



Overseas Press Club  
*of America*

## Bulletin Oct. 29, 2021

Greetings!

I'm thrilled to report that your club held its live, in-person awards dinner on Oct. 22, the first one in two-and-a-half years. And by all accounts it was a smashing success. About 250 people attended the black-tie gala, including most of the award winners. We celebrated their work as well as that of the 2020 winners, who were deprived by the pandemic of a dinner in their honor. CNN's John Avlon was a fabulous emcee and Maggie Haberman delivered a thoughtful keynote address on the challenging environment journalists face at home and abroad.



This issue of the Bulletin has a recap of the glitzy evening, which you can [watch in its entirety here](#). If you missed this year's dinner, don't fret – pandemic willing, we will return to our regular schedule with our next awards dinner already set for April 21, 2022.

I'm also pleased to announce that the OPC is joining with other media organizations to [raise funds](#) for Afghan journalists who are now refugees in the U.S. and elsewhere. The money will be used in a variety of ways, including to find media companies that can provide jobs or internships, provide much-needed mentoring or to just tide these journalists over until they can figure out their next steps.

Please help us help these people, whose lives have been upended because they were doing what we do every day without a second thought — inform readers, listeners and viewers about the actions of government officials, schools, religious leaders and businesses. Details on how you can contribute are inside this Bulletin.

We have some exciting programs coming up, including one to be held [on Dec. 8](#) in Paris at the American Library. It will feature a panel of prominent European and American journalists who will discuss the fragile state of the European-U.S. alliance.

This issue also provides details on other upcoming programs, resources you can use and news about your colleagues. Happy reading!

Paula Dwyer  
OPC President

## Assistance for Afghan Journalists

Please support the OPC's efforts to help Afghan journalists who are resettling outside of the country, and spread the word using the hashtag [#OPCAfghanAppeal](#).

[Read More and Donate](#)



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of America

**THREE WAYS  
YOU CAN HELP  
THE OPC HELP  
AFGHAN  
JOURNALISTS**

- 1** Use this QR code to donate with your credit card:  

- 2** Use this URL to pay by credit card or PayPal:  
<https://bit.ly/OPCAfghanAppeal>
- 3** Mail a check to the OPC:  
40 West 45th Street  
New York, NY 10036



## PLEASE HELP



Hundreds of Afghan journalists have been forced to flee their own country and start a new life from scratch, often with their families.

**OPC Afghan Appeal**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Dec. 8: OPC Panel in Paris - Are the US and Europe Drifting Apart?

**Time:** In Paris, doors open at 7:00 p.m. Central European Summer Time  
Via Zoom, the program will begin at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time

**Please watch for an OPC email soon with updated information on how to watch remotely via Zoom.**

**Place:** American Library: 10 Rue du Général Camou, 75007, Paris (and streamed online)

The OPC and the American Library in Paris are closing out a big news year with a panel of journalists. With Germany and France both in political churn, one issue hangs over the EU: Will its unquestioned alliance with the U.S. survive? Each is cutting its own path on everything from nuclear subs, Big Tech, climate, and China. Can this marriage be saved?

Panelists:

- **Liz Alderman**, chief European business correspondent for The New York Times.
- **Ulysse Gosset**, foreign affairs correspondent for BFM-TV.
- **Michaela Wiegel**, correspondent for Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.
- **Vivienne Walt**, OPC Governor and Paris correspondent for TIME & Fortune.
- **Stanley Pignal**, European correspondent for The Economist.

The moderator will be **David A. Andelman**, Past OPC President, CNN columnist and former CBS News Paris correspondent.

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### Ongoing: Christopher Dickey Exhibit at Brooklyn Bridge Park

**Date:** Through Dec. 1.

**Place:** Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier 6

The Photoville exhibit to celebrate Christopher Dickey's life and work will continue to be on display through Dec. 1 at Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Click the button below to read more and see a

slideshow of images OPC Executive Director Patricia Kranz took at the exhibit's opening on Sept 18.

The display is presented by the OPC and the Christopher Dickey Family, curated by Sandra M. Stevenson, J. David Ake, Deidre Depke and Kranz.

"A dashing and brave foreign correspondent who gave his life to telling the story of our world, Christopher Dickey could have been a character in one of his excellent novels," said the historian Jon Meacham, who was Newsweek's editor during Dickey's time as Paris bureau chief. "Thankfully for the rest of us, he was the real deal—a chronicler of war and espionage, royalty and power, terror and hope."

