This gift completely overwhelmed us and reminded everyone in our family of the wonderful legacy that has been created for Jim.

Please take the time to look at our website [www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org](http://www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org) to view the amazing work of our scholarship winners. It is very humbling and gratifying to see the results of the winnowing process that produces our winners.

Without the support of hundreds of donors, none of this would be possible. Thank you for remembering our son . . . Jim would be very pleased.

**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.



## New Award Category Created by Foundation: Honorable Mention

This year, the Foundation received so many wonderful applications that it was extremely difficult to narrow down the applicants and choose the scholarship winners, particularly regarding college still photography entries. The Board of Directors therefore decided to create a new category, Honorable Mention, worth \$1,500 each, to recognize these worthy students. The Foundation was only able to do this because of the kindness and generosity of our many donors.

### Honorable Mention Award Winners

#### Christina Owens, Mesa Community College – Mesa, Arizona



Christina wants to be both a veterinarian AND a wildlife conservation photographer. “I want to travel around the globe, and live side by side with animals and extraordinary human beings, while bringing about awareness of the struggles they face.”

With a lengthy stay in Southeast Asia already under her belt, she has already begun living her dream ... and she has documented that in her photographs. Her submitted images, of a panda, an orangutan and the Karen people of Thailand, are all vivid, colorful, rich portraits. Her references, extremely strong, note her interest in documenting and helping others, both human and animal. As Karen Shedler, a professor

at Arizona State University, states, “To see a young woman of her potential so immersed in helping others get to know the magic of the planet’s wildlife diversity is gratifying.” Bonnie Yocham, another former teacher, also says, “During my thirty years of teaching, I have worked with hundreds of students. Christina is one of the most memorable.”

#### Courtney Talak, University of Arizona – Tucson, Arizona



Courtney Talak’s artistic talent and striking images immediately caught the attention of the Foundation Board and judges. Her photos, all varied (a volleyball player in motion, a bucking horse, a welder shot in a magnificent light) are exceptional – detailed and vivid. She says she discovered

this passion for photojournalism while on a volunteer trip to Haiti. “It was here that I learned how to use my lens as a means of social change - that with my two feet and camera I can make a difference in this world.” Kim Newton, one of her professors, agrees, saying that as “Courtney continues to work towards her goals, I am confident in her abilities to achieve, inspire and contribute significantly to society.” Judy Harrison, who works with Courtney at the University’s student union, also notes her professionalism and maturity, saying that “she was clearly a leader amongst her peers.”

## What Are Our Students Doing Now?

Many people ask the Foundation what our past scholarship recipients are doing now. A few years ago, 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 two more students.

#### Trevor Gilchrist, University of South Carolina – Columbia, South Carolina

##### 2011 College Scholarship Recipient



After being selected as a 2011 recipient, Trevor continued using his photojournalism skills, both academically and professionally. During his junior and senior year at the University of South Carolina (USC) he sought opportunities to study abroad in Denmark and China and created two documentaries highlighting his experience. While in Denmark, he also completed a semester internship as a marketing and video intern where he got to create a series of short videos highlighting the diversity of university students studying abroad. In 2013, Trevor was named by the American Advertising Federation as one of their “Most Promising Minority Students” in the country. After graduating USC, Trevor moved to New York City to start his professional career in advertising while still leveraging his storytelling skills to help brands connect with their audience. Now working at the largest healthcare advertising agency in the world, the CDM Group, Trevor is an Account Executive and is creating branded and unbranded campaigns that support health care professionals treating patients with multiple myeloma and also patients who live with multiple myeloma.

#### Angie Rushing, Georgetown High School – Georgetown, Texas

##### 2008 High School Scholarship Recipient



Since being selected as the recipient of the James Alan Cox Foundation Scholarship her senior year in high school, Angie continued to pursue her passion for photography. While earning her bachelor’s degree in Public Relations from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, she worked as a photographer for Pine Cove Camps one summer and then continued taking portraits while in school. After graduating in 2013, Angie started a photography business, while also holding a full time job in the Communications field. After 2 1/2 years of balancing both a full time job and a growing business, Angie L. Photography, she finally made the leap to pursue a photography business full time in October 2015. She specializes in wedding photography and high school senior portraits and also has a passion for nonprofit photography. She is an active volunteer with the Pablove Shutterbugs Program, which teaches photography to kids living with cancer, and recently made a trip to California to shoot their overnight summer camp. Angie told the Foundation “I believe in the power of photographs and strive to use my camera to preserve memories and to make a difference. I love what I do, and I am blessed to do what I love.” She also said: “I can honestly say that the spark of confidence I needed to start taking steps toward pursuing my passion was receiving the phone

call from The Foundation my Senior Year and being awarded my first DSLR camera. It gave me the confidence and motivation I needed to chase my dreams, and I am so thankful for that. I know that I would not be where I am today without the support and generosity of this amazing Foundation.”

