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## News writing Tools

STORY PITCH - Use the organization below to document your story pitch conversation.

STYLE	The style will determine the story structure HIGHLIGHT which style your story is <b>NEWS / FEATURE / PROFILE</b>	KNOWS	The CORE 6 are the basic building blocks of news storytelling.
TOPIC	Teen Voting	Who	Abreen Padeken
ISSUE	Less than one third in the islands between the ages of 18 and 29 voted in the last Presidential election, the lowest voter turnout rate in the nation.	What	is politically involved
		When	this summer 2014
ANGLE	Teen involved with politics	Where	with her family at home, at her high school, while helping a local candidate
		Why	she believes people should care about who they're putting in office
		How	since she was 6

STORY - Summarize your story below.

Abreen Padeken is an involved young adult who stays involved in her family, community and school. Since the age of 6 she was immersed in the world of politics. Her father, Daniel Padeken Jr., is a strong advocate for students being connected to the leaders of today. Founder of We Vote Hawaii, Lyla Berg, seconds that notion; adding that people would actually listen those young adults. Though Abreen has a lot of work to do as the Student Body President of Waianae High School, she is starting with the first step of being a role model during her last high school year.

SOURCES - Identify your information source(s) - inserts a row below to add more sources

- #1 Abreen Padeken - Student Body President
- #2 Daniel Padeken Jr. - Father
- #3 Lyla Berg - We Vote Hawaii founder

TRANSCRIPTIONS - Highlight key soundbites, insert rows to add sources

Abreen Padeken	<b>Abreen:</b> <u>Clip #47 then 45 then 44</u>
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Diamond: Aaaaand it's rolling. Um, 'kay so what made you want to become Student Body President?

Abreen:

I wanted to become Student Body President because I had thought I'd have the best interest of the student's in mind. I felt that somebody needed to fight for what they needed, in which case, it was school spirit and involvement with their school and their community.

Diamond: So what do you plan on doing as...what- what do you planning on doing as...-

Abreen:

\*chuckles\* Hold on. Um, as Student Body President I- this- um- what is that- as student body president for my running year

Diamond: 'Kay so, do your parents have a history of being politically involved?

Abreen:

My parents have been involved with politics for years um my grandparents have been heavily involved and uh my father was campaigning for Mufi Hannemann when he was first running for mayor and just this year we were involved with we were involved with uh Lieutenant Governor Ahu.

Diamond: So how long have your parents been involved with Ahu?

Abreen:

With Ahu? My parents my- my parents have been involved with Ahu for just a month recently actually. Uh it's my dad who's the campaign coordinator for Region 5 which covers I think from Mililani to Makaha or it- in the west coast area.

Diamond: So what are the things you do from the big scale to the small scale?

Abreen:

Um to the bigger scale where more of the public can see we have been doing um banner, sign waving, pep rallies and to the smaller scale of like phone banking and um going door to door and speaking to everyone. We will be doing that very soon.

Diamond: So why do you want to vote?

Abreen:

Okay, I want to vote because I want to um know who's in the system and who's going to fight for my values and my best interests.

Diamond: So how has your family influenced you to vote?

Abreen:

Oh gosh. Okay. So my family has been um really pushing me so far this year to vote and be involved with um politics and such like that by like really getting on me to register and really pushing me to go and sign that dotted line that's says I am an absentee or I'm belonging to this political group or whatnot.

Diamond: Mokay. Why do you think people of age should care about voting?

Abreen:

I think people around my age which is about 18-19 they should care about um voting because they should know who's going to be in the government, who's going to be working for what they value, who's going to be fighting for them and who's going to be the if-y person who's not as trustworthy.

Diamond: So, what was your outlook on voting before and after?

Abreen:

My outlook on voting before- okay my outlook on voting before I turned 18 was that I knew that it was important but I didn't know how important. I didn't know that there was so many things that I could do as just one voter. I didn't know the gravity of what I could do as just one person. Which is a lot apparently. Okay.

Diamond: So for a teen why do you think so many your age or so many people in general why do they- why don't they vote?

