

**Lilly Brown**  
**Liberty (Wentzville) High School**

### **1. Contributions, job descriptions and positions held**

High school student media contributions include (in no specific order):

- I organized and submitted awards for MIJA.
- I organized for Cathy Kuhlmeier to come to Liberty to teach our students about Kuhlmeier v. Hazelwood.
- I taught at the JEA/NSPA convention in Kansas City about social media in our program to spread ideas to other programs. I plan to teach this session in Seattle as well as other sessions about how to cover Friday night football and how to create better class culture.
- I applied for awards for our program such as Innovation Pacemaker, and the First Amendment Press Freedom award.

My positions included:

- Editor-in-Chief of The Talon Yearbook
  - Ensures that the theme is carried throughout the yearbook. I led the yearbook staff in planning the yearbook ladder, design and coverage.
- Assistant Online Editor
  - Assisted the Editor-in-Chief for the online website. I helped lead staff, edits stories, and submits for SNOSite badges
- Friday Night Lights Coordinator
  - Organizes all coverage of Friday Night football games. I planned on who will be helping, what coverage is needed, and putting together equipment for these games.
- Head of Recruitment
  - Head of all recruiting for the program. Creates letters and meetings as well as social media posts to find people interested in joining the program.
- Social Media Manager
  - Manager for all content and media posted on social media sites run by the publications program. Checking for accurate, engaging coverage each day that the student body will find informing and entertaining.
- Wentzville School District Town Hall Executive Producer
  - The goal of this student-run live streamed event is to give all candidates running for the WSD School Board the opportunity to introduce themselves, explain their platforms, and answer questions from their community. The executive producer should oversee this project from start to finish working with the student team and the candidates to produce an informative and successful town hall.
- Wentzville School District Town Hall Marketing Manager

- In charge of all social media posts for town hall. The marketing manager also creates a list of posts needed to make a successful Town Hall social media page.

#### 2024-2025 School Year

- Editor-in-Chief of The Talon Yearbook
- Social Media Manager
- Friday Night Lights Coordinator
- Town Hall Executive Producer
- Reporter for LHSToday
- First Amendment Press Freedom Award Recipient
- Student Leadership for Innovation Pacemaker Finalist
- 2025 NSPA/JEA Spring Seattle Conference - session teacher

#### 2023-2024 School Year

- Assistant Online Editor
- Social Media Manager
- Head of Recruitment
- Town Hall Marketing Manager
- Talon Yearbook Staff Member
- First Amendment Press Freedom Award Recipient
- 2024 NSPA/JEA Spring Kansas City Conference - session teacher

#### 2022-2023 School Year

- LHS Publications Staff Member
- Talon Yearbook Staff Member
- Staff Member of Yearbook Pacemaker Finalist
- Social Media Team Member

## 2. Leadership Philosophy

My leadership philosophy is that in order to be a leader, you have to learn to share the power. Although it's hard as an editor to not be able to make all the decisions, you have to learn to accept that. There have been many times I wanted to say no to an idea or just take over a spread. However, I learned that everyone has great ideas and that you should let them share them. I also believe that being a leader doesn't mean you can't do work that staff members do. Although I am an editor-in-chief, I have worked on multiple spreads, I always sit with the class at desks, I interview, and most importantly I help with work that others might not want to do, such as photos, stories, and captions. I never want anyone in my class to feel like just because I am an editor, I am above them.

## 3. Most Proud Leadership Moment

My most proud moment would be this year when I was taking photos at wrestling districts. I wasn't in the mood to go, but I did it anyway, because I knew I was supposed to help another

staff member with photography. When I taught her things she didn't know, she lit up. She then turned to me and told me how much she looked up to me and how she couldn't wait to be a leader like me. It made my heart warm to know I could help someone and they looked up to me that much.

#### **4. Statement From Adviser**

Under Lilly's leadership, the publications program has expanded to our largest numbers in program history and continues to flourish. She has made the biggest impact on creating the most positive and energetic culture for our program of any student I've had. Lilly has specialized in marketing the program through recruiting efforts at school and social media. She has been a key player in helping to organize our school board town hall live broadcast event on youtube. This event is produced by students and was nominated for a Pacemaker. Lilly's outgoing personality and leadership style sets her apart from the rest.