



Overseas Press Club  
*of America*

## Bulletin March 31, 2022

### Greetings!

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Bulletin. Please note that time is running short to purchase tickets for the [Annual Awards Dinner on April 21](#).

Please secure your spot now to attend the OPC's flagship event to celebrate exceptional work in international journalism. Read more and find the RSVP button below [and here](#).

Also in this week's issue, read the results of the OPC's second round of grants for Afghan journalists in the U.S. Catch up on member and OPC Foundation scholar news in our People column, including an update on Juan Arredondo, the 2020 winner of the Harper's Scholarship who was wounded in Ukraine earlier this month in an attack by Russian forces, and information about this year's Flora Lewis Award winner, Rana Ayyub, a Washington Post columnist who was barred from boarding a flight from India to London on March 29.

Plus, more OPC member news, and opportunities and training in the Resources section.

## Overseas Press Club Issues Second Tranche of Afghan Journalist Grants

The OPC announces that it is making grants of \$4,000 each to 17 Afghan journalists who have taken refuge in the United States, raising the total it has given to \$133,000. The most recent round of grants was made possible through generous support from the Ford Foundation as well as gifts from members.

“The world’s attention may have shifted to Ukraine, but Afghan journalists are still in crisis eight months after Kabul fell to the Taliban,” OPC President Paula Dwyer said. “We’re pleased to be able to help them transition to life in America.” Of the 17 new winners, nine are women. The Hazara, Tajik and Pashtoon ethnic groups are all represented. Three winners asked not to be identified publicly because of possible retaliatory action by the Taliban against family members left behind.

The OPC first issued grants in January of up to \$3,000 to 16 Afghan journalists. Those grants were made possible through contributions from the Poklon Foundation and individual OPC members. Those winners have now received fresh funds to bring their totals to \$4,000 apiece. With the 17 new recipients, the OPC has now assisted 33 journalists ranging in age from 22 to 50. They live throughout the U.S., though some are still on U.S. military bases.

Many of those who received grants in the second round narrowly escaped after the Taliban seized power. “At Kabul airport, I was confronted with the ill-treatment of the Taliban, who called us as traitors and slaves of the West,” Abas Asadiyan, who worked for the Etilaatroz newspaper, wrote in his application to the OPC. “I could only think about how the 20 years of efforts of a generation of journalists were wasted and their destiny played with.”

Click the button below to read recipient names and those who served on the judging committee.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April 21: 83rd Annual Awards Dinner

**DATE:** April 21, 2022

**LOCATION:** Cipriani, 25 Broadway,  
New York City

Please join the OPC on April 21 for the 83rd Annual Awards Dinner to celebrate international journalism.

The keynote speaker will be **Lulu Garcia-Navarro**, Host, NYT

Opinion.

A cocktail reception, sponsored by Reuters, will begin at 6:00 p.m. The dinner and program will start at 7:00 p.m., featuring acceptance videos from this year's winners in 22 award categories.

You can pay by credit card after clicking on the image or RSVP button below, or send checks to the OPC at 40 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036.

Please follow us on Twitter [@opcofamerica](https://twitter.com/opcofamerica) and tweet using [#OPCAwards83](https://twitter.com/OPCAwards83).



The poster for the 83rd Annual Awards Dinner of the Overseas Press Club of America. It features a dark green background with purple and gold bokeh lights. At the top is the OPC logo and the text 'Overseas Press Club of America'. Below that, in large white letters, is 'YOU ARE INVITED' followed by '83rd AWARDS DINNER'. A gold seal says 'Honoring the Best in International Journalism'. The date 'April 21, 2022' is in gold script, and the venue 'CIPRIANI 25 Broadway' is in white. A purple banner states 'Proof of vaccination is required.' Below this, the 'Keynote Speaker' is Lulu Garcia-Navarro, Host, NYT Opinion, The New York Times. The 'Awards Presenter' is John Avlon, Senior Political Analyst and Anchor, New Day, CNN. The 'Cocktail Reception 6:00pm' is sponsored by Reuters. The 'Dinner and Program 7:00pm' is also listed. Ticket prices are: Individual Dinner Tickets Member \$295, Member's Guest \$295 (limit of one at this price), Non-Member \$750. There is an 'EXTRA' section for a 'VIP Reception with Winners and OPC Governors 5:30 pm' with individual tickets at \$100. A 'Buy Tickets Now' button and 'BLACK TIE' text with a bow tie icon are at the bottom. Contact information for Patricia Kranz is at the very bottom.