Abreen:

Um. For teens I think most of them aren't educated, most of them don't really...care because they don't know what value they have...in voting. Is. Can I rephrase that? How do I rephrase that? Um for teens around my- um- 18-19 as soon as they're able to re-to register to vote they should and- most don't care to do it because either they're lazy or just don't know and for the most part they don't know what they can do...which is a lot. \*laughs\*

Diamond: Thank you. So, why do you, why do you vote as a person?

Abreen:

Why do-why do I vote as a person? As a person I vote because I care. I care about others. I care about myself, I care about everything that's going on. Why do I care? I care. Because I care.

GARY COMING OUT OF LEFT FIELD: DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO YOUR PEERS WHAT WOULD IT- ABOUT UM

Abreen:

If I had anything to say to my peers I think it would be you know, don't wait for somebody to tell you that it's important to vote, you should know that it's important to vote. You should go and research the people that are fighting for you or not fighting for you. You should know. You should take the...you should take the initiative to work hard and you know don't be that person in their house watching

	<p>tv or MTV. You should be that person out there talking to um Mufi Hannemann, seeing what he wants to do, you should be talking to Abercrombie, Duke Aiona, you should be doing that. Nobody else is going to do that. You should do that. Just saying.</p>
<p>Daniel Padeken Jr.</p>	<p>Dad:  A candidate. Uh. Like I was saying earlier uh. I-I look for people who are kinda like, we're all like minded, we all believe the same things. I mean, f-for example if I'm voting for somebody who's living in Waianae and they-they're overseeing the Waianae-Maile-Nanakuli District and my concern is traffic...and...that persons' concern is doing something else on the other side of the island then we're kinda not like-minded we're you know we're looking for to solve problems for our community and that person is doing other things then I'm not going to support that person but then another candidate comes up and we-we have similar values and similar morals and-and we kinda have similar concerns then I'm gonna be more interested in voting for that candidate because we see things the same way and that's politics everybody does that. I used to yeah I used to vote for my pocket book before but decided to look for morals and values in candidates.</p> <p>Diamond: Okay, so again why do you think the 18-19 year olds, why do you think um wouldn't take the opportunity to vote?</p> <p>Dad:  Um, at 18 and 19 year olds I think they're not educated about voting. See, if there's a big push in the high schools leading up to the 18 and 19 year olds about voting and the importance of voting and making a difference in your community and they had a big push, a big campaign whether it was tv ads, radio ads, or just within the school system they had a big push people would find it important so when they come 18 years old they look at it like, "Wow, I finally can vote!" It's like-it's like people who like to be- to be legal age for vote to drink- 21. You know, teenagers decide to drink, okay yeah year olds decide to drink uh but those people who wait til they actually make 21 to drink; because it's of legal age that' a- that's an accomplishment. Where it's the same thing as voting when you get 18- when I made 18 years old my parents made sure, "You're 18. Go and vote. You have your chance to voice yourself. Vote. It's your right as an American." And I took that seriously and now I'm 44 years old now and since 18 I voted every year to make sure I didn't miss an opportunity because it was given to me.</p> <p>*talking to lady* We have no clue. But you might want to go into the store and ask them 'cause we're not technically from here. The challenges of filming outdoors, hey?</p> <p>Diamond: Okay so, the next question was, why is voting so important for the Waianae Coast and for everyone?</p> <p>Dad:</p>

Uh, why is it important. Um, like it's important for-for us being on the Waianae Coast because the way-the way you kind of wake up- the way I look at it, is we're out furthest part of the island- for the island of Oahu and I would think even the most-the most people don't really care about the people on the Waianae Coast except the people who represent the Waianae Coast- so that's your voice you know I mean if some people have a politicians who are in their in their districts that are right centered in Honolulu where the state capital is, but look how far Waianae is out from away from there. So the only voice we have is our politicians. So it's important to vote for certain candidates out here because it's gonna help you whether it's like I said, traffic- to deal with traffic. You know what there is no real way to deal with traffic out in Wai'anae the only other way is to get in the ocean and bypass everybody but that's not going to happen. But it's just you know making the best of what's- what's out there uhhhh an example would be Kahuku people out in Kahuku have the similar situation the other difference from Kahuku to Waianae is that Kahuku is two ways to get to Kahuku but Waianae only has one. So we're kinda out- out isolated by ourselves. So the people need to look at candidates who are gonna do stuffs to help the community of Waianae. \*mumbles\* Like I said that's what politics is finding somebody who's gonna help you with what you believe- with what you want to do.

