MANAGING EDITOR

We seek a proven leader in motivating, mentoring and inspiring reporters. The person will support the CEO/publisher in working with reporters and other news staff to produce world-class journalism with the goal of expanding our relevance, impact and reach.

The Managing Editor is a digitally savvy journalist eager to connect audiences with our storytelling and our nonprofit and nonpartisan mission. As the leader of our news staff, this person plays a crucial part in determining and executing digital distribution and engagement strategies that include newsletters, social platforms, crowdsourced content, notifications, SEO and paid and organic web traffic.

The Managing Editor is a problem-solver and organizer with excellent writing and editing skills and a nose for news. The person loves the mix of local reporting we aspire to do at the Fort Worth Report, as outlined in our American Journalism Project reader research, which noted the reason for our impressive success: We connect communities through trusted local journalism.

All applications should send a cover letter, resume, references and work samples to chris.cobler@fortworthreport.org; please include “Managing Editor” in the subject line.

MAJOR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work with our content editor to supervise a team of reporters.
- Work with reporters on story development from sourcing and pitching to writing and fact-checking.
- Be responsible for first or second reads, guiding rewrites, identifying omissions and working with reporters to ensure fairness, accuracy and flair.
- Plan and coordinate news coverage. We have a growing array of newsletters that require strong organizational skills.
- Oversee editing and evaluate copy for conformity with policies, style and tone.
- Collaborate with the audience team and reporters in the writing, scheduling and performance of all social media content.
- Collaborate with our other news and community partners.
- Be a team builder who works collaboratively with others to solve problems, achieve common goals and positive results. Encourage other team members to share ideas and express disagreement constructively. We have a terrific team filled with high achievers – help them soar.
- Be an effective communicator both verbally and in writing. Listen intently to others and value others’ opinions. Know when and how to negotiate and persuade.
- Engage positively and proactively with our audience in person and online to cultivate more engagement in our storytelling. Help bring in new sources and story ideas.
● Support revenue and newsroom teams by creating content, in the style appropriate to each brand, and then work with our audience and membership teams to evaluate performance based on face-to-face conversations with our audience and on web, social, and email analytics.
● Be a continual learner who is up to date on all digital media and marketing trends and shares with the team — from TikTok to AI and whatever comes next.
● Adept at managing disagreement fairly, identifying and resolving issues promptly and directly. Meet each day with a growth mindset suited for quick pivots and redirection as needed. Celebrate the future of local journalism.
● Handle other duties as may be assigned by the CEO/publisher.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

● 10+ years of applicable journalism, digital content and social media experience.
● Exceptional writing, reporting and editing skills.
● Exceptional ability to develop a website and newsletters.
● Proven ability to successfully market a variety of content, with an innate sense of how to position social content for optimal engagement and following SEO best practices.
● Bonus: Familiarity with Fort Worth and North Texas communities
● Experience running editorial news budgets and strong planning skills; experience working with social media management tools.
● Demonstrated experience as a highly analytical thinker who is able to think critically and incorporate data and testing into project decisions while maintaining a strong attention to detail.
● Proficient experience with AP Style, SEO best practices and excellent writing, proofreading and editing skills.
● Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with an ability to work cross-functionally with other teams, including business, audience, membership, advertising, events and development teams.
● Must be able to work with fast-moving organizational culture and help shape it to be continuously improving.