[Read More](#)

Photo, above right: A detail of the exhibit banner shows a young Bob Nickelsberg, longtime OPC member, with a young Chris Dickey. The caption reads: "With Guatemalan soldiers in Santa Cruz Del Quiche, January 1982. Other journalists are Bob Nickelsberg and Dial Torgerson."



## Awards Dinner Spotlights Exceptional International Reporting During COVID

by J.p. Lawrence

Foreign correspondents, proof of vaccination on hand, gathered to honor extraordinary reporting after two years of disruption gripped and fundamentally altered the world.

The OPC Annual Awards Dinner on Oct. 22 in lower Manhattan was the first in-person ceremony for the group since the coronavirus pandemic began last year.

The stories honored at the event came from journalists taking risks to report the



truth during a pandemic and as authoritarian governments tightened restrictions on reporting, OPC President Paula Dwyer said.

“Our occupation has always been on a rough-and-tumble playing field, and most journalists are pretty tough skinned, but sadly it was harder and more life-threatening to practice our trade,” Dwyer said.

[Read the Full Recap on the OPC Website](#)

## PHOTOS & VIDEO: OPC Annual Awards

Click the blue button below to see a page of photos and videos from the OPC’s 82th Annual Awards.

Please take a look at our event coverage on this multimedia page, where you can see a slideshow of festive photos, all of the pre-recorded acceptance remarks, or click on photo tiles to link directly to each of the 22 award pages.



**OPC President Paula Dwyer honors Christopher Dickey, a long-time OPC member and Governor who died in July 2020, with this year's President's Award.**



**New York Times correspondent Maggie Haberman delivers the keynote speech.**



**Michael Williams, global enterprise editor at Reuters, lights the Candle of Remembrance for journalists killed or persecuted in recent years with a special honor for Danish Siddiqui, Reuters chief photographer who died on in July 2021 while reporting on rising violence during Afghanistan's takeover by the Taliban.**

[Watch Videos and See Photos from the Annual Awards Diner](#)

Click the window below to watch the whole awards program in its entirety.



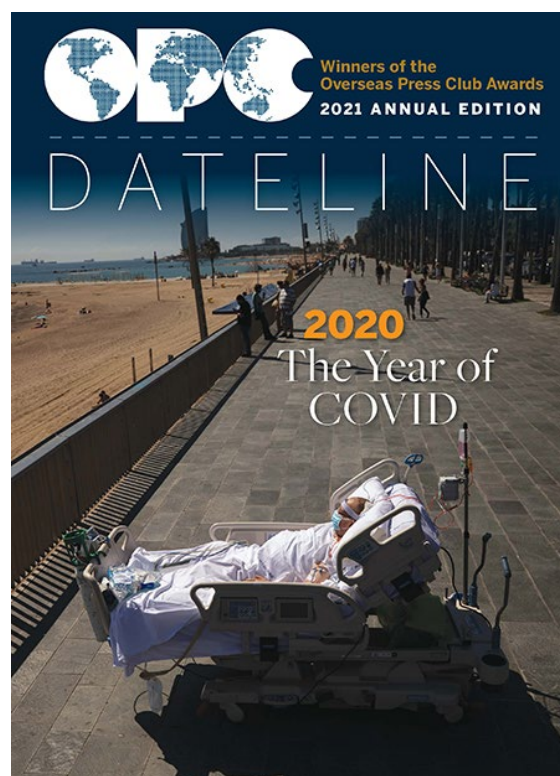
## Dateline Magazine

This year's Dateline magazine, an annual publication the OPC publishes in conjunction with the awards, is available to view or download as a PDF.

Click the image on the right to open a copy directly, or click the blue button below to browse past issues, including this year's.

Email [patricia@opcofamerica.org](mailto:patricia@opcofamerica.org) if you wish to have a hard copy mailed to you.

The 2021 issue includes information about all of the year's award winners and winning photos, and statements from OPC President Paula Dwyer and OPC Third Vice President Scott Kraft, who served as chair of the Awards



Committee.

[Browse the Dateline Archives](#)

## Welcome New Members

**Abdulrahman A. Alkhiary**  
**(Wajeeh Lion)**

External Affairs  
Institute for Gulf Affairs  
Kansas City, MO  
Active Non-Resident, Young (29 and under)



**Neha Thirani Bagri**

Freelance  
Mumbai, India  
Active Overseas, Young (30-34)



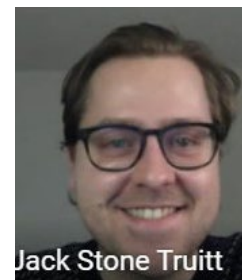
**Debanjali Bose**

Associate Editor  
Insider/Business Insider  
New York  
Active Resident, Young (29 and under)

# People by Chad Bouchard

## SCHOLARS

**Jack Stone Truitt**, the 2021 Schweisberg Scholarship winner, is now a reporter in the New York bureau of Nikkei Asia. After a summer internship, he was hired full-time and is covering the intersection of Wall Street and Asia with an emphasis on China. He will also help them launch a podcast.