## The James Alan Cox Foundation Awards its Eighth Set of Scholarships

This past December, The James Alan Cox Foundation for Student Photojournalists awarded its eighth set of scholarships to five high school students and six college students. Two additional Honorable Mention awards were also given for the first time this year (please see page three for more information on this and to view the winners). The Foundation would like to thank guest judges, Steve Bodinet, veteran journalist, formerly with KTVK-3TV, and Elise Wilson, of Aspen PRO Media, Arizona. Their help, as always, was invaluable in the selection process.

**NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE:** This year's application process begins July 15, 2016 and ends on November 15, 2016. Please see page 7 for more information.

### High School Winners

*Five high school students each received a Canon EOS Rebel T6i DSLR camera with lenses, carrying case and memory card.*



#### **Zachary Bassett, Robert Service High School – Anchorage, Alaska**

As a high school sophomore, Zachary says he hasn't had much experience in photojournalism. The photos he submitted, however, contradict that statement. Four of the images reflect a deep sensibility as he records the awesome beauty of his home state of Alaska while a photo of his cousin on a stony beach converts a moment in time to a lasting memory. There is a story to be found in each of these photos. His first digital camera was purchased with money earned in the summer on a commercial fishing boat. When he took Michael Risinger's photography class he already possessed the basic skills and according to Mr. Risinger, "Zach adapted the class projects to make them more challenging. His work is always driven by a very thoughtful creative process." Zach's creative nature extends into the field of music as a counselor for the Alaska City Folk Arts Camp. Mary Schallert, a director of the camp, writes enthusiastically about his leadership skills and congeniality as well as his musical ability. An impressive résumé for a talented young man of 16.



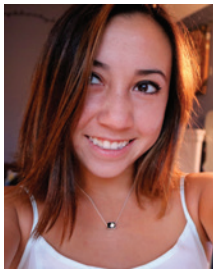
#### **Condra Lea Carter, Rhea County High School – Evensville, Tennessee**

In her application, Condra Lea reveals that she wanted a camera for her 16th birthday so that she could document her sister's senior year of high school as a cheerleader for the football team. As a result, she developed a passion for sports photography. "Since that first click, I found myself on the sidelines of every sporting event my community has to offer" she writes. She explains that the photos she submitted are all athletes "within the walls of my high school" and includes a brief and engaging description of each one. In addition to serving on her yearbook staff, she was able to successfully apply her photography skills in other areas. Anna Johnson, an extension agent from Tennessee State University writes that Condra Lea has been an active 4-H member since the 4th grade and was able to help other youths improve their skills in a photography project. Joseph Wilkey, the Science Department Head who taught her in the Honors Physical Science class, writes that Condra Lea performed well above average in his class, but even more importantly, he goes on to say that she is a team player and "will make you glad that you partnered with her in life because she will make a difference in her world".



#### **Oliver Doyle, Cumberland High School – Cumberland, Rhode Island**

Oliver's essay enthusiastically describes what photojournalism means to him. The applicant is not asked to do so, but it is hoped that they understand the concept. Oliver does. He writes enthusiastically about capturing a brief sliver of time and the memories the image conjures in your mind as you relive the moment. In his words, "I love exploring and capturing moments that show what I have found." Betsey MacDonald, Oliver's art teacher whose expertise is in drawing and painting, writes that the first time that Oliver was in her class, he had to be self-motivated. His project was weather shots that portray human emotions and he had to learn to photograph a night sky and how to photograph lightning. She candidly admits that he learned, mostly on his own, the skills required to produce the photos he imagined. At the time she wrote the letter of recommendation, Oliver was in her senior art class and had created a photographic essay about hunger in American schools. In her words, "His work just keeps evolving. He is a deserving, hard working high school student who is a talented photographer but more importantly has the work ethic required to be a successful artist."



