

PRESS RELEASE:

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WFAE Announces the 2017 Roger & Marilyn Sarow Diversity Fellows

Charlotte, NC (May 22, 2017) – This summer, WFAE welcomes **Crystal Hogue** and **Leanna Pough** as the recipients of the **Roger and Marilyn Sarow Fellowship for Diversity in Public Radio**. Both will work in WFAE’s news department. **Hogue** will be a reporter and **Pough** will work with the producers of *Charlotte Talks*.

Named in honor of **Roger Sarow** who was president and general manager of WFAE for 27 years and his wife **Marilyn**, the **Roger and Marilyn Sarow Fellowship for Diversity in Public Radio** offers a 10-week fellowship to a college student or recent college graduate of diverse ethnicity who wants to explore a career in public media journalism.

“As Charlotte continues to benefit from an increasingly diverse community, it is vital that WFAE reflects that positive change,” said WFAE President and CEO **Joe O’Connor**. “The Roger and Marilyn Sarow Fellowship for Diversity in Public Radio allows WFAE to play an active role in training the next generation of journalists to help further our commitment to inclusion.”

Hogue’s focus will be on spot reporting and features as well as honing her writing and reporting skills, on-air delivery and use of sound. Hogue will be a senior at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, N.C., where she is majoring in journalism and mass communications. She has worked at the university’s student radio station and television studio. Hogue recently served as treasurer of the student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Pough will train in all aspects of producing a daily talk show, which includes pitching show ideas, researching topics, selecting guests, booking shows, finding audio to include in the broadcast, and operating audio equipment during the show. A 2015 graduate of UNC Charlotte with a degree in communication, **Pough** has been working in the public relations office at UNC Charlotte. She was also an intern for the arts and culture website Charlotte Viewpoint.

The **Sarows** believe strongly that public media newsrooms must do their best to reflect the diverse communities they serve. The fellowship fund was established in their honor to encourage more aspiring journalists from diverse ethnic backgrounds to be involved in public media as they begin their careers.

About WFAE

Celebrating its 35th anniversary, WFAE 90.7 FM is a non-profit public radio station, licensed to the University Radio Foundation Inc. With 90.3 FM in Hickory, 106.1 FM in Laurinburg and 93.7 FM in Southern Pines, WFAE serves over 200,000 weekly listeners in the Central Piedmont with an award-winning mix of local, national and international news, and entertainment programs from NPR®, American Public Media, Public Radio Exchange and Public Radio International.

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