



Cierra Jordan

Oyler School Language Arts teacher Cierra Jordan named an Ohio University Communication Fellow

By Sarah Logue

ATHENS, Ohio (March 14, 2019)— Oyler School seventh- and eighth-grade Language Arts teacher Cierra Jordan was one of 10 teachers selected for the second annual Communication Fellows program in Ohio University’s Scripps College of Communication. Focusing on curriculum development in communication across PK-12 levels of instruction, the program provides funding and mentorship support. Participants develop and implement a communication-related classroom project over the one-year course of their fellowship.

“If the Communication Fellows program has taught us anything, it’s that there is so much creativity and innovation happening at the K-12 level,” said Dean Scott Titsworth. “We’re committed to using the college’s expertise and technology to support those teachers who are improving communication education.”

Jordan graduated from Ohio University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Middle Childhood Education, with an emphasis on Language Arts and Social Studies. After graduating, she worked as an education coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Cincinnati and went on to teach in the North College Hill City Schools. Jordan started teaching at Oyler four years ago.

“I am most looking forward to giving my students the opportunity to create a strong, present voice,” Jordan said. “I can’t wait to see and hear school experiences shared through

their eyes and writing. I also can't wait to see the ownership and responsibility the students will take on. I believe these experiences will shape them and introduce them to other professional opportunities in life.”

Communication Fellows attend a half-week summer residential experience at Ohio University’s main campus in Athens and receive free tuition for a graduate-level online course, a \$1500 stipend and \$1000 classroom stipend. Fellows also work with college faculty mentors and college leadership to achieve their project proposals.

Jordan’s proposed project will create a monthly middle school newspaper with the aim of teaching news literacy and fact-based reporting.

“I believe this project will create a sense of pride, awareness, and confidence within my students,” Jordan wrote in her project proposal. “The exposure to professional mentors will show the students all of the many career opportunities that are available to them, many professions that students are unaware exist. This exposure could provide purpose and make school and graduation more desirable and meaningful.”

Each year, up to 10 fellows are named, with five from rural Appalachian districts and five from urban districts in the state of Ohio. This program was established as part of the Scripps College of Communication’s 50th anniversary in 2018.

For more information about the Communication Fellows Program, [visit the program’s webpage](#). The Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University consists of five schools, each offering a variety of majors and programs for students who want to pursue communication-related careers. For more information, [visit our website](#).

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