Diamond: And like on a smaller scale from what Breenie's doing at Student Government-

Dad:  
Yeah.

Diamond: -um did you know she was going to run for Student Govern-

Dad:  
You know what, A-Abreen came to us and said she was going to run for Student Government and I said, "Okay when is the- when is the election?" "Oh, next week." I was like, "What?" And it was funny because if she had come to us earlier, if she knew earlier, I have a lot of different strategies and how to do it, cause I've been in politics for a while- for- around politics for a while, strategizing and how to promote yourself and how to do all that so what happens was she had a week to get in there. H-how do you pull off you know quote unquote election within a week but you know a-a-at this, at that scale we we really encourage the way she told us, we were like, "Wow that's a lot." Cause she's doing SP and she's involved in a bunch of other projects yeah but we were- we were very supportive of her we were really happy then to find out that she got in. We started telling everybody cause my wife is a very smart person we both graduated from Waianae High School. Candy Suiso was my wife's teacher so we knew her for years since we were 17, 18 years old and when she got into this student body president. Not nobody in our family did something like that so we were really happy, and really encouraged. It just so happened that we were getting into politics now with the election coming up.

Diamond: So, um because um some people they aren't aware how- what is the solution for those people like teens, like these young ones and these old ones that don't, don't really care? What what is the type of solution?

Dad:  
To- to get them to care? Uh, my opinion? Education. Which is, I mean for example uh I think Jon is overseeing SP. L-let's say for example Jon decides he wants hey to make it important and he wants um to ed- to tell everybody, "You know what when you guys make 18 you guys really gotta look at voting because you guys can make a difference and- and the one person that they look up to is speaking it. Seeing it, speaking it, seeing it, it's like your parents telling you over and over again. Eventually it's going to sink in if not, you're gonna go the other way but, but the thing is somebody's telling somebody about it which is what we do with our campaign. We try to tell people and I just realized it's a great opportunity at this age, at the 18, 19 year old age to get, the pe- the kids in the school to look forward to voting as opposed to like ah it's just another day that I gotta go in get up early and go vote, it's important. It's gonna affect the rest of your life yeah, at some scales somehow it's going to affect you.

Lyla Berg

**Lila:** **Clip #48**

Diamond: -so I can hear everything. \*laughs under breath\* And so, what is your name and position?

**Lila:**  
My name is Lyla Berg and I am the founder of Kids Voter Hawaii, which is now called We Vote Hawaii. We were in existence for eighteen years and so we've grown up so we needed to change our name.

Diamond: Mokay. So what what was the purpose of We Vote Hawaii?

**Lila:**  
The purpose of We Vote Hawaii was pretty simple. It was two missions. One to prepare and educate the younger generations so we- it's a program that's in the schools K through 12 to prepare young people to know how to vote, who to vote for, um and that the fact that voting is important and the second mission was to engage the young people to motivate the adults to vote. **Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout in the nation and that in enough itself is not as problematic as the fact that our citizens don't feel that their vote matters.**

Diamond: Okay, so what the reasons why people wouldn't vote?

**Lila:**  
You know that's- that question on why people don't vote has been tossed around in all communities um the word apathetic comes in but I don't think people are apathetic. I think that people don't vote because number one **they don't know how to vote um number two they don't know who they should vote for and maybe**

number three they don't know why they should vote. And because Hawaii is the last state in the time zone to vote for President many people think that our vote- that our vote doesn't count. But at the electoral college level it does matter- what- who Hawaii votes for as President. For instance because that will go into deciding with all the other states. Uh, I believe people in Hawaii don't vote because they may be afraid that they will vote for the wrong person and if they don't have reliable information on how to vote and who to vote for they will hesitate. Ah, well we did a focus group with young people recently, for the We Vote Programs in the schools that your generation was saying that um they just didn't know who to vote for. They know it was important um and they cared a lot but they just couldn't trust the media, they couldn't trust who was saying what about who's candidate um and they didn't know where to go to find information.

