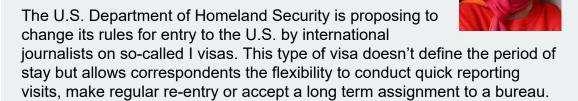


## Weekly Bulletin: Oct. 16, 2020

#### Greetings!

When you hear about foreign correspondents being denied visas by the country they cover, does China come to mind? Well, soon you may need to think about the U.S. in the same vein.



The DHS now proposes to limit I visas to 240 days, with possible extensions. This means a reporter who moves to the U.S. with her family would face the possibility of their lives being upended every eight months, creating uncertainty for all foreign journalists and inviting retaliation against U.S. correspondents based abroad.

The OPC plans to join the Foreign Press Association and other groups to protest this change, a form of press intimidation not normally seen outside authoritarian regimes. I invite you to add your voice in protest. Inside this week's Bulletin, you can find a <u>call to action from Foreign Press Association President Ian Williams</u>, who is asking for OPC members to email comments to him at <u>Ian.Williams@foreignpressassociation.org</u> for inclusion in an FPA submission to the Department of Homeland Security.

While I'm on the subject of press freedom, press clubs in Belarus have published "Stories of Violence," which features media groups testifying about torture and other mistreatment of people who peacefully protested against the disputed results of the presidential elections.

You can read all about it in the Bulletin, which also has a recap and video clips of this week's webinar with Best Cartoon Award winner Adam Zyglis of The Buffalo News. We will continue honoring our award winners with more of these Zoom sessions. Up next are the winners of the Morton Frank Award on Oct. 21, the Malcolm Forbes award on Oct. 28 and the Cornelius Ryan award on Nov. 10. You can watch live or you can catch them later on our website, opcofamerica.org.

The Bulletin also has details about many important programs that can help you practice your craft. You may know that the OPC sponsors ACOS (A Culture of Safety), an alliance of news organizations and NGOs that foster safe and responsible journalism practices. It's offering 50 journalists based in the Middle East free access to safety training. You can learn about the just-completed survey by the International Center for Journalists on the effect of COVID-19 on journalists worldwide. If your beat is climate change, you may want to join an Oct. 19 Dart Center discussion about reporting on wildfires in Australia and the U.S. Another good one: On Oct. 26, the Coalition For Women In Journalism will host a webinar to equip journalists with legal knowledge that can protect them from being arrested and impeded while reporting on politically charged issues.

OPC members have been busy of late. Wudan Yan wrote about the state of research into a "here-and-now" COVID-19 test for the October issue of Spectrum. OPC Foundation scholar Amelia Nierenberg is now a full-time newsletter writer at The New York Times. Max de Haldevang, also a foundation scholar, is now based in Mexico as a Bloomberg reporter covering economics and politics. And a third scholar, Miriam Berger, has been covering COVID news for the Washington Post. Rebecca Blumenstein of The New York Times moderated a panel at a World Economic Forum summit on sustainable development. Look inside for many more member accomplishments.

Happy reading!

Paula Dwyer, OPC President



# Best Cartoon Award Winner Shares Process and Hidden Details of his Work

By Chad Bouchard

Award-winning cartoonist Adam Zyglis has been drawing since he was five years

old. He started working from zoology books and kept sketching scenes from his life through high school and college. But it wasn't until Sept. 11, 2001 that he was driven to use his art for political commentary.

Soon, at the urging of his English professor at Canisius College, he was drawing editorial cartoons for the student newspaper, The Griffin.

"I got addicted to the weekly cartoon, this process of controlling this little space, where I could say whatever I wanted. And I started understanding the responsibility that came from that."

On Oct. 14, 2020, the OPC hosted an online program with Zyglis, who now writes for The Buffalo News, and this year won the OPC's Best Cartoon Award for best print or digital graphic journalism, including cartoons, on international affairs. His list of accolades also includes the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning.

The moderator was Rob Rogers, who served as head judge for the Best Cartoon Award jury. He won the OPC's cartoon award for 1999 and 2012.

