

Virginia Press WOMEN FOUNDATION

Supporting Tomorrow's Communicators Today

VCU Senior Named Winner of Agnes Cooke Scholarship Competition

MAY 9, 2022- The Virginia Press Women Foundation is pleased to announce Jessica Johnson of Glen Allen as the 2022 recipient of the Agnes Cooke Scholarship.

Johnson is a senior at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she studies broadcast journalism. She interned at Hanover County's schools public access television station and produced broadcast news packages for her senior capstone course at VCU.



"I have enjoyed storytelling for as long as I can remember," Johnson wrote in her application.

"It started with daily journaling in my diary to writing short stories," Johnson said. "Eventually, I began scriptwriting for short films at my high school, winning (a) best screenwriting award. Throughout high school, I explored different areas of media ... (enjoying) the storytelling aspect regardless of whether it was photography, TV production or cinema."

One of her professors, Mallory Perryman, described Johnson as a leader, who often demonstrated an innovative approach to utilizing university equipment, including an overlooked green screen that she found and prepared for the production studio's use.

"(Jessica) is the kind of student who does not just do what needs to be done – she does the basics, then takes them a step forward," Perryman wrote in a recommendation letter.

Johnson plans to use the \$2,000 scholarship for tuition and repair for a personal technology device.

The Virginia Press Women Foundation is a 501(c) 3 corporation that awards a scholarship to undergraduate or graduate communications students in Virginia each year in honor of Agnes Cooke, a charter member of Virginia Press Women, now known as Virginia Professional Communicators.

Learn more at: vpwfoundation.org.

