



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin June 2, 2023

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Bulletin. Please be sure to read the piece below by Patricia Kranz that outlines proposed amendments to the OPC constitution, which members will vote on via electronic ballot later this summer. We also have a reminder about three upcoming documentary films the OPC is presenting at the [Human Rights Watch Film Festival](#), and lots of updates on OPC member news in the People Column, and more.

OPC Board of Governors Propose Three Amendments to the Constitution

by Patricia Kranz

The OPC Board of Governors approved three proposed amendments to the OPC Constitution at the May 23, 2023 meeting. Active members will have an opportunity to vote on the amendments when they elect new governors in August and early September prior to the Sept. 5 annual meeting.

The first amendment would clarify rules governing the procedures by which an OPC member may be suspended or terminated. The changes delineate the responsibilities of the OPC Executive Committee (officers of the club) and the OPC board, while preserving the right of members to make an appeal.

The second amendment would align the number of officers and governors in the

Constitution with the number listed in the Bylaws. The numbers got out of sync after the board voted to eliminate alternate members several years ago.

The third amendment would expedite the process by which the OPC amends the Constitution to take account of digital technology. The new language would require the OPC to notify members of any proposed amendments, with a full explanation and discussion, in a Bulletin. Proposed amendments would be explained again when we notify members to vote by email for new officers and directors. Then we would elect new board members and vote on amendments all at the same time.

Details of the three amendments are below. Proposed changes are in bold. Words that would be deleted are crossed out.

Members are encouraged to send comments on the proposed amendments to info@opcofamerica.org. The comments will be published in the July Bulletin. Voting procedures will be emailed to members in early August.

ARTICLE 11: TERMINATION AND SUSPENSION

Section One: Membership in the Club may be terminated by the Board of Governors as set forth in the By-laws:

(A) By voluntary resignation of any member who is not indebted to the Club.

(B) For failure to pay dues or other amounts when they shall become payable.

(C) For a violation of the By-laws or of rules of the Club not inconsistent with this Constitution and Bylaws or for conduct which in the opinion of the Board is improper or prejudicial to the interests of the Club.

(D) The Executive Committee, by a majority vote, may move to suspend for any length of time or terminate permanently any member whose conduct, in its opinion, is improper or prejudicial to the interests of the Club. The Executive Committee will report that decision to the Board, which may 1) let a suspension stand by majority vote, 2) revoke a suspension by a majority vote or 3) amend the length of a suspension by a majority vote or 4) agree to terminate the member by a two-thirds vote of Board members present. A member proposed for termination or expulsion will have the right to make an appeal, in writing, to the Board before a vote to terminate a membership is taken.

~~The Board must receive notification in advance and a vote to suspend or expel must be by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board present. A member proposed for termination shall have the right to a hearing before the Board of Governors, under rules set forth in the By-laws.~~

ARTICLE 12: OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS

Section One: The Club shall be governed by a Board of Governors, which shall consist of all the Club's elected officers, **nineteen** ~~thirteen~~ Governors elected

from the Active membership, **five** ~~three~~ Governors elected from the Associate Membership and, ex-officio, all Past Presidents of the Club.

Officers and other Governors shall be elected for a term of two years in accordance with procedures set forth in the By-laws.

Section Two: The Officers of the Club shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, ranked in order of the number of votes received, a Secretary and a Treasurer elected from among the Active members of the Club.

ARTICLE 21: AMENDMENTS

Overview of this proposal:

This Constitution can be amended only by the following procedures: An amendment may be (A) initiated by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Governors, or (B) submitted to the Board of Governors by at least twenty-five Active members. In the latter case, the proposed amendment must be submitted to the Board of Governors in writing at least thirty days prior to the Annual meeting of the Club. Under either procedure, the proposed amendment **and an impartial discussion of its pros and cons** shall be published in the first issue of the Club's Overseas Press Club Bulletin following the Board of Governors' meeting at which it was either voted or submitted.

The proposed amendment/s shall **again be published in a subsequent issue of the Bulletin that also contains the slate of candidates running in the annual election, along with any discussion of its merits or demerits submitted by OPC members since the prior publication.**

The amendment shall then be voted on by members as part of the same balloting process for new officers and governors.

