



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin Oct. 7, 2022

Dear Chad,

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Bulletin, which features a summary of a meeting organized by the A Culture of Safety (ACOS) Alliance, and reminders of two online events coming up next week – an [Oct. 11](#) Book night with Christopher Roush to discuss ‘The Future of Business Journalism’ and the OPC/Dart Center psychological safety training for freelance journalists [on Oct. 12](#). We also have updates and member news in our People column, including a roundup of News and Documentary Emmy winners across the OPC community.

Seeds of New Ideas to Help Journalists Deal with Emotional Trauma

by William J. Holstein

News organizations, journalism schools, safety trainers and non-profits around the world are coming with new ideas for how to help journalists prepare to cover difficult stories and then recover emotionally and mentally afterward. But those efforts are still in the early stages and suffer from a relative lack of coordination.

Those were the takeaways from a meeting of more than 100 journalists and non-profit representatives organized by the A Culture of Safety (ACOS) Alliance in New York Oct. 3 to 5. It was the group’s first in-person meeting since 2019.

The Overseas Press Club Foundation is the financial sponsor for ACOS. “ACOS focuses on local and freelance journalists who are the most vulnerable,” executive director Elisabet Cantenys said. “We are talking about embedding a culture of safety.”

The challenges facing all journalists have clearly multiplied. The pandemic, war in Ukraine, major weather disruptions caused by climate change, and civil strife combined with new forms of digital harassment and surveillance by governments and criminal gangs means the job has never been more difficult. There also appears to be an increase in the number of authoritarian governments that imprison or kill journalists or harass them legally. “Clearly the emotional welfare of news professionals has been challenged in all sorts of new ways,” said Bruce Shapiro, executive director of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University.

But he hailed “an exceptional period of innovation” in how media organizations are shifting the debate about “trauma” to the overall psychological well-being of journalists. “We want to integrate resilience in the face of adverse reporting conditions into the basic safety agenda,” Shapiro said. He added that the International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF) and the Rory Peck Trust (RPT) have expanded assistance to journalists with mental or psychological needs so they can access the specialized care they may need. Dart is trying to expand their training of psychotherapists to create a larger pool of clinicians dedicated to treating news professionals facing adversity, both before and after they cover a difficult story. “We need preventative psycho-social training,” he added. The OPC and Dart are running a Zoom program on psychological safety training on Oct. 12, in partnership with the ACOS Alliance, IWMF and RPT. (See event and RSVP details below.)

[Read the Full Recap](#)

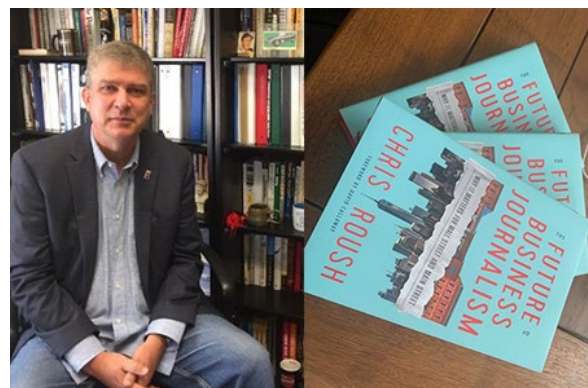
Upcoming Events

Oct. 11: Book Night With Christopher Roush to Discuss ‘The Future of Business Journalism’

TIME: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

LOCATION: Online via Zoom

Business owners, consumers, and employees have long relied on the news to make financial decisions — what to buy, who to hire, and what products to sell. In the twenty-first century, that news has shifted. Only



the big businesses and executives can afford expensive subscriptions, while most consumers and small business owners are left scrambling to find the news they need to succeed and thrive.

In *The Future of Business Journalism*, veteran business journalist and professor **Christopher Roush** delves into how the crisis occurred, from the disintegration of the once-strong relationship between businesses and media to the media's focus on national coverage at the expense of local news. He reveals how these trends result in major "coverage deserts."

Registrants will receive a link to join the Zoom call about an hour before the program on Oct. 11.

OPC Past President **Paula Dwyer** will moderate the discussion.

