

Naji K. Rutherford

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April 14, 2026

The Scripps Howard Fund
312 Walnut Street, 28th floor
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Dear Scripps Howard Fund Hiring Team,

I am enthusiastically writing to express my strong interest in the Capital B Atlanta intern position. As a dedicated storyteller, I am excited about the opportunity to apply technical skills and strategy to make a meaningful impact and gain hands-on professional experience that will support my journalistic career.

Given my background and leadership in Tallahassee's local journalism, I believe I will be an excellent asset in the Capital B newsroom. I am specifically interested in this position to increase coverage of local environmental issues affecting Black communities such as rapidly expanding AI data centers and gentrification of Atlanta.

Through my academic coursework and extracurricular activities, I've developed strong, concise writing skills, leveraging a background in news and editing. As editor-in-chief of the award-winning newspaper The FAMUAN and news director of WANM 90.5, I meticulously edit and fact-check on-air, digital and print segments to ensure they adhere to Associated Press style and are clear for publication.

Through these roles, we were able to re-establish The FAMUAN's print presence, distributing the first printed issues in five years and focusing on improving standards and reporting practices. I had the pleasure of spearheading The FAMUAN's "Since 1919" issue, which focused on local Black history in Tallahassee and the legacy of Black press. These experiences led me to my first internship as a production associate at ABC News, a contributor and researcher at the Solutions Journalism Network and a cohort member and contributor at Common Ground.

I have also helped facilitate Megan Thee Stallion's "Thee Hottie Egg Hunt" social media campaign in Texas and Los Angeles, while organizing tabling and listening parties in Atlanta to increase listener engagement for "MEGAN" by 43 percent.

As a proven leader, collaborative team member, and critical thinker, I am an ideal candidate for the Capital B Atlanta intern position. I would be excited to interview for the position and look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Naji Rutherford