News Director and Executive Editor

Reports To
President & CEO

Job Overview
The News Director and Executive Editor is a senior member of WAMC's leadership team, responsible for the vision and execution of WAMC's regional news and content across broadcast and digital platforms. This role oversees editorial strategy, daily news operations, long-term planning, and audience engagement, while leading a newsroom of staff and contributors. The News Director and Executive Editor ensures the highest standards of journalistic excellence, ethics, and public service, and works collaboratively across the organization to strengthen WAMC's impact and community connection.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Lead and safeguard the editorial quality, integrity, and ethics of all WAMC news content.
- Set and execute short- and long-term news strategy aligned with WAMC's mission and service priorities.
- Oversee daily news production for on air and digital platforms, including news meetings, assignments, editing, and scheduling.
- Develop and grow strong, audience-focused news brands across core coverage areas, including politics, government, business, education, environment, and culture.
- Envision and lead an integrated, cross-platform news strategy, spanning broadcast and digital, overseeing new programs and projects.
- Foster meaningful audience engagement, conversation, and community around WAMC journalism across broadcast, digital, and in-person events.
- Assess and evolve newsroom structure, workflows, and roles to meet changing demands.
- Champion diversity, equity, and inclusion in coverage, sourcing, perspectives, and staffing.
- Provide leadership, mentoring, and professional development for newsroom staff; recruit and develop talent.
- Develop and manage the News Department budget and resources responsibly.
- Collaborate with station leadership and other departments on content strategy, special coverage, and partnerships.
- Represent WAMC publicly and participate in on-air fundraising as needed.
- Produce, edit, report, or host as necessary to support newsroom operations.

Qualifications

- Distinguished editorial background with a strong record of journalistic excellence.
- Proven leadership and newsroom management experience, including hiring, coaching, and team development.
- Demonstrated ability to balance long-term strategic planning with daily editorial and operational oversight.
- Experience translating audience insights into effective news strategy.
- Deep understanding of creating editorial content for distinct digital platforms, including web, social media, newsletters, and YouTube.
- Collaborative, decisive, and adaptable leadership style.
- Strong communication, organizational, and relationship-building skills.
- Ability to manage multiple priorities in a fast-paced environment.
- Bachelor's degree in journalism, communications, or a related field; advanced degree preferred.

Salary range $90,000 +