



THE PRESIDENCY AND THE PRESS

The Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication

Franklin Pierce University

July 8-12, 2024

High school students interested in journalism, politics and media technology are invited to join the Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication on the campus of Franklin Pierce University for The Presidency & The Press July 8-12, a week-long residential program that provides a hands-on immersion in Democracy.

The week starts **Monday** afternoon with Melanie Plenda, Executive Director of the Granite State News Collaborative, working directly with our student media to frame coverage of this week's theme: **Youth Engagement in our Democracy**.

On **Tuesday**, the Press Bus will take us to Concord and **The State House** for briefings with New Hampshire officials. After lunch with state media, we will meet with Congresswoman Annie Kuster's staff, and youthful representatives of the Republican Party and the Democratic Party.

Wednesday is a full day and includes the recording of NHPBS's weekly digital public affairs show, The State We're In, in the Patterson Television Studio. New Hampshire State Representative Jonah Wheeler, one of the youngest elected officials in the Granite State, will talk with us in the afternoon followed by a panel discussion with people who have engaged in our democracy in a variety of ways, from serving as a state director of a presidential campaign, and serving in the White House press operations.

The remote production facilities of the Patterson Studio will be busy **Thursday** as you interview young Republicans from across the state. We will also hear from award-winning podcaster Anthony Payton and Political Scientist Christina Cliff. The day is topped off by a visit to Pearly Pond! Bring swimming gear!

The week ends on Friday with **Meet the Student Press**, a sure-to-be compelling look at **Engage in Our Democracy: A Youthful Perspective**.

We have two decades of successful programming behind us, and we are looking forward to another year of providing support and encouragement to NH student media in their development as journalists and engaged citizens.

For more information and registration forms, visit our [website](#).

The Press: Preparing to Cover the Road to the White House

Monday, July 8, 2024

4:00 pm

Check-In at Lakeview #26 & #27

We will take shuttle to the Café for dinner when everyone is ready

5:00 pm

Press Club: Dinner in the Café

6:00 pm

Newsroom: Preproduction in FC 105

- Kristen Nevious, Director
- Violet Schuttler, Associate Producer

The Youth Voter Guide, The Granite State News Collaborative

- Melanie Plenda, Executive Director, Granite State News Collaborative
- Kay Bailey, Intern, YVG
- James Kelly, Intern, YVG

8:00 pm

Press Bus Departs for Lakeview At Peterson Manor Parking Lot

8:15 pm

R&R

The Road to the White House Runs Through the Granite State: Concord

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

- 7:15 am **Press Bus Departs for Campus**
At Peterson Manor Parking Lot
- 7:30 am **Press Club: Breakfast** in the Café
- 8:00 am **Press Bus Departs for Concord**
At Peterson Manor Parking Lot
Conference participants will board the press bus with their laptop and equipment, and head to the Capital of the Granite State for a working day on the road.
- 10:00 – 11:15 am **Briefing: It Begins Here...at The New Hampshire State House, 107 North Main St.**
We will tour The New Hampshire State House, the oldest continuously in use in the United States, with Visitors Center Director **Virginia Drew**.
- 11:15 am – 11:45 am **Briefing: Voting in New Hampshire**
Bud Fitch, Election Legal Counsel, Office of the Secretary of State, New Hampshire
Bud Fitch, will brief us on the history of the First-in-the-Nation Presidential Primary and answer your questions about the 2024 General Election.
- Noon **Photo/Stand-Up Opps, on the State House grounds**
This is your opportunity to capture additional footage or interviews to round out your coverage.
- 1:15 pm – 1:45 pm **Meet NH Young Democrats, lunch at The Works, 42 North Main St.**
Neil Misra, Executive Director, New Hampshire Young Democrats
Jay Bowie, President, New Hampshire Young Democrats
The Democratic National Convention is in Chicago mid-August, and Misra and Bowie can answer your questions about what this means for young voters.
- 2:30 pm **Meet & Greet: Office of Congresswoman Annie Kuster, 18 North Main St.**
Erin Cotton, Deputy District Director
- 3:30 pm **Meet the NH GOP: at NHGOP Headquarters, 10 Water St.**
Virginia Drye, Chair, NH Young Republicans
Jim MacEachern, Vice Chair, NHGOP
The Republican National Convention is in Milwaukee next week, but Drye and MacEachern are in New Hampshire and ready to answer your questions about what this means for young voters.
- 4:30 pm **Depart for Campus**
- 6:00 pm **Press Club: Dinner** in the Café
- 7:30 pm **Press Bus Departs for Lakeview**
At Peterson Manor Parking Lot
- 8:00 pm **R&R**

