



FOX61 is announcing the launch of its 2020-2021 *FOX61 Student News* program, marking the 5th year the station has partnered with Connecticut middle and high schools to empower multi-media journalism in grades 6-12 across the state.

“The Covid-19 pandemic is changing the way the program works, but it will not derail our mission,” said Jon Hitchcock, President and General Manager of FOX61/CW20. “Students will be given the opportunity to create original local content under the guidance of their teachers and our professional journalists at FOX61. Students will at all times follow their school’s protocols regarding remote and hybrid learning, wearing masks, and keeping socially distant.”

Students will produce every aspect of their reporting on local stories, events and issues and will learn videography, lighting, audio, writing, editing and how to conduct interviews via Zoom and other video conferencing products. Each submitted story should be no longer than 1:30, be of general interest to their community, include the basics of *who, what, where, when, and why*, and include both sides of any issue.

FOX61 journalists will provide guidance, webinars, and how-to videos to assist teachers and students. Selected stories will be chosen to air on FOX61 News, and stories will be posted on fox61.com and on the station’s Facebook and Instagram pages.

More than 130 middle and high schools participated in last year’s *FOX61 Student News* program, with \$13,000 in cash prizes being awarded in Hard News, Feature, Community Events, Education, Local Business, and other categories.

Teachers interested in participating in *FOX61 Student News* can **email** studentnews@fox61.com or call Trish Hesslein, Community Marketing Manager at **860-541-0005**.

Below, photo of student winners from W.J. Johnston Middle School during 2020 FOX61 Student News’ Award Tour with Keith McGilvery, FOX61 Anchor [Link to see all 2020 award winners](#)