**Jonas Ekblom**, the Reuters Fellowship winner in 2019, is now a business journalist and photographer for Bloomberg News. Previously, he was a business reporter at Swedish daily Svenska Dagbladet. Ekblom had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Brussels, following an internship in the Reuters bureau in Washington, D.C.



**Sarah Wu**, the 2019 Roy Rowan Scholarship winner, is now a reporter in the Reuters bureau in Taiwan. Wu had been a reporter in the Hong Kong bureau where she had an OPC Foundation fellowship two years ago.



**Olivia Crellin**, the Theo Wilson Scholarship winner in 2014, is now a freelance producer, on-air reporter and documentary filmmaker working primarily for the BBC World Service in London. She is the founder and CEO of [Press Pad UK](#), which is working to lower the barrier for entry into journalism. Next month, Crellin is joining the faculty of Oxford Brookes University as a part time senior lecturer in multimedia journalism.



**Eva Dou**, one of several OPC Foundation winners now working in China as correspondents, drove from Beijing to Wuhan to investigate possible origins of COVID-19 for [an Oct. 11](#) story in The Washington Post, sharing a byline with colleague Michael Standaert. Dou won the Standard & Poor's Award for Economic and Business in Reporting 2013. The Post story followed an announcement from the World Health Organization naming a panel of 26 scientists from around the world dedicated to investigating the origins of COVID-19 and preventing future outbreaks. The story says that in a September trip to Enshi near Wuhan, a reporter observed "human traffic into Enshi caves, including domestic tourism, spelunking and villagers replacing a drinking water pump inside a cave. Defunct



wildlife farms sat as close as one mile from the entrances.” Other foundation winners working in China include Lingling Wei for The Wall Street Journal, winner of the 2001 Reuters award; Dake Kang for The Associated Press, winner of the 2016 Fritz Beebe Fellowship; and Yu Sun for the Financial Times, winner of the 2008 S&P award.

**Ben Hubbard**, the 2007 Stan Swinton Scholarship winner who now serves as Beirut bureau chief for The New York Times, wrote a piece [on Oct. 24](#) outlining an incident in which his cell phone was hacked. He worked with Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto, a research institute that studies spyware. Hubbard’s experience highlights the rise of an unregulated and shadowy global spyware industry, “which sells surveillance tools to governments to help them fight crime and track terrorists,” but is also used against activists and journalists.



## UPDATES

**Nicholas Kristof**, an OPC member who has worked as reporter, editor and columnist for The New York Times for 37 years, is [leaving](#) the newspaper and has filed to organize a candidate committee in a run for governor of his home state of Oregon. Kristof, a former Beijing bureau chief, won two OPC awards including the 2011 Best Online Commentary and the 1989 Hal Boyle Award along with his wife Sheryl WuDunn. He has also won two Pulitzer Prizes, among many other accolades during his career. In an [Oct. 27 piece](#), Kristof chronicled some highlights of his career, and said “it’s fair to question my judgment. When my colleague William Safire was asked if he would give up his Times column to be secretary of state, he replied, ‘Why take a step down?’” He later talked about grappling over whether to “engage more fully in America’s democratic life,” a question that rose to the surface again as he researched his book, [Tightrope](#), co-written with WuDunn, which focuses on challenges facing America’s working class and highlights Kristof’s home town of Yamhill, Oregon. He and WuDunn have spoken about *Tightrope* and other books at OPC Book Nights in recent years. Yamhill served as an example in the book of communities facing rampant job losses, drugs, suicide, alcohol, obesity and reckless accidents. “While I’m proud of the attention I gave to global atrocities, it sickened me to return from humanitarian crises abroad and find one at home,” Kristof said in his farewell column. “I’m bucking the journalistic impulse to stay on the sidelines because my heart aches at what classmates have endured and it feels like the right moment to move from covering problems to trying to fix them.”