**OPC**  
Overseas Press Club  
of America

**YOU ARE INVITED**

**83<sup>rd</sup> AWARDS DINNER**

*Honoring the Best in International Journalism*

**April 21, 2022**  
**CIPRIANI**  
25 Broadway

*Proof of vaccination is required.*

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Lulu Garcia-Navarro**  
Host, NYT Opinion  
The New York Times

**Awards Presenter**  
**John Avlon**  
Senior Political Analyst and Anchor  
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**Cocktail Reception 6:00pm**  
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**INDIVIDUAL DINNER TICKETS**  
Member \$295  
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**EXTRA**  
**VIP Reception with Winners and OPC Governors 5:30 pm**  
Individual tickets \$100

Mail a check to the OPC at  
40 West 45th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
or buy them online at  
[bit.ly/OPC\\_RSVP21](https://bit.ly/OPC_RSVP21)

**Buy Tickets Now**

**BLACK TIE**

For more information, please contact OPC  
Executive Director Patricia Kranz 212.626.9220 or 917.971.0746

RSVP Now



## April 26: The French Election, Analyzed

**TIME:** 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time, 7:30 p.m. in Paris.

**LOCATION:** Online via Zoom, and in-person at the Reading Room of the American Library in Paris, 10, rue du Général Camou.

The Overseas Press Club of America (OPC) and the American Library in Paris will convene to discuss the outcome of the 2022 French presidential election. Broadly seen as a litmus test for the rising tide of populism across Europe, the results of this election may determine the future of the European Union and its

international vision. At stake is the identity of the Fifth Republic: will the French people align themselves with Macron's image of France as the center of European partnership, or with the nationalist picture of a once-strong France in decline? What will happen to immigration, secularism, security, and social cohesion in France in the election's wake?

Panelists:

**Vivienne Walt**, OPC Governor and Paris correspondent for TIME & FORTUNE.

**Stanley Pignal**, Brussels bureau chief and columnist on European affairs for The Economist.

Additional speakers to be determined.

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

RSVP Now



## To Come: More 'How I Did It' Programs

The OPC is organizing more 'How I Did It' programs in the coming months with journalists and their editors or producers discussing the reporting process and challenges behind the scenes of exceptional work.

The series launched with a [program in February](#) with documentary filmmaker Nadja Drost and California Sunday Magazine editor Kit Rachlis.

Stay tuned for details in upcoming Bulletins and event reminders.

## Welcome New Member

**Ahmer Khan**

Freelance

Srinagar, India

Active Overseas, Young (29 or under)

## People by Chad Bouchard

### SCHOLARS

**Juan Diego Arredondo**, the 2020 winner of the OPC Foundation's Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory I.F.

Stone, has returned to the U.S. after surviving gunshot wounds from an attack in Ukraine in which his colleague, Brent Renaud, was shot and killed. Arredondo [spoke](#) to CNN's Anderson Cooper while receiving treatment at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital. He recounted events on the day of the attack, when he and colleagues were trying to cross a bridge that was part of what he said was designated as a "humanitarian corridor" for those fleeing violence. "I saw in the trenches two [soldiers]. One of them pulled out [an AK-47], and I just shouted 'we're getting shot!'" he told Cooper.



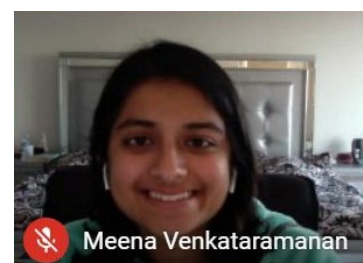
The 2022 Edith Lederer Scholarship winner, **Emma Tobin**, landed a photo in The Wall Street Journal [on March 24](#) accompanying a story about the safety status of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine for children. She took the photo for The Associated Press. In a tweet, Tobin shared a photo of the paper, saying "my dad excitedly sent me a photo of his morning @WSJ this week when he realized I took the photo he was looking at. Always fun seeing how far @AP travels."



**Euan Ward**, the 2022 winner of the Rick Davis-Deb Amos scholarship, was [named](#) the international reporting fellow for the 2022-2023 New York Times Fellowship Class. Currently at Columbia Journalism School, he formerly was based in Beirut where he reported for a number of news organizations including The Guardian, CNN and Al-Arabiya. Last year, Ward led a cross-border investigation for The Guardian into the abuse of "golden passport" schemes by the world's rich and powerful.



**Meena Venkataramanan**, the Emanuel R. Freedman Scholarship winner in 2021, published a review [on March 22](#) in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette of Sindya Bhanoo's book of short stories, *Seeking Fortune Elsewhere*, which uses the structure of the American road trip to explore narratives focused on Indian immigrants, particularly Tamil women and their children.



**Kimon de Greef**, the David R. Schweisberg Scholarship winner in 2020, has an article in The New Yorker posted [on March 21](#) about psychedelic toad smoking and a divisive self-styled healer who popularized the practice. He wrote about a practice amplified by Octavio Rettig, a charismatic Mexican doctor who took the stage at the Burning Man festival in Nevada in 2013 to talk about what he called "the ultimate experience." De Greef wrote that smoking the dried excretions of the psychedelic toad has been likened to "being strapped to the nose of a rocket that flies into the sun and evaporates."