Read the Full Recap Here

Click the window below to watch a video of the program on our YouTube channel, or click here to watch a playlist of clips.



## **Upcoming OPC Events**

All of the following programs will be held online via Zoom. RSVPs are essential. We will send Zoom links to those who register about an hour before each program. Please register early!

Oct. 21: OPC Award Winners Share Their Stories The Morton Frank Award

**Time:** Oct. 21 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Join the OPC for an online program with Rick Young, Emma Schwartz, Laura Sullivan and Fritz Kramer of FRONTLINE PBS, the team members who won this year's Morton Frank Award for best international business news reporting in TV, video, radio, audio or podcast.



Moderating will be **Jane Sasseen**, executive director of the McGraw Center for Business Journalism, who served as a judge on the Morton Frank Award jury.

The FRONTLINE team won for their piece, "Trump's Trade War," which you can watch via this link.

Judges for the award said:

"The report did an excellent job of guiding viewers through an up-close understanding of the places, from Wenzhou, China to cities in Ohio, and the people, including President Trump himself, who forged this confrontation between the United States and China."

RSVP Now

Photo, clockwise from upper left: Rick Young, Emma Schwartz, Laura Sullivan and Fritz Kramer.



# Oct. 28: OPC Award Winners Share Their Stories The Malcolm Forbes Award

**Time:** Oct. 21 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) Eastern Time

The OPC will host an online discussion with **Nick Kostov** and **Sean McLain** of The Wall Street Journal, winners of this year's Malcolm Forbes Award for best international business news reporting in newspapers, news services, magazines or digital.



Moderating the panel will be **Tim Ferguson**, business journalist and former editor of Forbes Asia, who served as head judge for the Malcolm Forbes Award jury.

Kostov and McLain won for their series of articles, "The Fall of Carlos Ghosn," which you can read on the Journal's website via the links below.

Judges for the award said:

"Through the efforts of two reporters half a world apart, working through headquarters on a third continent, the Journal owned one of the most competitive business stories of the year: The stunning arrest, downfall and, ultimately, escape of a renowned Japanese auto executive. By peeling an onion of ambitions, rivalries and self-dealing, Kostov and McLain revealed the scope of intrigue at Nissan and Renault that set Carlos Ghosn's fate in motion. Their persistent enterprise over the course of the year helped Journal readers solve a great mystery."

Why Carlos Ghosn Fell: Plotters at Nissan Feared a French Takeover

<u>Carlos Ghosn Ran a Tech Fund—Using Millions From an Executive at a Nissan Partner</u>

Without Carlos Ghosn, the Nissan-Renault Alliance Has Started to Crack

Nissan Lawyers Flag Possible Conflicts of Interest in Ghosn Probe

Nissan Audit Chief Sought to Expand Ghosn Probe—and Was Shut Down

Renault's Bolloré Called Foul on Nissan's Ghosn Probe Days Before Ouster

Renault in Talks on Nissan Stake, Hopes to Revive Fiat Deal

How Fiat Chrysler's Proposed Merger With Renault Crashed



Photo: Nick Kostov, left, and Sean McLain.

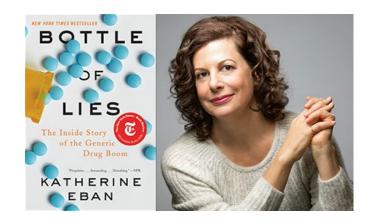


# Nov. 28: OPC Award Winners Share Their Stories The Cornelius Ryan Award

**Time:** Nov. 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Eastern Time

Please RSVP to join an online program with **Katherine Eban**, author of *Bottle of Lies: The Inside Story of the Generic Drug Boom*, which won this year's



Cornelius Ryan Award for best non-fiction book on international affairs.

Moderating the panel will be **Dan Hertzberg**, freelance journalist and former senior deputy managing editor and later deputy managing editor for international news at The Wall Street Journal, who served as head judge for the Cornelius Ryan Award jury.

