Event-Siting Guidelines

The Education Writers Association each year holds multiple in-person professional gatherings for members, such as the annual National Seminar, data training workshops, and networking functions. The National Seminar is by far EWA’s largest annual conference and a key means of raising revenue to sustain the organization’s operations. Other events, such as the annual Higher Education Seminar and assorted topical convenings, are mainstays of EWA programming and also important revenue sources. Annual decisions about where to site events are among our most consequential.

As a national membership organization, EWA aims to hold events in a diverse range of regions, states, and communities across the country. EWA occasionally holds events in hotels. But more often, we seek hosting partners, typically but not exclusively higher education institutions. Tangible benefits of these hosting arrangements can include complimentary or discounted event space and other amenities, such as meals and audio visual equipment and services. Other advantages include improved access to university faculty, administrators, students and partners to enrich the event program.

In seeking hosting partners, we are guided by a commitment to the organization’s core values of quality, community, professionalism, and diversity. EWA seeks to avoid hosting arrangements that run counter to EWA’s commitment to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, age and disability.

EWA retains sole editorial control over its programming, guided by a commitment to reflecting diverse perspectives and voices. In selecting hosting partners, EWA seeks to prioritize those that:

❖ Enrich event programming — via access to speakers, educational programs, or community resources, for example.
❖ Convey respect for transparency and a free and independent press.
❖ Demonstrate good stewardship of EWA resources and promote financial health.
❖ Contribute to the geographic diversity of our overall event calendar.
❖ Advance EWA’s strategic organizational priorities in other ways.

Uncertainty over a potential host, hosting arrangement or venue may be referred to the EWA Board of Directors Steering Committee or, when appropriate, the full board.

Approved: December 1, 2017