A court in Pennsylvania [on Oct. 21](#) convicted a man of impersonating OPC Governor and New York Times reporter **Liam Stack** as part of a sham email campaign. Nikolaos Hatziefstathiou was convicted of creating emails from fake accounts in Stack’s name as well as ABC News correspondent Stephanie Walsh. Posing as Stack and Walsh, he sent messages to a district attorney asking about information about alleged police harassment against Hatziefstathiou, who is also



known as “Nik the Hat.” He was also convicted of forging a racist email posing as a local official and publishing it on his website. In an [Oct. 23 tweet](#) linking to a Philadelphia Inquirer article, Stack said “here is how I’ve spent the last few weeks: I was subpoenaed to testify in the criminal trial of” Hatziefsthathiou.

OPC member **Clarissa McNair** shared with the Bulletin that she has purchased a place in Palermo, Sicily, and would soon embark for her new life in Italy. “When the 3rd Hudson River Valley house fell through, I wrote in big letters on a piece of typing paper: WHAT DO YOU REALLY WANT?” McNair wrote in an email.

“Suddenly I knew I wanted to live in Italy again.” McNair, who is a freelancer, private detective and author, added that she is working with an Italian detective who has many contacts, as well as a former Scotland Yard contact in London and private investigators in Paris and Tel Aviv. “I am also going to be working with a group that combats the Mafia which will be very, very interesting,” McNair wrote. She will continue writing and producing her show for World Radio Paris, which is broadcast in Paris and on the Cote d’Azur. McNair describes [Basic Black](#) as “vignettes of crime, scandal, and death.”



**Valerie Hopkins**, an OPC member who was also winner of the OPC Foundation’s Jerry Flint Internship for International Business in 2013, filed a long-form story for The News York Times [on Oct. 1](#) about Russia’s first royal wedding since the imperial monarchy came to a bloody end in during the Bolshevik revolution. Hopkins, who is based in Moscow, observed the event where some of Europe’s noble families gathered to celebrate the wedding since of Grand Duke George Mikhailovich Romanov, a descendant of the Russian imperial throne, and his Italian partner, Rebecca Bettarini. “No member of the Romanov family ever thought we would come back here,” Hopkins quoted the groom as saying in an interview. She has filed many stories over the last month, covering reactions to the Nobel Peace Prize going to the founder of the independent newspaper Novaya Gazeta [on Oct. 8](#), updates on vaccination progress in Russia, and workplace closures amid a surge in COVID-19 cases filed [on Oct. 20](#).



**Bhat Burhan**, a freelance journalist based in New Delhi whose work the OPC supported with a micro-grant earlier this year, has been [nominated](#) for a 2021 Free Press Award. Buran was named as a nominee for the Newcomer of the Year - Hans Verploeg Award, which honors “work in very challenging environments, but show great motivation and talent in their ambition to inform their public.” It is one of two categories in the annual awards. The other award is for Most Resilient Journalist Award. The winner in the Newcomer category will receive 1,500 euros. Winners will be announced on Nov. 2 during a ceremony at The Hague.



**Lourdes Garcia-Navarro**, an OPC award winner who has worked for NPR since 2004, [is joining](#) The New York Times' Opinion Audio team as anchor of a new podcast centered on "the personal side of opinion." She [wrote](#) in a tweet at the end of September that she is "thrilled to open up a new chapter doing what I love: telling real stories about people and how they move in the world and why they think the way they do." Garcia-Navarro, who also goes by Lulu, was previously a longtime international correspondent based in the Middle East and Latin America for NPR and most recently served as host of Weekend Edition and the podcast UpFirst. She was on an NPR team that won the 2011 Lowell Thomas Award for coverage of the Arab Spring.

## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

**James A. Baar**, a former OPC member, died [on Oct. 3](#) at the age of 92. Baar was a reporter and editor in United Press International's Washington, DC bureau and later was the senior editor at Missiles & Rockets magazine. In 2019, Who's Who presented Baar with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award for more than 60 years as an author, public relations executive, and journalist. In his communications career, he served as CEO of four major public relations agencies, and was corporate communications officer for Computervision, managing director of communications for General Electric's European operations, and managed other GE public relations operations in the United States. He was also president and managing consultant of Omegacom Communications in Providence, Rhode Island. He also lectured on communications and the perils of "spinspeak" as adjunct or guest lecturer at Northeastern University, New York University, Babson College, Boston University, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and the State University of New York.



