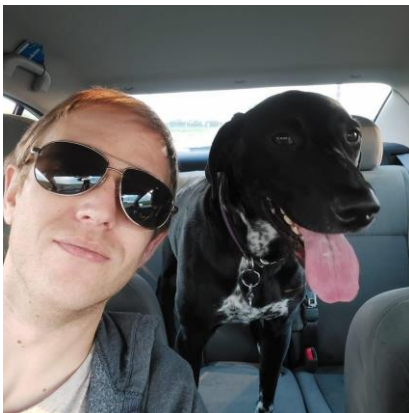


January 2024



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter. Get ready for 2024 Court Reporting & Captioning Week starting this Saturday, Feb. 3. Celebrate the week with Steno Karaoke and a live webinar to get you out of your practice rut. Then keep scrolling for a year's worth of scholarships and grants.

Student Spotlight



Ready for a career change

Daniel Raustadt of West St. Paul, Minn., saw his career options narrowing when the pandemic hit. He discovered stenography through social media and it has opened up a whole new world. His dog Dot thinks so too.

[Read more.](#)

Do you know a student currently attending a court reporting or captioning program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

Court Reporting & Captioning Week

Steno Karaoke - #CRCW 2024

We love music! Especially love songs. Do you? One of the fun events that the NCRA Student-Teacher Committee is hosting for Court Reporting & Captioning Week is Steno Karaoke. Join us for "Students Love Steno"



on Friday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. Eastern. Prior registration is required.

[Read more.](#)

Live webinar for #CRCW: Practicing in the 21st Century



By Amie First

Has your practice routine become humdrum? Are you looking for some motivation? Join Alex Lederer, RPR, and Bethan Williams, RSR, two new professionals, as they share their practice journey through steno school to certification testing in *Practicing in the 21st Century* on Feb. 7 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

[Read more.](#)



Student Achievements



NCRA is proud to offer the Student Fast Lane program to recognize student speed accomplishments. NCRA reaches out to all court reporting programs asking for their assistance in recognizing student speed accomplishments at the 150, 160, 180, 200, and 225 wpm speeds.

[Read more.](#)



Up-to-Speed congratulates these students on completing their education!

[Read more.](#)



Interview with a teacher

By Mary Beth Johnson

Aimee Adams, RMR, CRR, is a 2018 honors graduate of Community College of Allegheny County in Pittsburgh, Pa. Having taught Aimee, it is my pleasure to share her journey to success with you — the result of hard work, tenacity, and her mother's prompting.

[Read more.](#)

Student Support

NCRF Ask Me Anything ZoomUp to offer tips about achieving work-life balance

A healthy and happy work-life balance should never be underestimated. Join the next National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF) Ask Me Anything on Tuesday, Jan. 30, at 8 p.m. Eastern to hear how our panelists achieve the goal of health and happiness.

[Read more.](#)





Ask Me Anything ZoomUps: Focus on Captioners

Capping off a trilogy series in 2023, the Ask Me Anything ZoomUp: Focus on Captioners provided firsthand insights about the work involved to be a successful captioner.

[Read more.](#)

Envision your future

Denee' Vadell, RPR, Stephanie Hicks, RMR, and Carrie Hewerdine, RDR, hosted a virtual vision board party where students and reporters created vision boards while uplifting music played. Tunes were jamming and people were vibing and leaning side to side as they got creative with their colleagues.



[Read more.](#)

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- ✓ Weekly Pay
- ✓ Health Coverage Access



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**NCRA MEMBERS AND FIRMS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN OUR INDUSTRY**

Grants and Scholarships

Apply now: Student intern scholarship pays tribute to Gina Battaglia

The scholarship is intended to help an NCRA student member who has been an intern in the past 12 months. Judicial, CART, and captioning students are encouraged to apply.

[Learn more.](#)

NOMINATIONS FOR THE **\$2,000 GINA BATTAGLIA MEMORIAL STUDENT INTERN SCHOLARSHIP** are now being accepted

DEADLINE March 1, 2024

In honor of Gina Battaglia, daughter of NCRF Angel and NCRA Member Stephanie Zeder Battaglia, RMR, CRR

In 2024, two awards for \$2,000 each will be made.



STUDENTS, apply by MARCH 15 for the next Career Launcher Scholarship drawing.

You could earn an award that covers your 10-module NCRF Career Launcher fees. NCRF Career Launcher program.



Six winners announced for latest Career Launcher Scholarships

Congratulations to the latest recipients of the Career Launcher Student Grants. The Career Launcher program was designed to help students and new professionals bridge the gap between graduation and their first job. Interested students can apply for the next drawing before the deadline of March 15, 2024.

[Read more.](#)

NCRF doubles down with more grants and scholarships

In 2024 the Foundation plans to boost the number of its scholarships and grants and increase the amount of most of its awards. In addition, new funds have been allocated by the Foundation to support court reporting and captioning students who would like to attend the 2024 NCRA Conference & Expo in Louisville, Ky.

[Read more.](#)



How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

[JOIN NCRA](#) as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, Conference registration, study guides, and more.

[CONTRIBUTE](#) to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

[LEARN](#) about upcoming scholarship and grant opportunities.

Testing Center

Upcoming testing

- [Registration for Online Skills Tests opens Feb. 1 for testing in March](#)
- [Registration for Written Knowledge Tests opens March. 1 for testing in April](#)

Up-to-Speed asks ...

Responses to last issue's question: What type of court reporting or captioning job are you hoping to be your first?

- 35.7% — CART captioning
- 0% — Broadcast captioning
- 42.9% — Freelance
- 21.4% — Official
- 0% — Haven't decided yet

How many hours per day do you practice outside of school?

Never

Select

Less than an hour

Select

1-2 hours

Select

3-4 hours

Select

5 or more hours

Select

I never stop practicing

Select

If you received this email via a forward and would like to join our mailing list, please click [here](#). Missed previous issues of *Up-to-Speed*? Access them [here](#).

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