#### **Victoria Schaeffer, Morris Knolls High School – Rockaway, New Jersey**

Victoria, who is passionate about taking photos and says "there is no better way to capture a moment" wants to study photography, along with journalism, at a prestigious New York school and aspires to work for National Geographic magazine. Her collection of darkly disturbing photographs was taken at abandoned mental hospitals in northern New Jersey and her stated goal "is to preserve some of the true horrors of our mental illness treatment of the past." In a letter of recommendation, Lenon Myers, Tori's geometry teacher and soccer coach has known her for three years and was in position to witness tremendous growth both academically and personally. Amanda Rosen who taught her in an advanced placement psychology course describes Tori, the only junior in the class, as inherently gifted. In response to Tori's scoring a 5 on the AP exam, Ms. Rosen writes, "Not only did she accomplish the top score as a junior in high school, she did it in a subject of which she had no prior knowledge..." Tori's compassion and passion for storytelling is the reason we chose to recognize her remarkable talent.



#### **Addison Tarr, Homeschooled – Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and Bowie, Texas**

Addison is a high school student who lives in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and was able to find out about our foundation through the miracle of the Internet. Her family started a nonprofit named *Tiny Hearts of Hope* with the goal of bringing hope to the abandoned children of Southeast Asia. Her essay describes the way of life in Vietnam and her love of the country and its people. She describes the happiness she gets from traveling to the rural areas of the country, taking pictures of the locals and witnessing their astonishment at seeing a picture of themselves for the first time. Her stated desire, she said, if chosen to win a camera, would be to photograph the indigenous culture of Vietnam which, to this day, remains untouched by modern society. Addison's high school teacher, Cynthia Lewis, describes a well rounded young woman who is pursuing a college prep curriculum, holds a part-time job and then adds "she has taken on increased responsibility by adeptly negotiating local city streets filled with motorbikes." Addison's images made her a clear winner but there was some discussion of the cost of mailing a large camera with accompanying equipment to Vietnam. Easing our concerns, she wrote that the family would be spending the holidays in Bowie, Texas.



## College 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 two \$1,500 Honorable Mention Awards.



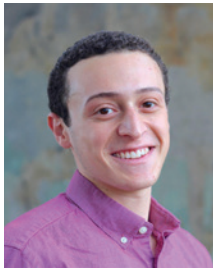
### **Megan Abundis, Washington State University – Pullman, Washington**

Megan Abundis' application essay begins with the line: "The best journalists have an unquenchable curiosity to see the world from different perspectives and the determination to share those visions with others." Megan has accomplished a lot in her young, professional life and is well on her way to fulfilling those stated goals, including, quite literally, seeing the world. While still in college, she has already done reporting in England, Cuba and Nepal. One of her submitted videos, in fact, is a piece she did in collaboration with another student, Megan Murnane, on how Cuban citizens are receiving their news illegally under the Castro regime. Her other piece, done closer to home, is still an excellent behind-the-scenes look at a local craft distillery. Sara Stout, an administrator at her school, notes Megan's accomplishments and says: "We are honored that she has selected The Edward R. Murrow College of Communication as her academic home." Lisa Laughter, also from her department, notes her extensive experience at several different TV stations and says that Megan "will go out into the world of news reporting and contribute significantly to this field."



### **Michelle Chavez, University of Maryland – College Park, Maryland**

Michelle Chavez writes, "At the end of the day, journalism is about people who have struggles and successes worth telling about in order to help one person with another's experiences." Both of Michelle's submitted videos exemplify this perceptive statement. While they show the many hardships people often face, they also show the hopeful side of human nature and the tenacity demonstrated by many during difficult situations. Michelle's first piece, for instance, is about a D.C. area arts center that has lost its facility but is determined to find a new home. Her second video, also inspiring, is about a community group in Baltimore trying to address high childhood illiteracy rates. Along with being an exceptional student, Michelle has sought out different experiences – internships, freelance work, journalism organizations – to round out her education. As Cassandra Clayton, a lecturer at her school, notes, "She has interned at NBC Washington, Voice of America, CBS Radio and Univision." Omar Kaseko, who works with Michelle at the independent station, Kali TV, also mentions that Michelle is proficient in three languages and "is extremely organized, can work independently and is able to effectively multi-task to ensure that all projects are completed in a timely manner."