~~[placed before the next Annual meeting of the Club for discussion. The Secretary shall read to the members at this meeting any comments received from members of the Club who are not present at the meeting.~~

~~Within three weeks following the meeting at which the proposed amendment was presented for discussion, the Secretary shall mail to all Active members ballots and an impartial digest of the discussion and the letters read at the meeting.~~

Active members may then vote by **email** within a period of time specified by the Board and in accordance with procedures ~~that shall be~~ set forth in the By-laws. If at least two thirds of the Active members ~~voting by mail~~-vote in favor of the proposed amendment, it shall be declared adopted as of the date specified by the Board of Governors for the closing of the balloting.

Upcoming Events



Tickets are still available for three screenings that the OPC is presenting at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival for films on international news and press freedom themes. Scroll down to read about *Draw Me Egypt* on June 3 and *When Spring Came to Bucha* on June 6 and 7, with digital festival showings from June 5 to June 11, including the film *The Etilaat Roz*.

The showings include live discussions at every in-cinema event. This year's edition covers a broad range of themes and topics.

Use the code RESIST23 for \$2 off tickets.

More info and links below:



Draw Me Egypt follows Egypt's most famous female cartoonist, Doaa el-Adl as she advocates for women's rights in a restrictive society using her poetic and often controversial cartoons.

Join us to watch the world premiere of this story of resilience.

Watch at Film at Lincoln Center on **June 3** or stream online across the US as part of the digital festival between **June 5-11**.



[Purchase Tickets Now](#)



Human Rights Watch Film Festival takes a close look at Ukraine with *When Spring Came to Bucha* – which captures how a small community continues with life amid trauma and loss, while war rages on close by.

Join audiences for its US premiere at the [#HRWFFNY](#) taking place on **June 6** at Film at Lincoln Center and the second screening on **June 7** at IFC Center. The screenings will be followed by a live Q&A with filmmakers and special guests. Or stream the film across the US as part of the digital festival between **June 5-11**.



Purchase Tickets Now



When the US pulled out of Afghanistan in 2021, and the Taliban once again seized power, the staff at the most widely read newspaper in Kabul, *The Etilaat Roz* must decide to stay and report or leave the country.

US audiences can stream this film as part of the digital festival from **June 5-11**.



Purchase Tickets Now

Welcome New Members

Alexander Fernandez
American University
Vienna, VA
Student



Audrey Thibert

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
Student



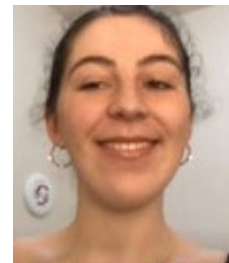
People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Viola Flowers, the 2023 Nathan S. Bienstock Memorial Scholarship winner, [won](#) a Hearst Award for investigative journalism for a story she wrote for the Riverhead News-Review in Long Island. Her winning work [uncovered](#) a high number of children who had gone missing from the residential treatment center Timothy Hill Children’s Ranch. She combed through hundreds of police reports and followed up on cases, uncovering a pattern of lax oversight and shoddy reporting on runaways. The Hearst Journalism Awards Foundation recognizes up to 20 students in a variety of categories each year. To be eligible, students’ work must be published in campus media or a professional outlet, and they must be enrolled in an accredited journalism program. Flowers completed an internship with NBC Nightly News this spring.



Rose Gilbert, the 2021 Stan Swinton Fellowship winner, received two 2023 regional Edward R. Murrow Awards presented by the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA). A multimedia producer for the WLPN daily show “This is Nashville,” Gilbert won the award for Feature Reporting for her [story about Lipstick Lounge](#), which aired in an episode she produced about Nashville’s LGBTQ community. She also won an award for Sports Reporting for her [feature about the case of the missing saber-toothed fang that inspired the Nashville Predators mascot](#), which aired in an episode she produced about hockey in Nashville.