## UPDATES

**Rana Ayyub**, a columnist for The Washington Post who earlier this month was named winner of the OPC's Flora Lewis Award, was barred from boarding a flight to London [on March 29](#) as she was departing for an International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) event in which she was scheduled to deliver a keynote address on violence and targeting of women journalists in India. She also received an email summons from the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which investigates financial crimes, an hour after she reached the airport. Ayyub was to receive an award and address the newsroom of the Guardian newspaper on April 1. Indian media have reported that Ayyub has been told to appear for questioning in the case on April 1. Press freedom advocates and supporters have been calling for her release under the hashtag [#LetRanaFly](#). Ayyub won the Flora Lewis Award for her commentary writing about Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's systematic persecution of the Muslim minority.



OPC Governor **Marjorie Miller**, vice president and global enterprise editor at The Associated Press, has been named administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes. In a [March 31 announcement](#) Lee C. Bollinger, the President of Columbia University and a Pulitzer Prize board member, said Miller "has spent her long and successful career covering the complex and consequential forces shaping our global society," and added that he "cannot think of a better steward for the Pulitzer Prizes." Miller said that she would take pride in "helping to safeguard the prizes at a time when truth, facts and books are under assault." Her new post will be effective April 11.



OPC Governor **Sandra Stevenson** of CNN was [named](#) as one of three judges for The Alexia's 2022 student and professional photography grant competition. Stevenson, associate director of photography for CNN, will join Todd Heisler of The New York Times and Jehan Jillani of The Atlantic, in a selection weekend that starts April 1 in Syracuse, New York. The recipient of the The Alexia professional grant will receive \$20,000 to produce their proposed project, and the student recipient will receive \$1,000. This year's grant submissions come from 50 countries around the world. The Alexia was created to celebrate and remember Alexia Tsairis, a student at Syracuse University who was killed in the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988. She was one of 35 Syracuse students on that flight.



OPC member **Dexter Roberts**, the author of *The Myth of Chinese Capitalism*, spoke to Voice of America for a piece [on March 9](#) about China's role in response to sanctions against Russia in support of Ukraine. In a piece concluding overall that China could not do enough to offset sanctions by the U.S. and



other allies, Roberts was quoted as saying that China's economic support for Russia has limits, but that the two countries would maintain ties as key trading partners, "I do think longer term we're likely to see a continued growing trade relationship and investment relationship between China and Russia," he said. "For Russia it really matters." Roberts participated in an OPC book night [in April 2020](#) to discuss China's future in light of the pandemic, which was still in its early stages at the time.

OPC member **Markos Kounalakis** co-wrote an opinion piece [on March 28](#) for the San Francisco Examiner that highlights the plight of refugees fleeing Venezuela. The piece, written with colleague Leopoldo López, draws links between Russia's invasion of Ukraine and social and government collapse in Venezuela, naming a so-called global Axis of Autocracy that includes countries that Russia supports such as China, Iran, Turkey, Cuba, Nicaragua, Hungary, North Korea. "Why is America trying now to wedge itself between Russia and Venezuela? In part because this Axis not only facilitates Russia's current invasion of Ukraine, but also because it supports the democratic and civilizational erosion of Venezuela," the authors wrote. Kounalakis is author of several books, including a new book published [in February](#) titled *Freedom Isn't Free*, and *Spin Wars and Spy Games: Global Media and Intelligence Gathering*, published in 2018, that warned state-run media in China and Russia were overtaking Western media as the latter shrinks its foreign desks.



**Kim Hjelmggaard**, an OPC member and USA TODAY world correspondent, has been reporting from the Polish border and Lviv in western Ukraine. With a half dozen bylines in March alone, Hjelmggaard has filed stories about the [flow](#) of refugees over the border with Poland, Ukraine's governmental [response](#) to war, the most prized possessions of refugees [on the move](#), the struggles of a Polish border city [welcoming](#) newcomers, and families in Ukraine [divided](#) by the invasion.



## MEDIA NEWS

The Los Angeles Times [named](#) **Sara Yasin** as a managing editor. Yasin, who is currently managing editor for BuzzFeed, will join **Scott Kraft**, an OPC vice president and the head judge of the OPC's Annual Awards, along with his colleague Shani Hilton on the team of managing editors. The paper's executive editor, Kevin Merida, said that Yasin will oversee the daily news operation as well as photo, data and graphics teams, beginning April 18.

## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

**Dirck Halstead**, a past OPC Award winner and photojournalist who covered landmark stories over a 50-year career United Press International, TIME magazine and other news outlets, died on March 25 in Boquete, Panama at the age of 85. Halstead won the OPC's 1975 Robert Capa Award for his coverage of the Vietnam War for TIME. OPC member and photographer **David Hume Kennerly**, a longtime friend and colleague of Halstead's, [said in a statement](#) quoted in The New York Times that he "covered history in an intelligent way" and was "cool under fire" when the two were covering conflict. "One time in 1972 we were pinned down by North Vietnamese regulars near Loc. South Vietnamese soldiers were dying left and right around us, mortar rounds were exploding, we were taking heavy machine gun fire from the tree line, when Dirck looked at me and said, 'Can't wait to have a drink at the Melody Bar tonight.'"

People Column March 31

## New Resources

### RESOURCES

The **Journalists in Distress (JiD) Network** has launched a landing page to provide quick access to resources from its member organizations. JiD is an informal forum for sharing information on journalists in distress and developing joint initiatives for emergency response. It was formed in 2006 to "allow international organizations with freedom of expression mandates to more easily discuss specific cases, coordinate joint efforts, and avoid duplication." [Explore the new landing page here.](#)

The **ACOS Alliance** is calling for news organizations and freelance journalists covering Ukraine to adopt the ACOS Principles as a matter of urgency. [Read the statement here.](#)

**PEN America** published a list of legal resources for navigating online abuse in the U.S. The Online Harassment Manual covers federal laws that address cyber harassment, as well as widely varying state laws. [Read and explore the page here.](#)

The **ICFJ** research team is partnering with the **Tow Center for Digital Journalism** to map the ongoing effects of the pandemic on journalism worldwide. The organizations are calling for journalists and media workers to take a survey, the second in their series, for the Journalism and the Pandemic project. [Read more and respond to the survey here.](#)

### TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

On April 2 at 12:00 noon Eastern Time, the **Coalition for Women in Journalism (CFWIJ)** will host a panel via Twitter to hear stories from female journalists in exile. Panelists include: Kiran Nazish, journalist and founder-director at CFWIJ;



Masih Alinejad, an Iranian-American journalist, author and women's rights activist; Zahra Joya, an Afghan journalist and founder of Rukhshana Media; and Arzu Yıldız, a Turkish journalist, New Canadian Media. The moderator will be Luna Safwan, a Lebanese journalist and host of "Beyond Politics." [Read more and follow the discussion here.](#)

The **Journalist's Resource** organization has published a series of interviews with finalists for the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting, awarded by the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy. Six reporting teams were chosen as finalists for the 2022 prize, which carries a \$10,000 award for finalists and \$25,000 for the winner. The Journalist's Resource is interviewing the finalists and offering a behind-the-scenes look at the processes, tools and legwork it takes to create an important piece of investigative journalism. The winner of the \$25,000 prize will be announced on April 5. [Read more here.](#)

The **ICFJ**, in partnership with the **Border Center for Journalists and Bloggers (BCJB)**, is offering a series of eight one-hour webinars for journalists and civil society advocates on digital security to further enhance their learning, develop new skills and adopt better practices and digital security technologies. The goal is to "help journalists and human rights representatives protect their information, data, devices and communications against digital security risks." [Read more and register here.](#)

The **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma**, in partnership with the **ACOS Alliance**, **Rory Peck Trust**, and the **James W. Foley Legacy Foundation**, will offer its annual four-day crisis zones reporting course to 16 US-based freelance journalists at no cost. The training will take place May 19 to 22. The deadline to apply is April 5. [Read more and apply here.](#)

## GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**ICFJ** has launched the new Pamela Howard Global Crisis Reporting Fund to offer grants of up to \$3,000 to journalists in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe who are combatting disinformation and providing reliable coverage on the war, refugee reporting, accountability reporting and more. The deadline to apply is April 8. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF)** is calling for nominations for a woman or non-binary journalist of color for the Gwen Ifill Awards. This year, the recipients will receive support from the Lauren Brown Fellowship in memory of [Lauren Alix Brown](#), a founding editor at Quartz Media who died in 2019 at the age of 37. Nominations close on April 6. [Read More and nominate here.](#)

Applications are open for the **IWMF Elizabeth Neuffer Fellowship**. The fellowship is meant to help improve the skills of women, nonbinary or gender non-conforming journalists with at least three years of professional experience in journalism working in print, broadcast, or digital media, either as a staff journalist or as a freelancer. The deadline to apply is April 15. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

**The Pulitzer Center** is calling for applications for its Richard C. Longworth Media

Fellowship for 2022-2023. Two \$10,000 fellowships are awarded each year to journalists focusing on global issues that affect Chicago and Midwestern readers and viewers. The winners will be announced in June. The deadline to apply is May 2. [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

