

Valerie J. Andrews

Seymore D'Fair Foundation Advisory Board Member

Professional Overview: Valerie J. Andrews is a distinguished freelance copyeditor in greater New Orleans. With a career deeply rooted in journalism and public relations, Valerie embarked on her academic journey at Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA, earning a degree in journalism and public relations before obtaining a master's in journalism from LSU with a focus on public relations.



Career Milestones: Since 1978, Valerie has offered her expertise as a freelance editor and consultant, founding Andrews & Associates, a firm providing comprehensive editorial services. Her clientele includes renowned authors, publishers, non-profits, universities, and various agencies. Valerie's work spans multiple industries, from recreational vehicles and food service to printing and educational materials. She notably led the award-winning Creative Services team at Camco Manufacturing, Inc., and has held senior editorial roles at prominent magazines.

Academic Contributions: Valerie's influence extends to academia. She taught as an assistant professor at the School of Mass Communication at Loyola University New Orleans until 2016. She continues to enrich students as an adjunct professor, having also held faculty positions at LSU, the University of Southern Mississippi, Tulane University, and Georgia College & State University. Her initiatives include founding the annual internship fair at Loyola and establishing the SMC's Alum Hall of Fame.

Community and Volunteer Work: Valerie's dedication to community service is profound, demonstrated through her leadership roles in various professional organizations and volunteer work. She has served as president of the New Orleans chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) and as a board member for several theater groups and non-profit organizations.

Awards and Recognition: Her contributions have earned numerous accolades, including the Excellence in Advising Award from the Loyola College of Social Sciences and the PRAL NOLA's Educator of the Year. In 2019, she was named a Senior Practitioner by the Southern Public Relations Federation, recognizing her lifelong commitment to excellence in communication.