



CALL FOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Contact Alec Masella, Recruitment manager
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The Pylon is searching for a qualified candidate to take on the role of editor-in-chief.

The Pylon is a Blacksburg-based digital publication that specializes in investigative and longform pieces, informed commentaries, and submission-based creative works. We are an independent publication that covers local stories and provides an outlet for community voices with quality in mind.

Functions of the editor-in-chief

- Leads *The Pylon's* editorial staff of editors, writers, reporters, photographers, videographers, artists, designers, and illustrators in the advancement of the publication.
- Responsible for all content published on the website and is the face of *The Pylon*, attending as many community events as possible to promote the publication.
- Along with the managing editor, leads every budget meeting, organizes trainings and additional meetings (such as write-ins), and oversees staff professional development and staff communication.
- Hires and trains all editorial staff.
- Produces high quality, investigative stories when possible.
- Knows every facet of the publication and could fill in for any position if needed.
- Treats all colleagues and sources with respect at all times.
- Must have completed all trainings hosted by *The Pylon* and can put together other training materials or bring in subject matter experts for further personal and staff training.

Desired qualities and qualifications

- Is detail- and deadline-oriented
- Has critical thinking skills
- Knows how to give constructive feedback intended to improve staffers
- Can handle constructive criticism and in fact, seeks it out from other editors and staff
- Can be fair and neutral and can handle conflict and reach acceptable solutions
- Has extensive understanding of journalism ethics
- Inquisitive and driven by the pursuit of truth
- Personable with staff, sources, and community members
- Understands *The Pylon* through-and-through; knows the publication's mission and continually works to achieve it
- Aware of trends in journalism and plugged into local news
- Innovative; continually searches for ways to improve processes/workflows and the publication as a whole
- Must have demonstrated writing and editing experience or samples
- Must have a strong desire to grow and learn as an editor
- Availability for at least 10-15 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 and editing skills
- Extensive training and professional development opportunities

To apply, please email editor@thepylon.org with a resume and a subject line of “EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.” 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.