



## **Student Press Law Center Student Advisory Board 2019 Terms of Reference**

### **What is the SPLC Student Advisory Board?**

The SPLC Student Advisory Board (SAB) is a group of student journalists from around the United States who advise the Student Press Law Center on its work, programs and profile.

SAB members will give time, energy, creative ideas and critical (but constructive) feedback, and the SPLC will give SAB members access to special SAB-only training, learning opportunities, and networking opportunities with professional journalists.

As 2019 will be the inaugural year of the SAB, the first group will be involved in helping to shape the future of the program, including the recruitment and selection process and considering how to ensure the SAB is an effective, efficient, meaningful experience – both for the student members and for the SPLC.

**Term:** SAB members will serve through the end of the calendar year 2019.

**Eligibility:** Must be a currently registered student in any high school, community college, college or university, graduating during or after the end of their SAB term. Homeschooled students who participate in journalism programs will also be considered.

**Selection:** For the 2019 SAB, candidates will be nominated by their adviser and will be selected by SPLC staff and Board members. The SAB will advise on a broader recruitment and selection process. We will strive to have a balance between high school and college-level students and will be looking for a diverse group of students from different backgrounds and types of schools.

**Duties:** Among the initiatives that the SAB will be asked to advise on are:

- How to maximize the impact of the **Year of the Student Journalist** nationally and locally. SAB members will participate in developing program, outreach ideas and strategies.
- Help develop and select the first recipients of the **Incubator Impact Fund**, a new SPLC fund to support innovative student-run First Amendment journalism-related projects.
- Share experience in **activism** to promote student freedom of expression, including state legislation (if you have been involved). SAB members will advise on how to best train students more effectively to advocate for their own press freedom rights.
- Give constructive input into SPLC's plans to expand its work on **gender and censorship** and to reach out to **more diverse communities** of student journalists (including journalists of color, LGBTQ+, rural, inner-city urban, etc.) .

- Help create **effective outreach strategies** to be sure that all student journalists know about resources, assistance and opportunities available from the SPLC, including our internship positions.
- Generate new ideas for great new programs and initiatives for the SPLC to help support, promote and defend student journalists and their advisers.

**Time commitment:** The SAB will have regular meetings via video conferencing once a month for ninety minutes. There may be two or three additional meetings throughout the year for special trainings at the discretion of the group. If funds allow, we will bring the group together in person for one weekend meeting during the SAB year.

**Nominations:** Please send nomination letters (informal email ok) to Hadar Harris at [hharris@splc.org](mailto:hharris@splc.org) by Feb. 8, 2019. Please check with the student first to be sure they are interested (!) and then let us know why the student would be a great SAB member. Please explain why the student would be particularly suited to join the SAB and any unique skills, perspective or background s/he would contribute to the group. We will follow up with you soon thereafter. Thank you for your help!