Engaging in Our Democracy

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

- 7:45 am **Press Bus Departs for Campus**
At Lakeview
- 8:00 am **Press Club: Breakfast** in the Café
- 8:30 am **Open Studio: Pre-production**
In Journalism Lab FC 105
- 10:00 - 11:30 am **LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio:**
NHPBS's The State We're In
Join the control room crew as the Fitzwater Center films Episode 192 of New Hampshire Public Broadcasting's award-winning weekly public affairs show with Host Melanie Plenda.
- 12:00 pm **Press Club: Lunch** in the Café
- 1:00 pm **LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio:**
Briefing with Jonah Wheeler, New Hampshire State Representative
Elected in November 2022 as one of the youngest members of the New Hampshire House, Jonah Wheeler represents the Hillsborough Country District 33 as a Democrat. Wheeler will talk with us about public service and civic engagement.
- 3:30 pm **LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio:**
Briefing with Ravens on the Front Lines of Democracy
- **Kathryn Grasso Gann**, Director of Communications, Franklin Pierce University; Former Aide, President George W. Bush
 - **Luke Tracy '19**, Director of Athletic Communications; Former News Producer, WMUR
 - **Derek Scalia '05**, Director of Retention & Diversity, Franklin Pierce University; Active citizen
- 4:30 pm **Photo Opportunity**
At The Podium, in the Patterson Television Studio
- 5:00 pm **Press Club: Dinner** in the Café
- 6:00 pm **Open Studio: Pre-production**
In Journalism Lab FC 105
- 8:00 pm **Press Bus Departs for Lakeview**
At Peterson Manor Parking Lot
- 8:15 pm **R&R**

Engaging in Our Democracy

Thursday, July 11, 2024

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| 7:45 am | Press Bus Departs for Campus
At Lakeview |
| 8:00 am | Press Club: Breakfast , in the Café |
| 8:30 – 9:00 am | Newsroom: On Deadline
in Journalism Lab FC 105 |
| 9:00 – 9:45 am | LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio
Interview: New Hampshire High School Democrats
Arika Roy, President
Arika Roy, president of the newly chartered New Hampshire High School Democrats, will share her perspective on civic engagement. |
| 10:00 – 11:30 am | LIVE in the Studio:
Podcast: The Common Ground Initiative
Anthony Payton, journalist
Award-winning podcaster and columnist Anthony Payton will address the importance, power and faces of civic engagement. |
| Noon – 12:45 p.m. | Press Club , Lunch in The Cafe |
| 1:00 – 2:00 pm | LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio
Briefing: The Future of Our Democracy
Dr. Christina Cliff, Associate Professor of Political Science, Security Studies
Dr. Christina Cliff will moderate a conversation about how one vote reverberates through our democracy. |
| 2:15 – 2:45 pm | Newsroom: On Deadline
in Journalism Lab FC 105 |
| 3:00 – 3:45 pm | LIVE via Skype in the Patterson Television Studio
Briefing with Valerie McDonnell, New Hampshire State Representative
Elected in November 2022, McDonnell is the youngest elected member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives and will share her perspectives on public service and civic engagement. She serves the Rockingham 25 th district as a member of the Republican Party. She is a student at Southern New Hampshire University. |
| 3:45 - 4:30 pm | Newsroom: On Deadline
in Journalism Lab FC 105 |
| 4:30 – 5:15 pm | Press Club: Dinner , in The Cafe |
| 5:15 pm | Press Bus Departs for Lakeview
At Peterson Manor Parking Lot |
| 5:30 pm | R&R: On Pearly Pond |

We're LIVE!

Friday, July 12, 2024

7:45 am	Press Bus Departs for Campus At Lakeview
8:00 am	Press Club: Breakfast , in the Café
8:45 – 10:30 am	Pre-production: Meet the Student Press in the Fitzwater Center Patterson Studio
10:30 – 11:00 am	LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio LIVE: Meet the Student Press Engaged in Our Democracy: A Youthful Perspective Parents and friends are welcomed into the studio as the students of The Presidency & The Press share the stories of the week.
11:00 – 11:15 am	LIVE in the Patterson Television Studio: The Presidency & The Press Honors The staff of The Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication gathers with the students of The Presidency & The Press one last time for awards, thank yous and a few stories of their own.
11:30 am – NOON	Check-out