Judges for the award said:

"Generic drugs are critical to the U.S. health system, making up 60 per cent of the country's drug supply—and 40 per cent of those generics are manufactured in India. In a shocking and masterful work of global investigative reporting, Katherine Eban documents the massive fraud by which Indian drug makers have evaded a fumbling U.S. FDA to sell billions of dollars in unsafe and ineffective drugs to the U.S. Eban turns it into a page turner, focusing on key figures like the courageous Indian executive turned whistleblower at the big Indian drug maker Ranbaxy and a dogged FDA inspector in India who rips aside the curtain of fraud."

RSVP Now

## Homeland Security Hits Foreign Press

by Ian Williams, OPC member and Foreign Press Association President

Almost by stealth, Homeland Security is proposing ill-considered changes that will dampen foreign reporting in the U.S. and on the U.N. - while risking provoking foreign governments to retaliate with restrictions on U.S. reporters going abroad. Foreign Reporting of the U.S. and the U.N. is about to be completely transformed with "I" visa changes that threaten the livelihoods and legality of foreign correspondents - and no one is reporting it or protesting!



The DHA is proposing that I visas be limited to a "renewable" 240 days. While thousands of students and others affected by similar visa restriction have registered objections, the press has mostly been silent. The FPA is protesting but individual correspondents and their media need to register their objections, and we only have two weeks to do it. This proposed rule change is open for comment through Oct. 26.

Unless they have residency or citizenship, foreign reporters in the U.S. operate on an "I" visa that has the flexibility to accommodate an overnight reporting trip from a neighboring country or a long-term bureau chief with family and a home in the U.S. - and, in between, correspondents who frequently visit the U.S. to report on the U.N., Wall St or Washington. Currently visa holders are admitted to the United States for the "duration of status," which does not define the period that representatives stay in the U.S. This offers the flexibility needed for a quick working visit, regular re-entry or long-term residence as in a bureau. The DHS now proposes a period of 240 days for I visa holders - with the possibility of extensions. Our feeling is that this limits the flexibility of the visa so journalists based elsewhere will need to maintain continual renewal while those based here will be faced with continual uncertainty. A longtime reporter who, for example, brings a family across will face the possibility of their life being upended every eight months.

Click here for a link to the DHS public announcement.

Click here to read the full proposal for public review on the Federal Register.

The FPA has already protested about both U.S. and PRC harassment of journalists by visa and we foresee that with increasingly hostile environment for journalism, these rule will lead to overt or covert intimidation of the foreign press, quite apart from the bureaucratic hassle of confronting the DHS at regular intervals.

Please send your comments for inclusion in the FPA submission to the DHS and please make your views known as well, both to the DHS and any legislators with whom you have contact. Please also contact your home country press officers and ask them to intervene.

Send comments to: <a href="mailto:lan.Williams@foreignpressassociation.org">lan.Williams@foreignpressassociation.org</a>

Please read Ian Williams' full call to action on the OPC website via the button below.

Read More

## **OPC Members Covering COVID-19**

OPC member Wudan Yan wrote a piece for the

October print issue of Spectrum, a trade publication for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), about the state of research into a "here-and-now" COVID-19 test. Yan, along with colleague David Schneider, wrote a deep dive into research around the world on the development of better coronavirus tests, and the prospects of breakthroughs that would identify asymptomatic infections and keep people from inadvertently spreading the virus. The piece examines the science behind several kinds of tests, identifying some of the most important recent innovations.



Please send us your personal anecdotes, photos, and links to published pieces related to COVID-19 to <a href="mailto:info@opcofamerica.org">info@opcofamerica.org</a>, and we will publish them on our website and share with members. You can also share those stories directly with members on our <a href="mailto:OPC Connect">OPC Connect</a> group on Facebook, or tweet us <a href="mailto:@opcofamerica">@opcofamerica</a>.

### **New Resources**

#### **RESOURCES**

The International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) and the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University have completed a large-scale survey of journalists since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The Journalism and the Pandemic Project is mapping the impacts of COVID-19 on journalism worldwide, using responses from more than 1,400 English-speaking journalists from 125 countries. A release about the survey called results "both startling and disturbing," saying news organizations are grappling with "a mental health crisis, financial peril, physical safety threats, and press freedom attacks, while simultaneously battling pandemic levels of disinformation." Read the findings here.

