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NNB News : 2015 : 10 : 02 : Times Talk: Building an eye for photojournalism

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Times Talk: Building an eye for photojournalism

St. Petersburg, Fla. (Oct. 2, 2015) –
Student journalists with the Neighborhood



Award-winning Tampa Bay Times photojournalist Lara Cerri. Photo by Eric Vaughan.

News Bureau got the chance to learn photojournalism techniques and skills from a professional Wednesday, Sept. 23.

[Lara Cerri](#), Tampa Bay Times photojournalist, shared her years of knowledge and experience with these students at the USFSP campus. With these tips, NNB will continue its mission to serve the Midtown area and surrounding

communities of St. Petersburg through the practice of journalism.

‘Times Talk’ is what these students call it, and photojournalism was the topic of the week.

Photojournalism is the practice of communicating the news by the use of photographs and images. Photojournalists are the visual storytellers of the story, and Cerri was more than happy to express the important and impactful role photojournalists play.

“I have wanderlust,” said Cerri. “I have always had wanderlust.”

According to Cerri, it’s that curiosity that makes for a great photojournalist. She stresses the importance of trying to get the essence of what the story is about. The job is more than just taking photos. It is finding the story, writing the captions, and getting to know the sources.

“Part of the joy of my job is getting to know these people. If you got time, show an interest,” said Cerri. “It is first about human relationships.”



Lara Cerri discussing tools and techniques needed to become successful as a photojournalist. Photo by Eric Vaughan.

Photojournalists must be confident, patient, and compassionate. Being able to put yourself in the shoes of the another person and share a part of yourself builds trust and relationships. Any and every situation can be an opportunity for a great story, so always be ready for the unexpected.

Cerri's Times Talk inspired these future journalists. View the entire ['Times Talk with Lara Cerri'](#) video provided where she touches on topics including photographing children and funerals, how to approach people and finding story-telling moments.

The full video of the talk can be found [here: http://www.nbnnews.com/2015/10/02/video-lara-cerri-tampa-bay-times-photojournalist/](http://www.nbnnews.com/2015/10/02/video-lara-cerri-tampa-bay-times-photojournalist/)

About Neighborhood News Bureau

Neighborhood News Bureau is a working newsroom, staffed by University of South Florida St. Petersburg undergraduate and graduate students under the guidance of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies faculty members. The newsroom opened in Midtown, St. Petersburg March 2006. Its mission is to serve the Midtown and surrounding communities of St. Petersburg. For more information, visit <http://www.nbnnews.com/> or email nbn@usfsp.edu.

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