



CALL FOR VARIETY WRITER

Contact Alec Masella, Recruitment manager
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The Pylon, Virginia Tech and Blacksburg's newest source of investigative and longform journalism, informed commentaries, and submission-based creative works, is searching for a qualified candidate to take on the role of Variety writer.

The Variety section is devoted to producing high-quality feature and human-interest type stories from the Blacksburg and Virginia Tech area. The focus will be on cultural content, as in: what are people interested in or talking about, what's going on in art or film, etc. in Blacksburg and at Virginia Tech? The Variety section focuses in on the people living here and the stories waiting to be told.

Functions of the Variety writer

- Variety writers work closely with the Variety editor to deliver engaging feature and human-interest pieces to our Blacksburg and Virginia Tech audiences.
- Variety writers are expected to attend every budget meeting, to go to write-ins once a month for editing help, to produce at least one well-sourced, fact-checked story each month, to promote *Pylon* content on social media, and to work with the visuals section and other sections when necessary.
- The writer is expected to meet deadlines and work closely with the Variety editor.
- The writer is also expected to respond to email and Slack messages in a timely fashion.
- The writer must treat colleagues and sources with respect and act ethically at all times.
- In addition, Variety writers are expected to complete all trainings hosted by *The Pylon* and to seek additional writing and reporting training when possible, potentially through classes, conferences, or even books.

Desired qualities and qualifications

- Is inquisitive and curious
- Can be fair and neutral, but can also write with flair
- Thinks critically and ethically
- Can work closely with editorial staff and enjoys constructive feedback
- Demonstrated writing experience or samples a plus, but not necessary
- Should have a strong desire to grow and learn as a writer
- Availability for ~5 hours per week, with regular mandatory meetings

All people living in or near Blacksburg are encouraged to apply (student or not).

Note—the position is unpaid.

What do we have to offer?

- Journalism experience with a dynamic startup
- Professional letters of recommendation
- Significant opportunities to grow and learn essential reporting skills
- Extensive training and professional development opportunities

To apply, please email editor@thepylon.org with a resume and a subject line of "VARIETY WRITER." The body of the email constitutes an informal cover letter.

Questions? Send them to our recruitment manager, Alec Masella (alec11@vt.edu), or send a direct message to our official pages on Twitter (twitter.com/thepylonorg) or Facebook (facebook.com/thepylonorg).

The Pylon is an equal opportunity employer. We will not discriminate in employment against any employee or job applicant on the bases of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Reasonable accommodation is available to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities.