William Annin Media Center Tips for Citing and Evaluating Web Pages

Author(s):
• Must be a REAL person’s name like John Smith
• Usually found at the top or bottom of the informational text on the web page
• Many web pages do not have an author; if there is NO author, write the word None on the author line to tell yourself that you looked and there was no author.

Organization:
• Name of the company, vendor or organization that is responsible for the web page and the information on it. If there is no author, you MUST find a company or organization.
• Usually found at the bottom of the web page somewhere near the publication date but could be at the top for some web pages.

Publication Date:
• The Copyright date or Last Updated date of the web page you are taking notes from.
• Usually at the bottom of the web page (look for “copyright” or c in a circle or “last updated”)
• If not found, look for updated or copyright date on web site Home page.

Web Page Name (Title):
• It is the Name of the web page or article on the web page that you want to take notes from
• Found at the center top of the web page and describes the information on the page.
• Also found in the browser tab at the top of the screen.

Web Site Name:
• Name of Home Page of the web site. Often is the same name as the organization.
• Go to the Home Page for the web site that your web page is from (find a Home link or a logo image at top left of screen or back space URL to where the URL (address) ends with .com or .org or .gov, etc., for the web page you are on.)
• Look for the name (title) for the Home page – either in center top of the Home page or in the browser tab at the top of the Home page screen.

URL of Website:
• Address of the website Home Page – ex. http://www.nasa.gov
• Found in the URL or address bar at the top of the Home page of the website your web page is from. Ex. www.nasa.gov.