**What is CJTI?**



CJTI

The Community Journalism Training Institute is a national program that provides digital communications training to engaged community members.

Every day, members of local communities volunteer their time and energy to attend community meetings, legislative hearings, PTA meetings and court cases. They gather information on local problems and participate in protests and other actions. Too often, however, these efforts go unheard and unnoticed. With the decay of local newspapers, plus the consolidation of local radio and TV by mega corporations, few journalists are left to tell these local stories.

Fortunately, advances in technology and digital media make it possible for community activists to tell their own story. A few photos or a livestreamed video from a personal phone, some well-worded tweets, or a facebook post can tell the story. But do people think to use their phones in this way? Do they see themselves as community journalists?

In just a two-hour training, CJTI instructors can empower members of the community to use their own phones to tell their stories. Our highly skilled trainers reach individuals where they are. A grandma can learn to take pictures. A low-wage earner can use SMS to deliver information. Activists can learn to stabilize their phone cameras so their livestream videos are clear. Anyone can learn what makes a great interview question.

Our business model is to sell these trainings to activist organizations, which benefit from developing their volunteers and increasing their communications. We can bring the training directly to their facilities, seamlessly integrating the experience so that students believe the organization is offering it directly, or we can do the training at one of our facilities.

Cost for the training is $105/student. For $1500, an organization can sponsor a training, which lowers the cost to $30/student.

We seek national sponsors to support this program in its startup phase. As a sponsor, your logo will be on all training materials that go to organizations and to students. You will gain recognition as a leader in the field of citizen journalism. Sponsorships are available at a variety of levels.

Interested? contact Program Director Jo Ellen Green Kaiser at [www.themediaconsortium.com](http://www.themediaconsortium.com) or 415-878-3862.