

MEDIA PARTNERSHIP

Religion News Service: New Religious Movements

Sacred Writes is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for a funded media partnership with Religion News Service (RNS). Applicants must have training in religious studies, theology, biblical studies, or a related field. This partnership is open to faculty, independent scholars, and graduate students. Priority deadline for applications is 5 June 2020.

ABOUT RNS

Religion News Service reports on religion and its intersections with political and cultural issues. Their mission is "to inform, illuminate and inspire public discourse on matters relating to belief and convictions." RNS distributes stories to the nation's leading newspapers, news magazines, online media outlets, broadcasting firms and religious publications.

SCOPE

RNS is planning a series about new religious movements. Possible topics include how new religious movements are coping with the current pandemic and what new religious movements reveal about the contemporary American religious landscape. The scholar selected for this partnership will work closely with the award-winning journalist Liz Kineke to shape and report the stories in this series. Kineke was producer and writer for the CBS Religion & Culture series for 14 years. Her most recent reporting can be found in Tricycle: The Buddhist Review and for AP Global Religion.

This funded partnership is an opportunity to learn how to write engaging, short-form pieces by working alongside a seasoned religion reporter. The scholar will also be mentored through the process of writing an opinion or analysis article based on their expertise.

The ideal scholar for this partnership will have contacts in religious communities and/or faith-based organizations, and be able to collaborate on pitching, reporting, and writing for a broad audience on this topic.

Preferred start date is 15 June 2020. The collaboration will last for approximately 3 months, during which the team will produce three pieces: two co-reported stories (at least with a co-byline) and one sole-authored opinion piece based on the scholar's expertise.

Sacred Writes will provide a \$2000 stipend to the scholar selected for this partnership.

TO APPLY

Please submit the following materials through the online form.

- A 1–2 page cover letter explaining how your scholarly expertise can help frame the series
- C.V. (include any relevant public scholarship experience)

Finalists may be interviewed via phone.