The **ICFJ** has <u>posted an archive</u> of its Global Health Crisis Reporting Forum with 55 webinar recordings now available on YouTube. The webinars cover a broad range of topics of interest to journalists covering the pandemic, from disinformation about vaccines to covering organized crime and its exploitation of COVID-19.

#### TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

On Oct. 19 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, the **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma** will host a discussion about reporting on wildfires in Australia and the US. The program will feature three journalists who have covered fires: Peter Drought, Lauren Markham and Karen Percy. Read more and register here.

On Oct. 21 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, producers of the documentary *This Is Not a Movie* will host a virtual screening of the film with a live Q&A. The documentary

follows the career of veteran Middle East correspondent Robert Fisk. The film will begin streaming live on Oct. 16, but the event on Oct. 21 will include Fisk as well as filmmaker Yung Chang and musician, activist, and author Henry Rollins. Read more and sign up for the Q&A here.

On Oct. 26 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time, the **Coalition for Women in Journalism (CFWIJ)** <u>will host</u> a webinar to equip journalists with legal knowledge that can protect them from being arrested and impeded while reporting on politically charged issues. To register, email directly to <u>press@womeninjournalism.org</u> with your full name, country you are based in, and media outlet you work for.

Applications are due by Oct. 30 for free safety training for 50 journalists based in the Middle East. The ACOS Alliance along with four of its signatory organizations are offering 30-day access to a Silk Road Training course, with access starting on Nov. 16. The offer is in partnership with Frontline Freelance Register (FFR), Gulf Center for Human Rights (GCHR), Marie Colvin Journalists' Network (MCJN) and SKeyes Center for Media and Cultural Freedom. Each participant with have access to modules covering: Trauma First Aid; Civil Unrest and Terrorism; Personal Security and Travel Safety (including digital security and gender security considerations); and Frontline Conflict Safety. The course also includes a series of five live webinars that will include interactive scenarios covering life saving first aid, civil unrest, frontline conflict safety and digital security. On completion, each participant will receive a certificate. To apply, submit our application form (in English or Arabic) by Oct. 30. The course is available in English and Arabic. Click here to read more and apply.

On Nov. 11. at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time during at the **Thomson Reuters Foundation's** virtual **Trust Conference**, several speakers will discuss the pandemic's impact on media freedom and how to counter the "COVID crackdown." Panelists will include Joel Simon of the Committee to Protect Journalists, Rana Ayyub of The Washington Post and Patricia Campos Mello of Folha de S.Paulo, with Meera Selva of Journalist Fellowship Programme at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism moderating. Read more and register here.

### More Resources

- **First Draft** has been hosting a series of presentations on COVID-19 for journalists, and you can <u>browse the archives here</u>.
- Columbia University's Brown Institute for Media Innovation has compiled a large repository of documents on COVID-19 via FOIA requests. <u>Explore the database here</u>.
- ACOS <u>assembled</u> a substantial list of COVID-19 resources for journalists, including links to practical safety advice, funding opportunities, hardship and emergency funds, and reporting resources such as guides for fact checking.
- ICFJ <u>launched</u> a page for COVID-19 resources for journalists.
- Rory Peck Trust has a <u>resource page</u> for pandemic coverage. It includes safety guidelines, funding sources, job opportunities and online training

The OPC has added these links to a special COVID-19 section on the member-

only <u>Resources</u> page available to members who have logged in. Watch that page as we share more. Click the button below to go directly, or find it in your Member Dashboard under "Resources."

If you have any issues accessing the resources page, please contact Chad Bouchard at <a href="mailto:chad@opcofamerica.org">chad@opcofamerica.org</a> for credentials.

