

March 2021



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter, *Up-to-Speed*, featuring insights and tips especially for court reporting students. In this issue, a student shares how she found inspiration from her teacher, a new steno podcast hopes to support students, and some scholarship applications are open.

Student Spotlight



It's not only about speed

Colleen Hanson is a recent graduate of South Suburban College (SSC) in Oak Forest, Ill. She is working on her RPR certification when she isn't visiting treatment centers and hospitals with her certified therapy dog, Hailey.

[Read more.](#)

Do you know a student currently attending an NCRA-approved court reporting program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

School spotlight

NCRA SCHOOL Spotlight

Alfred State and Anoka Technical College

In every issue we highlight NCRA-approved schools. The court reporter programs offered at these schools have met the General Requirements and Minimum Standards established by the Council on Approved Student Education of NCRA. This is a chance for members to get to know these programs and hear from their students and teachers. This time we feature two schools:

[Alfred State College of Technology](#)

[Anoka Technical College](#)

Inspiring students



‘My success is their success’: Interview with a student mom

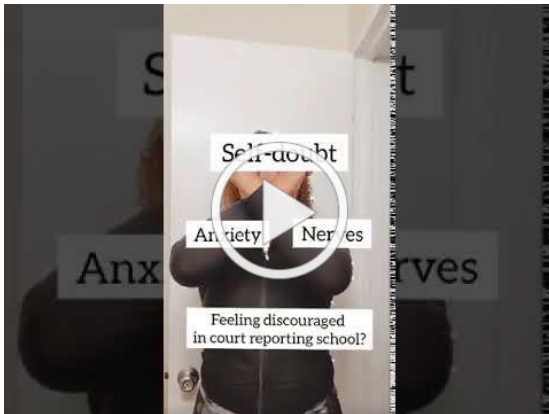
Brenda Reyes, a recent graduate of El Paso Community College in El Paso, Texas, is a mom of two. Jessica Shines talked to her about how she finds time to practice, intern, homeschool, plan a wedding, and still do yoga.

[Read more.](#)

Students helping students through Steno Talk podcast

A new podcast has the goal of helping the steno students of today's virtual learning world feel like they have a community and that they are not alone. Steno Talk is hosted by Katie Morfin, a court reporting student, and Anna Mar, a newly certified court reporter, both from San Antonio, Texas. Production help is provided by Candice Radam, also a student, from Austin, Texas.

[Read more.](#)



My steno story ...

Denee Vadell, an official court reporter in Edison, N.J., recently posted an inspirational video for court reporting students.

[Read more.](#)

Court Reporting & Captioning Week



Student Love Steno Nights – thank you, donors!

The Student/Teacher Committee-sponsored Students Love Steno Nights during NCRA 2021 Court Reporting & Captioning Week was a huge hit this year with our three virtual seminars/get-togethers. We also were given the opportunity to pass out many outstanding prizes to the students on each of the three nights, and that's something we couldn't have done without the generosity of many.

[Read more.](#)

Seen on social media



Laura Fornell is a student at Madison Area Technical College and lives in Barron, Wis. She is testing at 225 wpm and is determined to graduate even if it means practicing with her daughter Cleo Mae, who is 1-month-old.

How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

JOIN NCRA as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, conference registration, study guides, and more.

CONTRIBUTE to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

LEARN about upcoming scholarship and grant opportunities.

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Save the dates for the next

RSR RPR RMR CRR CRC

Online Skills Tests (SKT)

REGISTER
April 1–20
for testing
May 1–20

NCRA SKT
SKILLS TEST

Grants and scholarships

Attention New Professionals!

The National Court Reporters Foundation has two opportunities for new professionals to receive a grant toward education and start-up costs.

New Professional Reporter Grant

Deadline: Friday, June 4, 2021

Monyeen Black Memorial Grant

Deadline: Friday, July 9, 2021

APPLY NOW!



Apply now for the New Professional Reporter Grant and Monyeen Black Memorial Grant

Apply for the [National Court Reporters Foundation New Professional Reporter Grant](#) by Friday, June 4. The award goes to a reporter who is in his or her first year of work, has graduated within a year from an NCRA-approved court reporting program, and meets the specific criteria listed below.

[The Monyeen Black Memorial Grant](#) application deadline is July 9. New professionals who have passed the [RPR certification](#) are encouraged to apply for the 2021 award, which is worth \$1,000.

Stenograph scholarship new deadline April 1

The application deadline for the Stenograph Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship has been extended to Thursday, April 1. Students from NCRA-approved reporter education programs are encouraged to apply for the merit-based two-year award, which is worth up to \$5,000 per year and will include use of a student writer and software.

[Read more.](#)

STUDENTS, APPLY NOW!
Scholarship worth up to \$5,000!



 Stenograph
Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship
National Court Reporters Foundation Partnership

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Questions of the Month

If you are a student, how long have you been in school?

32% – Less than 6 months
14.7% – 7-11 months

What would you change about the court reporters you have seen portrayed in movies and TV shows?

8.3% – Where the reporter sits

41.3% – 1-2 years
4% – 3-4 years
8% – 5+ years

22.2% – The reporter’s hand position
2.8% – The reporter’s interactions with people
25% – The reporter’s machine
41% – Everything!

How did you celebrate 2021 NCRA Court Reporting and Captioning Week?

My school held an event

[Select](#)

I attended NCRA’s Students Love Steno Nights

[Select](#)

Other

[Select](#)

I didn’t know about it

[Select](#)

What are your plans for the summer?

Attend the NCRA Conference & Expo in Las Vegas, Nev.

[Select](#)

Work on my certification

[Select](#)

Take a break!

[Select](#)

Other

[Select](#)

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 schools@ncra.org.

Schools in the news

- [Lake Land College introduces court reporting degree program](#)
- [Clark, Stark State colleges to offer free virtual orientation for Judicial Court Reporting program](#)

Testing center

- [Online Written Knowledge Test registration ends March 31](#)
- [Online Skills Test registration opens April 1](#)

- [Plaza College earns honorable mention for public relations campaign](#)
- [Exam Retention Policy – Don't wait until it's too late!](#)

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