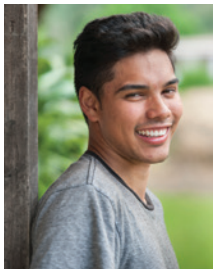
### **Elias Goodstein, University of Southern California – Los Angeles, California**

Elias Goodstein says that his college, USC, has given him the opportunity to "express myself on an analytical and creative level. I find doing stories on complicated issues happening around the world very fulfilling, but I also like exploring the best ways to tell those stories." His two submitted videos accomplish both goals – telling the story as well as presenting them in technologically complex and interesting ways. The first, about the Port of Los Angeles, is an excellent study of how the Trans-Pacific Partnership might affect America's busiest port. The second, also first-rate and very professional, is about California vineyards during the drought. Elias' references attest to his skill behind the camera. Graham Robertson, a professor at USC, says that Elias "is able to tackle complicated issues and boil them down to stories audiences can understand. Even in these stories, Elias is able to report them in a story-telling manner. His stories are well shot and his photography adds to the story telling." Another professor, Eric Orvieto, also notes that Elias is constantly striving to further his knowledge and skills: "Mr. Goodstein often stays after class to discuss assignments, strategies and other professional inquiries, while always soaking up knowledge and wanting to learn more."



### **Joey Hardy, Arizona State University – Tempe, Arizona**

Joey Hardy, in his application essay, says he likes "telling stories that have an effect on the public. I want to either call the public to action or show them and inform them of something they don't know." His two submitted videos do just that. The first one, about a food bank in Arizona, helps raise awareness about this important organization and its mission. The second, about the annual "Great Canadian Picnic" in Phoenix, is quirky and fun and truly exemplifies his desire to highlight "unique characters in the community that are not told enough." Joey's reference letters are extremely strong, with both emphasizing his professionalism, along with his great integrity and character. Briana Keele, his boss at Student Creative Services, says that Joey is "not only is one of the hardest workers, but the brightest of spirits as well." Jeremy Chapman, Executive Director of the Montana Center for Investigative Reporting, writes that he "is a passionate young man with exceptional character, integrity and an unquenchable thirst for journalism."



### **Eli Hiller, Ohio University – Athens, Ohio (Still Winner)**

Eli Hiller traveled a lot as a kid. His mom would pull him out of school on occasion and take him to Central and South America – to experience different countries and cultures. "Through my travels, I've fostered an enduring sense of curiosity of people that has led me to this lifestyle of storytelling." For many years now, he has "devoted most of my time to improve my ability to communicate the everyday expressions and intricacies of people." His images, while covering a wide range of subjects - from firefighters to baseball players to friends comforting a grieving mother - are all detailed and rich in the stories they tell. Josh Birnbaum, one of his professors at Ohio University, notes this in his reference letter for Eli, saying that he "has a knack for finding characters, building relationships with them, and then showing others their lives from this insider perspective." Lisa Marie Miller, of The Columbus Dispatch where Eli worked, also comments on his storytelling skills, while further noting his leadership qualities and willingness to help other journalists. To that end, she even writes that, while Eli "would definitely benefit from the award, he would also pay forward the benefits of this scholarship."



### **Kyle Schmidt, Santa Rosa Junior College – Santa Rosa, California**

Kyle Schmidt, in his application essay, says that "Multimedia Journalism is essentially the pinnacle of storytelling. It allows viewers to observe real life stories happening in today's society." His two submitted videos accomplish that; they tell real life stories, albeit two very different ones. His first piece, about recent fires in Lake Valley County, shows this tragedy from the perspective of nearby college students who were affected, some being left homeless. It is a heartfelt piece that Kyle, being a former resident of the county, "felt is my duty to share". The second, about a hockey player and his team, is a lighter piece, although still excellent in its depth and coverage. Brian Antonson, one of Kyle's professors, admires his work and writes that all of his projects "have demonstrated a high level of creative thinking and dedication." Another professor, Anne Belden, also notes that Kyle likes to take on new challenges. A writer for the school newspaper, she says he also became the paper's podcast director and "over the course of the semester, produced and edited more than 20 podcasts, on topics ranging from feminism to the NFL draft picks."