**OPC Resources Page** 

## People by Chad Bouchard

#### **SCHOLARS**

After a successful year as a member of the first class of New York Times fellows in 2019-2020, **Amelia Nierenberg**, the Flora Lewis Fellowship winner in 2018, is now a full-time newsletter writer with the New York Times newsletter division. Currently, she is writing the Coronavirus Schools Briefing and contributing to others. Nierenberg had an OPC Foundation fellowship with The Associated Press in Dakar. The photo on the right shows Nierenberg at the 2018 OPC Foundation Scholar Awards Luncheon with longtime OPC member Jacqueline Albert Simon, who died on Aug. 10 at the age of 98.



**Max de Haldevang**, the Reuters Fellowship winner in 2015, is now based in Mexico as a reporter for Bloomberg covering economics and politics. He was formerly with Quartz in New York City. De Haldevang had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Mexico City.

2015 Stan Swinton Fellowship awardee **Miriam Berger** has been covering COVID news for The Washington Post, recently with an Oct. 13 article on a WHO statement about how trying to reach so-called herd immunity is unethical. At an Oct. 12 media briefing, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that "never in the history of public health has herd immunity been used as a strategy for responding to an outbreak, let alone a pandemic." Berger joined the Post's foreign staff in August 2019.



#### **AWARDS**

New York University's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute announced its list of Top Ten Works of Journalism of the Decade at an online event on Oct. 14. The list of 122 nominations included several journalists with OPC and OPC Foundation ties. **Sheri Fink**, a member of the New York Times team that won the 2014 Hal Boyle award for its Ebola coverage, was among the top ten for her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, Five Days At Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital, which covered the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The nominees included **Jonathan Jones**, the 2009 Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory of I.F. Stone and **Ben Taub**, the 2015 Emanuel R. Freedman Scholarship winner. Other nominees were OPC member and award winner Rukmini Callimachi, 2002 Ed Cunningham Award winner Lawrence Wright, two-time OPC Award winner T. Christian Miller, three-time OPC Award winner Evan Osnos. 2009 Morton Frank Award winner Michael Lewis. 2011 Lowell Thomas Award winner **Lourdes Garcia-Navarro**, 2012 Malcolm Forbes Award winner **David Barboza**, and 2017 Roy Rowan Award winner **Andrew R.C.** Marshall.

#### **UPDATES**

OPC member **Mort Rosenblum's** new book. Saving Our World From Trump: Mort Reports. was published last month in time for electionseason reading. Rosenblum wrote about Trump's authoritarian tactics and how they mirror that of other democracies that have slid into dictatorship. "Today, a grasping megalomaniac sees the map as a Monopoly board and cons his cultists into believing that he dominates it," he wrote. "Americans who oppose him focus on crisis at home, with scant attention to his global depredations that threaten human survival." Rosenblum formerly served as editor of the International Herald Tribune in Paris and spent four decades with The Associated Press based in Kinshasa, Lagos, Singapore and Buenos

SAVING OUR WORLD FROM TRUMP



Mort Reports
Non-Prophet Journalism

Mort Rosenblum

Aires. He was the AP's chief international correspondent for 21 years.

OPC member **Judith Matloff** filed a story on Oct. 5 for The Daily Beast about a segment of so-called preppers that are stockpiling firearms and ammunition as the country faces a fresh wave of pandemic lockdowns and rising fear of political violence. She cited several examples of preppers posting incendiary comments about the need to defend against antifa and leftist mobs if the country descends into "times of



desperation and social unrest." Matloff reported that on the 25 most popular prepper websites, she had seen a significant uptick in articles about purchasing firearms during a pandemic and "more warnings than usual of 'SHTF' (Shit Hits the Fan.)" Matloff teaches crisis reporting at Columbia's Graduate School of Journalism. Her latest book, *How to Drag a Body and Other Safety Tips You* 

Hope to Never Need, covers survival tips gleaned from her career working in conflict zones.