RSVP Now



Oct. 12: OPC and DART Center Offer Psychological Safety Training to Freelance Journalists

TIME: 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

LOCATION: Online via Zoom

Freelance journalists are invited to an interactive, virtual session on psychological safety and resilience on Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time. The training, primarily for freelance journalists working overseas, is jointly offered by the Overseas Press Club and Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma. It is supported by the International Women's Media Foundation, Committee to Protect Journalists, Rory Peck Trust and ACOS, all organizations committed to providing programs and services to bolster the mental health and security of working journalists.



**PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY TRAINING
FOR FREELANCE JOURNALISTS**

OCT. 12 FROM
12:00 P.M.
TO 1:30 P.M. ET



The 90-minute training will offer a model for understanding the impact of trauma and related stresses in journalism, as well as strategies for enhancing individual well being, giving and receiving peer support and building resilient teams.

The training is to be delivered by **Katherine Porterfield**, PhD, a clinical psychologist and senior trainer for the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma,

will include a slide presentation, interactive breakouts and ample time for Q&A and discussion.

RSVP Now

Welcome New Members

Jill Langlois

Freelance
São Paulo, Brazil
Active Overseas



Kevin Lind

Columbia University School of Journalism
New York
Student



Olivier Sarbil

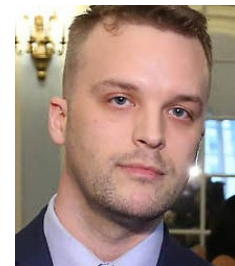
Freelance
Filmmaker
New York
Active Resident



People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Micah Danney, the Theo Wilson Scholarship winner in 2018, has been named a general assignment reporter at Law360. Previously, he was an associate editor at The New York Daily News. Before that, he was a freelance political reporter in Alabama and a reporter and editor at [Religion Unplugged](#). He had an OPC Foundation fellowship with the GroundTruth Project in Jerusalem.



Amelia Nierenberg, the 2018 Flora Lewis Fellowship winner, has [taken](#) a new post with The New York Times as writer for

the Asia-Pacific Morning Briefing, which the paper said reaches 700,000 people across the region. Nierenberg joined the Times' newsletters team in August 2020 and launched the paper's "Coronavirus Schools Briefing." In 2019 she was the inaugural newsroom fellow on the Times' Food desk. Her OPC fellowship was with The Associated Press in Dakar, Senegal. As an intern with The Boston Globe, her reporting on education disparity was a finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in local reporting.



AWARDS

Many journalists in the OPC community garnered News and Documentary Emmy Awards this year. The announcement of winners [on Sept. 28](#) included OPC Governor **Hendrik Hinzl**, who was part of a VICE News team that won in the category of Best Longform News Coverage for a program titled "Return of the Taliban." Hinzl, who served as a producer on the project, [tweeted](#) photos of himself and the Emmy, saying that "after ten years in the US I just won my first Emmy AND got my green card in the same week! Brb. Crying a little." He added that the announcement comes "a year after the immigration office told me I wasn't good enough for my category because I 'didn't have an Emmy or equivalent award.'" Hinzl was also part of a VICE team that [won](#) an Online News Association (ONA) award in mid-September for digital video storytelling for a series titled "Transnational" about transgender rights around the world, which also won a Peabody earlier this year.



OPC Governor **Singeli Agnew** was part of a New York Times team that won a News Emmy in the category of Outstanding Investigative News Coverage: Short Form for "How a U.S. Drone Strike Killed the Wrong Person." She was director of cinematography for the program.



OPC Governor **Raney Aronson-Rath**, as executive producer for FRONTLINE, is celebrating four Emmy wins, including one for Outstanding Investigative News Coverage: Long Form for "Yemen's Covid Cover Up," directed by Nawal al-Maghafi and Sara Obeidat, which also included a senior producer credit by OPC member **Dan Edge**. FRONTLINE also won in the category of Outstanding Business, Consumer or Economic Coverage for "Boeing's Fatal Flaw" by director Tom Jennings. FRONTLINE also received nominations for two other awards including one for "A Thousand Cuts" about Maria Ressa, directed by Ramona Diaz.



OPC member **Adriane Quinlan** was head writer on a VICE News Tonight team that won in the category of Outstanding Edited Breaking News Coverage for a program titled "Inside

the Battle for Jerusalem.”



