

Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter, *Up-to-Speed*, featuring insights and tips especially for court reporting and captioning students. This month students offer perspectives on mentoring, and we look ahead to the NCRA Convention & Expo in New Orleans, La., Aug. 2-5.

### **Student Spotlight**



### Q&A with Gabriella Agnello: Getting – and Giving – Advice

In this issue of *Up-to-Speed*, we shine the spotlight on Gabriella Agnello, who is a recent graduate of Plaza College in Forest Hills, N.Y. She now works as a freelancer.

Read more.

Do you know a student currently attending an NCRA-approved court reporting program who should be in the spotlight? <u>Let us know.</u>

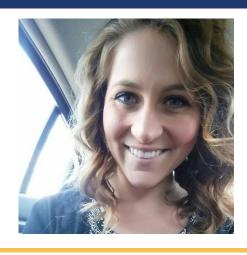
### **Modern Mentoring**

### Students Helping Students

By Callie Sajdera

Emily Hutcheson came up with Students Helping Students, a new program at Anoka Technical College in Anoka, Minn., where higher-speed students (160+) mentor theory and lower-speed students.

Read more.



Mentoring Program Leads to Lifelong Friendships & More

By Whitney Berndt



With just a quick email, students at Lakeshore Technical College in Cleveland, Wis., can be set up with captioners and reporters from the Wisconsin Court Reporters Association. Many students have been able to find lifelong friends and confidantes.

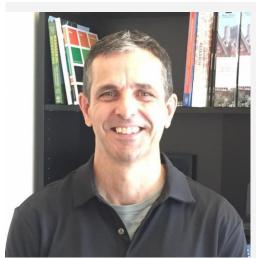
Read more.

### NCRA Mentors Pay It Forward

In the past year, more than 125 students have been matched with a mentor through the Virtual Mentor Program. Many mentors are drawn to the program to encourage their newer colleagues to succeed and offer their knowledge and expertise.



Read more.



### Prep for Practice

By Len Sperling

One of the keys to success for any student in a court reporting program is to have the discipline to put in the quality practice outside of class. In developing any skill, time on task is paramount. Although students realize this, they find it difficult to put in that needed quality practice. What is the best way for students to plan and develop a solid practice plan required for progress?

Read more.





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We Want to Hear from You!

Students: What are your summer plans? Let us know how you plan to practice while school is out of session or let us know what you learned last summer. Fill out this short questionnaire, and we may feature you in our July issue.

Share your thoughts

### 2018 NCRA Convention & Expo

### Don't Miss Out on Convention this Year

Need a reason to attend the 2018 NCRA Convention & Expo this year? Members of NCRA's Student/ Teacher Committee offer their thoughts and advice for attending convention. Read what they have to say about their experiences, what they've learned, and why convention is the one event you don't want to miss this year.



Read more.

## Top 10 Tips for Students Attending the NCRA Convention & Expo

Whether it's your first time attending Convention or you're coming again, these top 10 tips can help you prepare for and get the most out of your Convention experience.

Read more.

## 2018 NCRA Convention & Expo Student Track Sessions

Each year the NCRA Convention & Expo includes a student track. Some of the highlights this year include: Good Reporter/Bad Reporter, Online Skills Testing, What I Didn't Learn in School from the New Professionals' Perspective, and Steno Speed Dating.

Read more.

### **Grants and Scholarships**

### NCRF Accepting Nominations for \$2,000 Grant and Scholarship Through May 31



The National Court Reporters Foundation is now accepting nominations for the Robert H. Clark Scholarship (\$2,000 scholarship awarded to a high-achieving student) and the New Professional Reporter Grant (\$2,000 grant awarded to a promising new working reporter in his or her first year out of school). The deadline for both the scholarship and the grant is **May 31**. "I am in the home stretch of court reporting school, and this scholarship will help me pay for my last quarters in school as well as certification testing," said Natasha Jones after receiving the 2016 Robert H. Clark

Scholarship. See the <u>Robert H Clark scholarship</u> and <u>New Professional Reporter Grant</u> pages for full details and nomination forms.

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#### Schools in the news

- <u>Cuyahoga Community College holds</u>
   <u>open house for court reporting</u>
- Court reporting students see their future in tour and remote presentation
- Arlington Career Institute salutes newly certified alumni
- Queens native takes final exam, begins career next day

### **Testing center**

- Congratulations to everyone who passed the RPR or CRC Written Knowledge Test in April!
- The next <u>RPR Written Knowledge</u> <u>Test registration</u> period is June 1-30
- The second quarter for the <u>online</u> <u>RPR Skills Test</u> closes on July 5
- Read the online skills testing FAQs
- Read New Exam Retention Policy

Want to see your school in the news? *Up-to-Speed* is looking for news from court reporting programs to feature in our newsletter. Send ideas and information to <a href="mailto:schools@ncra.org">schools@ncra.org</a>.

### **Questions of the Month**

### What has been your struggle area in school?

13% – Reading back

17.4% - Transcribing

15.2% – Keeping up with homework

8.7% - Attending class

45.7% – Practicing every day

#### Where do you turn for steno advice?

7.4% - Mentor from NCRA

11.1% – Mentor from state association/

other

25.9% – Facebook steno groups

40.7% – Peers and/or teachers

14.8% - Other online resources

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

Never	Select
1-2 hours	Select
3-4 hours	Select
5 or more hours	Select