OPC member **Rebecca Blumenstein** of The New York Times moderated a panel at the World Economic Forum Sustainable Development Impact Summit on new forms of collective action on social justice and sustainability around the world. The session, titled Mobilizing New Power for Change, covered Black Lives Matter protests against police brutality, public awareness of the Brazilian rainforest fires, and consumer advocacy related to the Australian bushfires and deforestation in Kenya. Speakers included Michelle Miller of Coworker.org, Joao Paulo Brotto Gonçalves Ferreira of Natura and Co, Wanjuhi Njoroge of Nairobi Hub and Clarke Murphy of Russell Reynolds Associates Inc.



Roger Cohen, winner of the OPC's 1994 Eric and Amy Burger Award, will head to Paris to serve as the New York Times' bureau chief. Cohen is a veteran foreign correspondent with more than three decades at the Times. He covered the Balkan Wars early in his career, and won his OPC award for reporting on a Serbian-run concentration camp for Bosnians. He served as correspondent in Paris for the paper in 1994 to 1998, when he moved to Berlin as bureau chief. He started writing a column for The International Herald Tribune, and in 2009 became columnist for the Times. The Eric and Amy Burger Award honored the best international reporting in any medium dealing with human rights. He is slated to begin his new post in Paris in December.

Hannah Allam of NPR, a 2005 OPC award winner and head judge of this year's Madeline Dane Ross Award, reported on Oct. 8 about the alleged plot to violently overthrow the government of Michigan and kidnap Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Allam, who covers extremism for NPR, told All Things Considered host Audie Cornish that the FBI had confidential informants and undercover personnel involved in the investigation from an early stage this summer, which gives reporters "a fascinating window into this alleged plot through group chats and audio recordings that are in the court papers." The group ultimately planned to abduct Whitmer, take her to Wisconsin, and stage a mock trial. Allam said among militias "there is infighting right now on the use of violence, how much to partner with organizations that are more explicitly racist and explicitly violent than some of the more self-described constitutionalist militias." Allam was part of a team that won the Hal Boyle Award in 2005 for coverage of the Iraq war.

**People Column October 2020** 

## Press Freedom Update

Press freedom advocates are applauding the move to bring two ISIS fighters to stand trial in the U.S. for their alleged role in kidnapping, torturing and executing Western hostages including journalists **James Foley** and **Steven Sotloff**, as well as humanitarian aid workers **Peter Kassig** and **Kayla Mueller**. Families of the victims have been calling for the extraditions of Alexanda Kotey and El Shafee Elsheikh, dubbed "Beatles" by captives because of their British accents, the two detainees currently in U.S. military custody in Iraq. The U.S. Justice Department waived the death penalty against the two former British citizens, which allowed the U.K. to share key evidence in the prosecution. An Oct. 7 <u>statement</u> from the James W. Foley Legacy Foundation said a trial in the U.S. would be a first step in "the pursuit of justice for the alleged horrific human rights crimes against these four young Americans, who saw the suffering of the Syrian people and wanted to help, whether by providing humanitarian aid or by telling the world about the evolving Syrian crisis."

Reporters Without Borders, known by its French acronym RSF, joined other press freedom groups on Oct. 8 in denouncing ongoing violations of free speech and press freedom in Brazil, saying that in a recent meeting with civil society groups, representatives of Brazil's Bolsonaro administration dismissed violence inflicted on journalists. The representatives called those attacks a "divergence of opinion" and said social isolation measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic "hurt the rights" of the population. RSF's Camila Konder said in a statement that while political attacks on the press is not a novel trend, "in Brazil, since the redemocratization, we have never seen a system so structured and so aggressive. These are attacks to discredit journalism and sow distrust of the press in society."

The Washington Post Press Freedom Partnership has released its 10 most pressing cases for October.

This month, the list highlights the cases of Solafa Magdy in Egypt, Gulmire Imin in China, Maria Ressa in the Philippines, Daysi Lizeth Mina Huaman in Peru, Nouf Abdulaziz in Saudi Arabia, Nada Sabouri in Iran, Daphne Caruana Galizia in Malta, Frenchiemae Cumpio in the Philippines, the Iwacu team in Burundi and Andrea Sahouri in the U.S.

Read more about each of these cases in the Press Freedom Partnership newsletter via the button below.

Read More