People Column Oct. 29

## New Resources

### TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The **Fordham University Department of Communications and Media Studies** will host a session on Zoom on Nov. 3 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time to present the Ann M. Sperber Prize to Lesley Blume and Kerri Greenidge, who will discuss their winning books. Read more and get the Zoom link to join via the graphic on the right. No RSVP is required. For questions,


contact OPC Governor Beth Knobel:  
knobel@fordham.edu.

2021 SPERBER BOOK PRIZE CEREMONY


**FORDHAM UNIVERSITY**  
invites you to attend our virtual ceremony awarding this year's winners of the Sperber Book Prize

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**DISCUSSIONS WITH AUTHORS**



**Lesley Blume**  
Award-winning journalist and a *New York Times* bestselling author  
Recipient of the Sperber Book Prize for her book *Fallout: The Hiroshima Cover Up and the Reporter Who Revealed It to the World*



**Kerri Greenidge**  
Mellon Assistant Professor, Dept. of Studies in Race, Colonialism, and Diaspora, Tufts University  
Awarded the Sperber Book Prize for her book *Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter*

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FEATURING TALKS FROM THE AUTHORS AND BOOK GIVEAWAYS FOR ATTENDEES

**WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 3  
AT 6PM**

**JOIN US:**  
<https://fordham.zoom.us/j/82621676684and-zzAASVEqTU0FNMtLIBZXRNXYV0QT09L>

Questions? Please contact Prize Director Dr. Beth Knobel at [knobel@fordham.edu](mailto:knobel@fordham.edu)

From Nov. 16 to 18 in London (in-person), **VICE Media** is offering a limited number of free spots for freelance journalists to participate in one of their in-house Media Safety Trainings (also known as Hostile Environments and First aid Training, or HEFAT). The deadline to apply is Nov. 2. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **Poynter Institute** will host a virtual Celebration of Journalism gala [on Nov. 10](#) at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The evening will include an interview with CBS 60 Minutes correspondent Lesley Stahl, recipient of the Poynter Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism. [Read more and buy tickets here.](#)

The **International Center for Journalists (ICFJ)** will host its annual Knight International Journalism Awards on Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time. The organization will honor Brazilian fact checker Natália Leal of Agência Lupa, and Czech reporter Pavla Holcová, who investigated the murder of a colleague. The ICFJ will also honor Bill Whitaker of CBS News' 60 Minutes, and Anne Applebaum of The Atlantic. [Read more and register here.](#)

The **International Journalists' Network (IJNet)** has posted a webinar from Oct. 13 about Fellowships, Opportunities and the Future of Science Journalism. Presenters included Milica Momčilović, the president of the World Federation of Science Journalists (WFSJ) and Tim Lougheed, executive director of WFSJ. [Watch the webinar here.](#)

## GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Two non-profit journalism organizations, the **Global Reporting Centre** at the University of British Columbia and London-based **The Citizens**, have launched investigative fellowships of \$5,000 to \$20,000 Canadian dollars for journalists and aspiring reporters who propose stories about big tech and government

accountability. The fellowship is open to freelance and employed journalists, established veterans and upcoming journalists. The deadline to apply is Nov. 30. [Click here to read more and apply.](#)

**The Pointer Institute**, in partnership with Facebook, has launched the Climate Misinformation Grant Program, an initiative “to support organizations working to combat false and misleading information about climate change.” Up to \$800,000 will be awarded, with individual grants up to \$100,000. The deadline to apply is Nov. 26. [Read more and apply here.](#)

**Journalismfund.eu** has launched a pilot project to offer grants for science journalists. The program will support projects “that have great newsworthiness and depth but that cannot be realized in regular media. The projects should be original, innovative and time-consuming and must involve investigative reporting on science and its impact on society.” The deadline to apply is Nov. 5. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting** is calling for applications for reporting fellowships on gender equality, justice and climate science. Applicants may propose projects on multiple platforms—text and/or multimedia, including video, audio, and documentary photography. Winners will be awarded a \$3,000 stipend and receive mentorship from the Pulitzer Center staff and grantees. The deadline for applications is Nov. 1. [Read more and apply here.](#)

## More Resources

- **First Draft** has been hosting a series of presentations on COVID-19 for journalists, and you can browse the archives [here](#).
- The **Columbia University’s Brown Institute for Media Innovation** has compiled a large repository of documents on COVID-19 via FOIA requests. [Explore the database here.](#)
- **ACOS** [assembled](#) 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** [launched](#) a page for COVID-19 resources for journalists.
- **Rory Peck Trust** has a [resource page](#) 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 Resources 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 [chad@opcofamerica.org](mailto:chad@opcofamerica.org) for credentials.**

OPC Resources Page