## 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.

### Donors:

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    & working with my friend, Jimmy Cox °+  
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    in memory of Holly °  
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    Jimmy Cox °  
Janet Harris °  
Rachel Harris, in honor of the awesome  
    Jim Cox who I worked with at 3TV  
Marilyn and William Hartman, in honor of  
    Barbara and Alan Cox °  
Lauren Hassel and Family, in celebration of Jim  
    and all those he touched °  
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    my brother °  
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    more great photos! °  
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    James and his family  
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    Alan Cox's 50th Wedding Anniversary °  
Potts + Blacklock, PLLC  
Shirley Prud'homme  
Nancy and James Raper °  
Sandi and Larry Rebeck, in memory of  
    your sweet son, Jim °  
Michelle Reynolds-Ricart,  
    West Coast Plumbing & Air °  
Pamela Robbins, in memory of  
    Cheryl Robbins Laing °  
Christie Roshau  
Carol and Gordon Ross °  
Ann and David Rouse  
Terri and Ron Rumin  
Ann and Tom Russell °  
Lucille Ryan  
Emily Lou Sawyer, in in celebration of  
    Drew G. Sawyer and David Gamble °  
Rex and LuAnne Sawyer,  
    in celebration of Barbara's success  
    on the Camino de Santiago °  
Maggie Sciacca  
Jon, Yvette and Kyle Schultz  
O.V. Scott, in memory, honor and celebration of  
    Frances W. Scott °  
Lou and Dave Seideman, in memory of  
    Charlie Seideman  
Marilyn and Harold Sharratt °  
Mark Sheridan  
Mary and Jimmy Shields °  
Marilyn and Charles Shipe °  
Shoehorn Design °  
Mike Smith  
Robin and Kim Smith, in memory of Jim °  
Paulette Sonner  
Patty Soule  
Jen Spantak  
Speedworld RC Flyers °  
J Stanford Spence, in memory of  
    Diane Spence °  
Carol and Dan Stanton °  
Beverly Straub and John Rogers °  
Sheila and Scott Stricker  
Roberta Sumner  
Jeanne Talerico  
Dorothy and Conway Taylor, in memory of  
    Charlie Muller °  
Jacqueline and Alan Taylor  
Judy Taylor, Gallery Shoal Creek  
Kathy and Randy Taylor °  
Sandy, Julie and Michael Timte, in celebration  
    of Jennifer Cox  
J. David and Joan Torpie  
Susan Trammell, in memory of  
    Tommy Trammell °  
Karen and Larry Turner °  
Nicole and Tyson Tuttle and Family °  
Marjory Van Houten  
Jeanne Vier °  
Tammy Vo  
Katherine von Alt °  
Ronda, Frank & Anton von Schrwald °  
Vivienne and Bill Wardle °  
Mike Watkiss  
Francine and John Webb °  
Fiona and Evan Weisman °  
Kathleen and Calvin Westcott, in celebration of  
    Jimmy Cox °  
Sandra and John White  
Bonnie and John Williamson °  
Cornelia and Lloyd Wilson °  
Elise and Robert Wilson +  
The Sam and Sonia Wilson  
    Family Foundation °  
Rebecca Witter  
Brenda and Carson Woodall °  
Frances and James Woodrick  
Wally Workman, Wally Workman Gallery  
Christine Workyans, in memory of  
    Herk Workyans  
Julie and Erik Zimmerman  
\* Multiple donations  
° In-kind donations  
+ Board member



## Letter from the Foundation Vice-President

Much of the success of the James Alan Cox Foundation is due to our daughter Leslie. There would not be a foundation without her vision. When we lost Jimmy on July 27, 2007, Leslie made the decision to find a way to honor her brother by awarding cameras and scholarships to high school and college students in his field. She has a background in working with non-profits, but had to learn what was required to start a 501(c)(3) and she did it in record time. A close friend of the family made a substantial donation to help us get started and other friends followed. Since our "headquarters" are located in our homes, our operating costs are minimal. KTVK 3TV, Jim's station in Phoenix, has generously donated every year since our inception and supported our idea of a photography internship program which is now about to enter its 6th year.

Although most of our donations come from friends, we are always delighted when one appears "out of the blue" from an individual who likes and supports what we're doing. Several donations have come from Arizona, but some have come from people in other states who learned of the foundation through news articles about our winners or from the Internet.

We began giving cameras to high school students when the foundation was established and we have been richly rewarded by the thank you notes and follow ups that we continue to receive. One of our first winners was in Georgetown, Texas and her Mom, who contacts us regularly, writes winning a camera gave her daughter the confidence to pursue a career in photography. A donor in Washington wrote that she gave as a way to honor her dad who loved photography, while the family of one of our winners in California has not only donated but writes every year to keep us informed of their son's progress throughout college and in his journalism career.

A member of the faculty at the University of Florida wrote of the effect of our scholarship on one of her students and ended her letter with this . . .  
"I'd like to think that supporting really good young photographers, such as Ryan, would have made your James Alan Cox smile."

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



Leslie, Jennifer, Jim and Alan and Barbara Cox

*"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back."*

**- Maya Angelou**

## NEXT APPLICATION DEADLINE

This year's application process will begin on July 15, 2016 and conclude, with the deadline for applications, on November 15, 2016.

To apply for a scholarship, please see the Application Requirements on the website: [www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org](http://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 creativity



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

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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