Diamond: So...what is the solution to getting people to- our generation to vote?

Lila:

The solution to getting your generation to vote? Is to make it um, cool. To make it meaningful, make it relevant if your generation, if everyone understood that who you vote for makes all the difference in what laws are initiated, what new developments come up, where Hawaii is going in it's future. If people knew that your representatives and senators and congressmen and governor made those decisions and really impacted you personally I think people would...vote. Um, I think also the problem with young people not voting because they don't know how or they don't know...why or who is at the schools- the public schools do not have a program of civic education. And civic education is learning about government- you have a history course- so you learn about government but the constitution of the united states was written by a bunch of dead white men and that doesn't touch anybody. So if you really understood that what you- who you and what you voted for made a difference in your daily life now, not in the future, I think more people would vote. So it's making voting relevant and making it um connect personally with every individual.

Diamond: And you were talking earlier about um you did a talk, a speech?

Lila:

Yes, uh, a few years ago I was asked to do a talk on Ted X uh, Honolulu and I talked about kids voting as an antidote to truancy as an antidote to apathy as an antidote to young people not feeling that they matter. And um the kids voting program started, we vote program started 18 years ago with this idea that if young people really understood how the system works and that problems could be solved or could be addressed immediately not when they got old um they would- they would participate. So, programs like Hiki No are an effort to have young people look at the issues in the community and have your voices be heard. That's exactly what the voting system is about. The challenge with voting is it only happens every other year and there's so many people running, so many signs and t-shirts and people on the road that we get confused and uh a but mislead sometimes by the uh the energy or the enthusiasm and we really need to take a look at who is running and

what they believe and if they are coherent with what my values are, or your values.

Diamond: Em, there was also the Driver's Ed, like, once you become of age uh what was that about?

Lila:

The young voter registration program allows 16 to 18 year olds to register to vote for real. So when you're 18 you can vote. But at 16 you can already register so that when you get to be 18 you can get the little card that reminds you to vote. Um I think that's really significant that young people at 16 can already register to vote. There is a little bit of a myth going on for a while that if you register to vote at 16 when you get your driver's license that you would be eligible for jury duty. The truth is that you're eligible for jury duty the minute you're born. When you have a social security number you become in the circuitry to be- um called on to perform that civic responsibility as well- serving on juries. But it's not connected with registering to vote at all.

Diamond:

Um, so, is there anything you'd like to add about the importance of voting?

Lila:

Voting is more important than we realize. And it's more influential. The slogan of We Vote Hawaii is, your - our voices do count. Your voice matters. Every vote matters. Voting is a way for your generation and for all people to make it known what they believe. Even if you don't actually v-actually fill out a ballot but you register to vote that's already a statement to elected officials that you are paying attention. And one of the things about representative democracy is that we have to pay attention as a citizenry that's why we elect people; to go to that place called the legislature or Congress or the executive branch. We elect them to be representing what we believe. When I was uh in the House of Representatives as an elected official from East Oahu my constituency didn't always agree with me but I listened to them and I wanted to ensure that if we didn't agree I would have a reason to explain to them and so they could at least respect that I had a different position based on more information or based on other factors at the legislature. It's really important that the citizens know who they're voting for and actually make a personal connection with them. Going down to the legislature or calling them or when they're in the streets especially now running for office, asking them questions, "How do they feel about the environment?" and, "What are they going to specifically do to help the public schools?" and, "Help our children?" If one of the things they say is, "I'm in favor of education." Everybody's in favor of education. I would love an elected official to say, "I am going to put my mouth- my money where my mouth is." I'm going to vote, when I'm in office, to have a- early learning programs in every public school. I'm going to make sure that voter registration happens in senior year for every student across the state. Those are specific examples of what adults can do to show that they're supporting young people and more importantly to show young people that it matters to be an elected official. So,

you're question on how important the vote is, it's really important. It shows power, it shows caring and it shows mostly that the public is paying attention and that- that means everything.

