9:15 - 10 A.M. KEYNOTE:
John Fountain | Make It Sing: Bringing Your Stories to Life
ILLINI ROOMS B & C

A native son of Chicago’s West Side, and formerly a national correspondent for the New York Times, John W. Fountain is an award-winning columnist, journalist, professor, publisher and author of True Vine: A Young Black Man’s Journey of Faith, Hope and Clarity, and Dear Dad: Reflections on Fatherhood. A tenured full professor of journalism at Roosevelt University, he writes a weekly Sunday column for the Chicago Sun-Times. He just recently returned from a Fulbright experience in Ghana, as well.

Write-off Details
Students that are participating in the write off should sit in the front row for the Keynote Address. This will allow all students to transition to Gregory Hall with the proctors for the contest. Schools may have one student per category.

The News Writing students will cover the keynote address in a 300-word story typed story based on their notes and background information, immediately following the keynote address.

The Editorial Writing students will type a 250- to 300-word editorial based on material from some aspect of Fountain’s speech, immediately following the keynote address.

The Feature Writing students also will listen to the keynote address. Afterward, they will interview Fountain for 20 minutes in a group setting. Using material from the speech, the interview and the background information, students will type a 500-word feature story on Fountain following the group interview.

10:15 - 11:00 A.M. SESSION 1
• Getting Social: Tips for Promoting your Program on Social Media Lori Mortland, Walsworth, Room 314 B
• Editorial Leadership: Leading your Staff to Get the Job Done Joelle Sexton, Herff-Jones, Room Hall B
• IHSA State Journalism Competition; Rules and Procedures (ADVISERS ONLY) Matt Troha, IHSA Asst. Executive Director Room 211
• “Lightning Ledes” to Grab your Reader Jennifer Reiser, Washington Community HS. English Chair Room 407
• Building your High School Media Program Dennis Brown, Huntley High School, Journalism Advisor Room 210
• Writing for Broadcast Colleen King, Clinical Assistant Professor Journalism. University of Illinois Room 217
• The Journey is More Important than the Destination, Don’t Forget to Enjoy it. James Boyd, Journalist The Athletic Room 405
• Fiction-writing Techniques for Objective Journalists Chris Evans, Clinical Assistant Professor. University of Illinois Newsroom, Illinois Public Media Room 406
• Audio Journalism Stretch Ledford, Assistant Professor Journalism, University of Illinois Room 314 A

11:15 - NOON SESSION 2
• Publication Design trends for 2023 Lori Mortland, Walsworth Room 314 B
• Canva Design for Publication Joelle Sexton, Herff-Jones Room Hall B
• Majoring in Journalism in College: What You Can Do to Prepare Now! Kathryn Clark, College of Media Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Student Services Room 210
• Find Your Voice Amelia Mugavero, Reporter, Traffic Anchor Fox 2 News St. Louis, Missouri. Room 407
• Journalism – The All-Access Adventure of a Lifetime Andy Miller, News Director WCIA - 3 Champaign, Illinois Room 217
• Viking TV Mark Cielieski, Faculty Sponsor and Students Homewood-Flossmoor HS Room 405
• Opinion-writing: Getting Beyond the Hot Take Chris Evans, Clinical Assistant Professor. University of Illinois Newsroom, Illinois Public Media Room 406
• Photojournalism Stretch Ledford, Assistant Professor Journalism, University of Illinois Room 314 A

NOON - 1:15 P.M. LUNCH
• Students: Lunch is on your own. Lunchspots in basement of Illini Union or try Daniel or Green Street. Be sure to get permission from you Adviser to leave the Union. Don’t be shy about having lunch with students from other schools. After all, this conference is an opportunity to meet with your peers from around the state - strangers now, but people who just might be your college classmates in a year or two.

• Advisers: Lunch is in Illini Room A. This is a chance to talk with your colleagues from other schools, as well as with session speakers. You can find out more about the Illinois Journalism Education Association, a network of high school advisers who might be able to help you as you go about the demanding task of advising and teaching the next generation of journalists. There is no charge, but advance registration is required. Check with Ken Erdey about extra meals.