

Personal Statement, Inspiration and Goals

The desire and fascination to fall in love with another are driven by various factors. Applying for the Wallace Journalist Fellowship has been a longstanding aspiration of mine, and through providence, I now have the opportunity to pursue this dream.

The Knight-Wallace Fellowships present seasoned journalists with a unique chance to engage in collaborative study at the University of Michigan, fostering the advancement of knowledge, the generation of innovative ideas, and the resolution of pressing issues. Potential areas of focus encompass refining professional skills and addressing challenges within the realm of news reporting.

As a skilled journalist, I possess a resolute commitment to uncovering hidden truths and providing readers with comprehensive insights into significant events. I employ my research acumen and unwavering dedication to unearth newsworthy stories and craft detailed, verified articles.

My journey into journalism has been fueled by a deep-seated passion, endowing me with the power to unveil the truth. Recognized as a tenacious investigative journalist, I am acknowledged for my dedication to pursuing critical, complex, and challenging stories. I utilize my research and interviewing skills to pursue leads, ensuring the authenticity and accuracy of every detail in my news articles.

Over the past 16 years, I have actively engaged in journalism, delivering unbiased investigative articles with polished storytelling across both print and digital media platforms. With a keen awareness of trends and adept responses to breaking news, I have demonstrated a track record of success as a news reporter and blogger.

I am an analytical and results-driven journalist, proficient in chasing elusive stories and bringing hidden truths to light. I am eager to secure a challenging position that not only fosters my career growth but also grants me greater autonomy in pursuing stories.

My approach to journalism is characterized by creativity, allowing me to deliver critical stories in a compelling manner that captivates audiences while conveying essential details. I am seeking a position within a reputable organization committed to delivering unbiased truth to its audience.

A journalist with a focus on data, I possess an innate ability to uncover elusive truths and provide impartial coverage of incidents. My goal is to secure a position within an organization that shares aligned goals – the dissemination of truth to the public.

The prospect of participating in the Wallace Journalists Fellowship is not only an opportunity to meet exceptionally talented individuals but also a chance to engage in tutorials with them. In addition to the waiver of tuition fees, successful applicants receive a \$75, 000 stipend distributed monthly from August to

April, covering living expenses. Wallace House shoulders the costs associated with auditing classes, mandatory seminars, fellowship events, and health insurance.

My decision to embark on a career in journalism dates back to 2007 when I was 41, and I find fulfillment in that choice. Journalism is a profession that instills a sense of pride in me, although, at times, the challenges make me resentful. The reality is that journalism demands diligence; preparation is a cardinal principle for any serious journalist. I remain vigilant at all times, akin to a committed soldier on duty.

One unforgettable setback was when a political party seized my camera for filming their accident victim at the hospital. By the time I regained possession, all my previous videos had been erased. On another occasion, a school, unauthorized for reporting, confiscated my camera and deleted stories, including a paid-for business feature.

Journalism has exposed me to road accidents and numerous unwarranted attacks; it's part of the profession, akin to the unpredictable outcomes of a football game. Nonetheless, the rewards manifest when fairness is maintained in reporting, resulting in fame, respect, and authority.

My insatiable curiosity finds an outlet in journalism, providing me with the license to explore and satiate that curiosity. Throughout my journey, I have encountered hundreds, if not thousands, of fascinating individuals. I have developed the ability to think on my feet and have traveled extensively across Ghana and neighboring countries on assignments. Without journalism, these experiences would have remained elusive.

Journalism has empowered me to fulfill my dreams. I can now champion the cause of the vulnerable and support the needy through established connections. The access to people in positions of authority is readily available after a simple phone call. While journalism may not be the most lucrative venture, it opens doors to various opportunities. I wholeheartedly endorse anyone with the inclination to become a journalist.

My professional ethics revolve around discipline, unwavering dedication to work, punctuality, and hard work. These personal principles have guided me throughout my career. During my tenure at TV3, my commitment to hard work and punctuality earned me commendation.

Effective leadership creates an environment conducive to employees going the extra mile in fulfilling their mandates. A degree of strictness from management ensures enhanced productivity, benefiting all employees. This approach particularly benefits workers whose compensation is tied to results.

In my managerial role, I prioritize honesty and fairness. Every worker receives equal treatment, and the merit that matters for one person holds equal significance for another. Treating workers equitably fosters an environment where they strive to deliver their best.

Accountability is a cornerstone of my leadership philosophy. I hold myself accountable, expecting the same from my team. This extends beyond personnel to encompass all expenses, regardless of rank or

position. While payment may vary based on factors such as rank and length of service, accountability remains non-negotiable.

Despite adherence to ethical values, no journalist can guarantee absolute 'truth.' However, the cardinal principle of journalism is to get the facts right. I consistently strive for accuracy, presenting all relevant facts to ensure the right thing is done. Hearsay stories have no place in my reporting; my commitment is to uphold integrity.

Journalists must be independent voices, refraining from acting on behalf of special interests, be they political, corporate, or cultural. Full disclosure of any political affiliations, financial arrangements, or personal information that could pose a conflict of interest is essential to maintaining trust.

While presenting every side of a story in every piece may not be obligatory, stories should be balanced and contextualized. Objectivity may not always be possible or desirable, especially in the face of brutality or inhumanity. However, impartial reporting builds trust and confidence.

A journalist should avoid causing unnecessary fear or panic in their reporting, regardless of the situation. Certain reports, while factual, may lead to chaos. For instance, reporting that party A has harmed party C without proper context can escalate tensions and increase the death toll.

Professionalism and responsible journalism include the ability to hold oneself accountable. When errors occur, sincere expressions of regret and corrections are essential. Listening to audience concerns is crucial, and while we may not change what readers write or say, providing remedies when necessary is imperative.

The upcoming eight months present an opportunity to realize the project of my dreams – establishing a breast cancer initiative. I perceive the Knight-Wallace Fellowship as a transformative experience, opening doors for journalists.

The Knight-Wallace Fellowship will afford me the chance to delve into the offerings of other media universities after eight months of intensive study at the University of Michigan. The fellowship, as I gather from my research, is a must-visit for any serious journalist during their career.

Upon completing eight months of training at Michigan University, I anticipate returning home with a wealth of new ideas to implement in my project. The certificate alone carries significant weight and can serve as crucial support in establishing a breast cancer initiative.

Every journalist harbors the dream of studying at Wallace Michigan University in the USA. Without a doubt, I am eager to apply for the 2024 Wallace Journalists Fellowship program. I trust that the ethical values and professional dedication I bring will be considered favorably by Michigan University.

My time at Michigan University holds the promise of paving the way for the realization of my breast cancer project. The transformative impact on the lives of Michigan University graduates, many of whom now lead institutions or have established themselves, is evident in their testimonials.

I earnestly pray that the Wallace Journalists Fellowship will give due consideration to my application for the 2024 fellowship program at the University of Michigan. This opportunity aligns with my aspirations, and I am confident it will contribute significantly to the fulfillment of my envisioned dream.