Ed Ou, an OPC member and filmmaker, won an Emmy as director and cinematographer in the Outstanding Crime and Justice Coverage category for reporting on the rescue of migrants from the Libyan Coast Guard for The Outlaw Ocean Project and The Guardian.



OPC member **John Moore** was named among winning directors for the Noticiero Telemundo team that won the Emmy for Outstanding Coverage of a Breaking News Story in Spanish, titled “Enero 6 - Asalto a la Democracia” (“January 6 – Assault on Democracy”).



Rebecca Blumenstein, an OPC member, was an executive producer for a New York Times team that won an Emmy in the Outstanding Live Interview category for their discussion with Adam Neumann, an Israeli-American businessman and investor.



A few of this year’s OPC Award winners were also among the News Emmy recipients. A VICE News Tonight team that won the [Edward R. Murrow Award](#) this year, including **Isobel Yeung**, **Amel Guettatfi**, **Javier Manzano** and **Ahmed Baidar**, won an Emmy in the category of Outstanding Continuing News Coverage: Long Form for “Yemen: The Forgotten War,” the same reporting in Yemen that won the Murrow Award, which OPC judges said conveyed “the tragic cost of the conflict in just 18 minutes, portraying characters with insightful understanding.”



Photo, clockwise from upper left: Isobel Yeung, Amel Guettatfi, Javier Manzano and Ahmed Baidar

A VICE News team that won an Emmy in the category of Outstanding Feature Story in Spanish also won the OPC’s [David A.](#)

[Andelman and Pamela Title Award](#) this year for the same reporting. The team includes **David Mora**, **Jika Gonzalez**, **Jose Flores** and **Craig Thomson**, and the winning work for both awards, titled “After the Flood,” covered how climate migration intersects with violence and organized crime.



Photo, clockwise from upper left: David Mora, Jika Gonzalez, Jose Flores and Craig Thomson

Nelson Ryland, an OPC member who was part of the VICE team that received a [Citation for Excellence](#) this year in the OPC’s David Kaplan category for reporting in Afghanistan, was also credited as editor in the Emmy Award for Yemen coverage. **Adam Desiderio** and **Ben C. Solomon**, who received the same OPC citation for their work in Afghanistan, were on the Emmy-winning team from VICE for Best News Coverage: Long Form for “Return of the Taliban.”



In other award news, Columbia University’s Documenting COVID-19 project, which was founded by OPC Governor **Derek Kravitz** through the Brown Institute for Media Innovation, [won](#) two first-place prizes for health coverage in the 2022 Missouri Press Association’s Better Newspaper Contest. The project, a collaboration with MuckRock and the Missouri Independent, won first place for best COVID-19 coverage by a daily publication and for best health story. Kravitz was a reporter and editor for the project, which [found](#) that an internal study by Missouri Governor Mike Parson’s office indicated that mask mandates had saved lives in Missouri’s biggest cities during the delta variant wave, but the findings were not made public until the team made an open-records request.



UPDATES

CNN has [named](#) OPC Past President **Marcus Mabry** as senior vice president of digital editorial and programming at the cable news channel. He will oversee the teams for CNN Digital Global Programming, Features, and Visuals teams as well as CNN Opinion, CNN Style, and CNN Travel. Mabry had been serving in an interim role for the post since May, when his predecessor Meredith Artley left the network. “Not many boys raised by a single mom in Trenton get to occupy these positions of responsibility in American journalism,” he said in a statement. “I could not be more excited to lead these talented teams at such a consequential time for our platforms, our network, and our world.” Mabry has been with CNN since 2016.



Kiana Hayeri, an OPC member and freelance photographer, wrote and took photos for a piece for The New York Times [on Sept. 30](#) from Kabul documenting the effects of Taliban rule on women one year after the group returned to power last summer. She followed the stories of several women and documented changes in everyday life in the city, including small groups of women protesting restrictions who were dispersed by Taliban gunshots into the air, while Taliban fighters celebrated last year's victory in overwhelmingly larger numbers.



OPC member and photojournalist **Nicole Tung** has been on the ground covering Ukraine for The New York Times over the last few weeks, most recently with text and photos [on Oct. 2](#) documenting a field hospital close to the front line in southern Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region where a civilian and soldier were treated side by side. She filed photos and reported in Ukraine in June with images of sites where 300 Ukrainians were imprisoned for nearly a month, and a soccer stadium littered with shrapnel. In the most recent stint, she filed the first of four stories from Ukraine on Sept. 22.