Um. I want to thank you, you know, as a younger person who can't vote yet, that is registered to vote thank you for taking the-the time and the effort to make this topic become part of our daily conversation. Part of the reason we started Kids Voting Hawaii and We Vote Hawaii is so that children would go home and talk at the dinner table with their parents, ask their parents who they're voting for, or even though it's secret and private, discuss the issues and take leadership in their home. I believe our young people are the leaders of today not just in the future and if you could make your voices really heard through the voting process, even though it's simulated um I think adults are going to pay attention and we certainly can learn a lot from you. So thank you very much.

AV LOG - Remember to separate every writing element by rows. Please follow formatting guidelines.

CAPITALIZE NAT SOUNDS, INTERVIEWS Upper/Lowercase Reporter Track (VO)

AUDIO	VIDEO
NAT SOUNDS OF SETTING UP TENT	
Abreen Padeken is busy spending her summer cooking up a storm	
NAT SOUNDS OF FRIES FRYING	
at the Waianae Farmer's Market.	
SOUND OF SIZZLING	
her family serves crazy goodness for \$5 a bowl, but that's not the only thing that's on her plate.	
NAT SOUND OF HER PUTTING FRIES IN PLATE	
NAT - SG	
A large portion of her time is spent as Student Government President at Waianae High School.	
NAT	
She believes in the democratic process, so much so, that she's lending a helping hand to a local candidate.	
SO FAR MY FAMILY HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN SIGN WAVING AND PEP RALLIES AND WE WILL BE DOING PHONE BANKING AND THEN GOING FROM DOOR TO	ABREEN

DOOR TRYNA GET FIRST ONE ON ONE PERSON INTERACTION.	
According to The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement fact sheet, less than one third in the islands between the ages of 18 and 29 voted in the Presidential election, which was by far the worst youth turnout in the country.	[STAND UP]
HELLO?! [WAVING SIGNS]	(BREENIE)
PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHO'S GOING TO BE IN THE GOVERNMENT, WHO'S GOING TO BE WORKING FOR WHAT THEY VALUE, WHO'S GOING TO BE FIGHTING FOR THEM.	ABREEN
[ABREEN SHOUTING WOOH]	
Organizations like We Vote Hawaii, are helping to drive the fight towards civic education.	
BEEP BEEP VROOM	
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS DO NOT HAVE A PROGRAM OF CIVIC EDUCATION...IF YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT YOU-WHO YOU AND WHAT YOU VOTED FOR MADE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR DAILY LIFE NOW, NOT IN THE FUTURE, I THINK MORE PEOPLE WOULD VOTE.	
SO, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GONNA DO?	ABREEN
They help students by educating and registering them at 16 instead of 18. The hope is to prepare them for the democratic process.	
SEE IF THERE'S A BIG PUSH IN THE SCHOOLS LEADING UP TO THE 18 AND 19 YEAR OLDS ABOUT VOTING AND THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY...PEOPLE WOULD FIND IT IMPORTANT SO WHEN THEY CAME 18 YEARS OLD THEY LOOK AT IT LIKE, "WOW I CAN FINALLY VOTE!"	DANIEL PADEKEN
I BELIEVE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE THE LEADERS OF THE FUTURE AND IF YOU COULD MAKE YOUR VOICES REALLY HEARD THROUGH THE VOTING PROCESS...I THINK ADULTS ARE GOING TO PAY ATTENTION AND WE CAN CERTAINLY LEARN A LOT FROM YOU.	LYLA
NAT OF HER MUMBLING IDEAS	
I DIDN'T KNOW THE GRAVITY OF WHAT I COULD DO AS JUST ONE PERSON; WHICH IS A LOT.	ABREEN

<p>And a lot needs to be done to turn the page on a new chapter in Hawaii.</p>	
<p>NAT OF HER FLIPPING A PAGE IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT</p>	
<p>For now Abreen knows there's a lot to be done back at Wai'anae High.</p>	
<p>I WOULD LIKE TO REACH OUT TO EVERY CLUB, TALK TO THE STUDENTS AND SEE WHAT THEY NEED AND TRY TO UM RESOLVE ALL THEIR CONCERNS.</p>	<p>ABREEN</p>
<p>I CARE. I CARE ABOUT OTHERS. I CARE ABOUT MYSELF, I CARE ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON.</p>	<p>ABREEN</p>
<p><b>Diamond Tuisano, Searider News.</b></p>	