

Staff Writer Application

Fall 2026

Thank you for applying to Bwog!

As a Staff Writer, you can write about anything and everything related to Columbia—check out some of our [posts](#)! Staff Writers are expected to write at least seven articles their first semester.

Bwog Staff Writers applications are open to any undergraduate.

Instructions:

- **Please respond to all questions below.** There is no maximum or minimum length for responses.
- Email editors@bwog.com with an attached PDF of your application by **Wednesday, September 23rd, 11:59 pm EST**. Email us if you have any questions!
- Have fun!

About Bwog:

- What do you think Bwog is?
- Tell us about one Bwog post you liked, one post you didn't like, and why for both.
- Come up with three sample post ideas (articles, podcasts, etc.) that you would like to see on Bwog.
- Draw Bwog. (We welcome bad drawings!)

About you:

- Classic get-to-know-you: name, pronouns, (intended) major, school, graduation year, anything else you want to include!
- Why do you want to join Bwog?
- You're taking Bwog out on a date! What would you do? Where would you go? There are no limits!

Questions for Staff Writers:

- What aspects of Columbia might you be interested in writing about? How might you want to expand the type of content (articles, videos, audio, etc.) that Bwog produces?
- In which building on or near campus would you most like to spend twelve hours? Explain why.
- In 50 words or less, tell us about your weirdest experience from the fall semester.
- Staff writers are expected to fulfill 7 "posts" per semester (This could be an article, podcast, illustration, Instagram post, etc.). Is this manageable for your schedule?

About Bwog Teams (Optional):

- Staffers at Bwog have the opportunity to join a specific team for one of our sections—**Arts, Events, News, Science, Social Media, or Sports**. Please note that joining a team does not limit your ability to write for other sections. Tech and Visual teams have separate applications.
- Please fill out **one** of the following sets of questions for the team you're interested in if you would like to join a team!
- **Arts**

- From your perspective, what are the key components of a high-quality arts article?
- What's the best arts event (performance, production, gallery showing, concert...) that you've ever attended? Sell it to me in a paragraph.
- Pick a recent Bwog Arts article that you enjoyed. Why did you think it was successful?
- Pick one recent Bwog Arts article that you don't think was successful. What edits would you give the writer to improve this post, and what suggestions would you give to help them grow in the future?
- **Events**
 - From your perspective, what are the key components of a high-quality events article?
 - What's the best event (panel, lecture, social/club event, etc...) that you've ever attended? Sell it to me in a paragraph.
 - Pick a recent Bwog Events article that you enjoyed. Why did you think it was successful?
 - Pick one recent Bwog Events article that you don't think was successful. What edits would you give the writer to improve this post, and what suggestions would you give to help them grow in the future?
- **News**
 - In your eyes, what are the most important aspects of a high-quality breaking news article?
 - Reflect on Bwog's news coverage (both breaking news posts and features). Name one news post you think is successful, and explain why you think that's the case. Name one news post where you think Bwog could have improved on our coverage.
 - Members of the News Team must be able to maintain journalistic and ethical integrity regarding factual, unbiased reporting. A large part of Bwog's news coverage regards contentious political and social happenings on campus, such as protests and union procedures. As a News Team member, how would you handle these topics?
 - Scenario: Bwog often covers sensitive issues, such as sexual misconduct, racial violence, homophobia, transphobia, antisemitism, and hazing, among others. Recently, the News Team has received a sensitive tip about allegations of sexual misconduct against a large campus organization. How would you approach the research, writing, and editing of this article? How would you navigate introducing this story to Bwog's general body, and ensuring that it is reported with sensitivity and journalistic ethics in mind?
 - As a member of the News Team, you may come across an opportunity to interview an individual—whether in a formal situation or the field. In either situation, what do you think you would say when reaching out to someone with a request for an interview? How comfortable do you feel walking up to a person at a campus event and asking for a short comment?
- **Science**
 - From your perspective, what are the key components of a high-quality science article?
 - What's the best science event (panel, lecture, social/club event, etc...) that you've ever attended? Sell it to me in a paragraph.
 - Pick a recent Bwog Science article that you enjoyed. Why did you think it was successful?

- Pick one recent Bwog Science article that you don't think was successful. What edits would you give the writer to improve this post, and what suggestions would you give to help them grow in the future?
- **Social Media**
 - How would you describe the role and voice of Bwog's social media? How would you further or shift this identity?
 - What's your favorite Bwog social media post we've done and why? What's your least favorite Bwog social media post we've done and why?
 - Do you have any experience running a social media account (for school, for a job, for a student group)? Describe.
 - How would you use Bwog's different social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, YouTube) to the best of their abilities? What new ideas/projects for specific platforms would you take the lead on?
- **Sports**
 - From your perspective, what are the key components of a high-quality sports article?
 - What's the best sports event that you've ever attended? Sell it to me in a paragraph.
 - Pick a recent Bwog Sports article that you enjoyed. Why did you think it was successful?
 - Pick one recent Bwog Sports article that you don't think was successful. What edits would you give the writer to improve this post, and what suggestions would you give to help them grow in the future?

Questions on commitment/other student news organizations:

- It is Bwog policy that you **cannot simultaneously be a member of Bwog and another student news organization** on campus (such as Columbia Daily Spectator, The Blue & White, WKCR News, or The Federalist, etc). You *are* allowed, however, to write for campus literary magazines and other, non-journalistic organizations. Do you understand that **if you are accepted to Bwog and to another publication, you will be expected to only commit to one organization?**