OPC Governor **Farnaz Fassihi** was a guest on the New York Times podcast The Daily [on Sept. 28](#) to discuss the role of women in Iran and the uprising and widespread protests that have followed the Sept. 13 death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini while she was in police custody. Fassihi said Amini was traveling from her hometown in the province of Kurdistan to Tehran with her family when she was arrested by so-called "morality police" at a subway station and taken to a detention center for violating rules surrounding mandatory hejab covering for women. Fassihi, who is Iranian-American and lived in Iran before, said many Iranian women are familiar with the detention center, known as Vozara. "Even I've been taken to that same detention center because I was showing too much hair and my robe was too short. I had to pledge that I would never violate the hejab law ever again in order to be released," she said. "Vozara is this place in Iranian women's minds that is feared – a place where bad things can happen to you."



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Bill Plante, a veteran conflict reporter and CBS News correspondent for the White House under four presidents, as well as a past OPC member, died [on Sept. 28](#) at the age of 84. Plante covered the Vietnam War in four separate tours spanning 1964 to 1975, winning an Emmy Award in 1972 for that work in December 1971 and the OPC's 1975 Lowell Thomas Award for CBS News coverage of the fall of Vietnam and Cambodia. He also won an OPC Award for best radio spot news for coverage of the funeral of Egyptian President Gamel Abdel Nasser in 1970 and won in the same category the next year for coverage



of the India-Pakistan war in 1971.

Photo: An image of Bill Plante from the [1971 issue of Dateline](#).

People Column

New Resources

RESOURCES

The International Pres Institute (IPI) has updated its press freedom alerts with a Russia-Ukraine tracker. The filter currently counts 146 media freedom alerts linked to the Russia-Ukraine war. The most recent item counts 27 cases of journalists among thousands of people arrested in cities across Russia on Sept. 21 and 24. [Explore the tracker here.](#)

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The James W. Foley Legacy Foundation has posted journalism safety modules for use in undergraduate programs. The modules are available to view in downloadable PDF or flip-book formats, and include 16 different curricular ranging from best newsroom practices to digital security and disaster coverage. [Explore the modules here.](#)

The Foreign Press Association (FPA) has posted its Sept. 27 conversation with Malaak Jamal about the Human Rights Foundation's report, "Framing Justice in Syria: The Road Toward Comprehensive Justice." [Watch the program here.](#)

The **IPI** has posted recordings of panels, roundtables, masterclasses and plenaries from its World Congress at Columbia University Sept. 8-10. [Watch the videos here.](#)

From Oct. 22 to 23 in Dallas, TX, the **National Press Photographers Association (NPPA)** will host the Women in Visual Journalism conference in person with programs for television reporters, photojournalists, online journalists, freelancers and documentary filmmakers. Registration is \$75 for NPPA members, \$100 for non-members, and \$20 for students. [Read more and register here.](#)

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are open for the **Hearst Fellowship**, a two-year program focusing on multimedia journalism. It consists of two 12-month rotations at Hearst's top metro papers. Anyone who has completed coursework and obtained a college degree by Aug. 1, 2023 is eligible. A bachelor's degree is the minimum requirement. The application deadline is Nov. 15. [Read more and apply here.](#)

Homelands Productions has established the Public Interest Reporting Defense Fund (PIRDF) for journalists who need help paying legal fees and related costs incurred “as a consequence of being arrested while doing their jobs, or those who are facing lawsuits filed against them because of their reporting.” [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **International Center for Journalists (ICFJ)** is calling for entries for coverage in Colombia, Kenya and the Philippines that uses World Health Organization’s new media guide with best reporting practices on violence against children. The application deadline is Oct. 16. [Learn more about the best practices and submit a story here.](#)

Applications are still open for the **Tarbell Fellowship**, is a one-year program for early-career journalists “intent on improving the world.” The fellowship incorporated speakers, feedback and mentorship. Fellows receive a stipend of up to \$50,000 to support placements at major publications and independent freelance reporting. The deadline to apply is Oct. 9. [Read more and apply here.](#)

More Resources

- 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 for credentials.

OPC Resources Page



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