Rebekah Ward, the 2019 Walter and Betsy Cronkite Fellowship winner, is now a reporter covering climate and environment for the Houston Chronicle. Most recently, she was an investigative reporter for the Times Union in Albany NY. She had an OPC Foundation fellowship with Reuters in Mexico City.



Lisa Martine Jenkins, the Stan Swinton winner in 2017, is now an editor at [Post Script Media](#), covering climate and deep

tech with a focus, at least initially, on the intersection of climate and AI. Most recently she was a Senior Energy Reporter at Morning Consult. Lisa had an OPC Foundation fellowship with AP in Mexico City.



Paul Sonne, the Stan Swinton winner in 2008, is now a foreign correspondent for The New York Times, focusing on Russia and Ukraine. He joined the Times from The Washington Post where he spent five years as a national security reporter covering the Pentagon and Russia and Ukraine-related stories out of the paper's headquarters in Washington, DC. Before that, he spent nearly nine years as a reporter for The Wall Street Journal in London, Moscow and Washington. In 2011, he and his Journal colleagues won the OPC's Malcolm Forbes Award for best international business reporting in newspapers for a series of articles called "Censorship, Inc," which described how Iran, Egypt, Libya and Syria used technology from Western and Chinese companies to spy on dissidents, conduct surveillance, and track mobile phone use. He began his career with an OPC Foundation fellowship at the Associated Press bureau in Moscow.



Andy Greenberg, the Reuters Scholarship winner in 2007, won the 2023 Business Feature category from the Deadline Club for his story ["The Crypto Trap: Inside the Bitcoin Bust That Took Down the Web's Biggest Child Abuse Site"](#) in Wired magazine. A senior writer covering hacking, cybersecurity and surveillance, he is the author of the new book [Tracers in the Dark: The Global Hunt for the Crime Lords of Cryptocurrency](#).



Krista Mahr, the 2004 Flora Lewis Scholarship winner, has been named deputy international editor for Opinion for The New York Times. She joins the Times from Politico, where she covered public health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Previously, she was a senior editor at TIME magazine's Washington bureau and before that, she reported overseas for 14 years, including stints as TIME's South Asia bureau chief and Reuters' South Asia correspondent covering the war in Afghanistan, among others.

AWARDS

OPC Vice President **Josh Fine** is a member of the Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel staff [named as winner](#) of a 2023 Sports Emmy Award in the category of Outstanding Hosted Edited Series. The HBO Max show has previously won two Sports Emmy Awards, in 2013 and 2014, and was nominated in 2014, 2018 and 2019 under various categories. Real Sports has also won two OPC Awards, including a 2016 Peter Jennings Award and a 2014 David A. Andelman and Pamela Title Award, as well as Citations for Excellence in 2017 and 2015. The show



also has numerous nominations and wins in the News and Documentary Emmy Awards, PGA Awards, Peabody Awards, Image Awards and GLAAD Awards, among others.

FRONTLINE, the PBS program helmed by editor-in-chief and executive producer **Raney Aronson-Rath**, who also serves as OPC Governor, [has won](#) the 2023 Beacon Award. The award is public television's top honor, recognizing "individuals whose work inspires Americans and enriches our nation, in keeping with the mission of PBS." In a release, Aronson-Rath referenced the name of the award, saying that "our beacon is journalism that lives up to our highest values and ambitions; that illuminates complex issues through history, context and accountability; and that takes the time to tell the story right."



The Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma [named](#) two OPC members among its list of 2023 Ochberg fellows. **Sewell Chan**, the editor-in-chief of The Texas Tribune, and **Marcus Yam**, foreign correspondent and staff photographer for the Los Angeles Times and winner of this year's Robert Capa Gold Medal Award, will take part in the week-long



fellowship that gives outstanding senior and mid-career journalists an opportunity to explore dimensions of psychological trauma, "to discuss ethical and craft challenges raised by their work; and to forge relationships with colleagues from around the world who share their interests and commitment."

Several of this year's OPC Award winners were among the Pulitzer Prize recipients announced [on May 8](#). An Associated Press team that won the OPC's Hal Boyle Award this year also received a Pulitzer Prize in the Public Service category for reporting on the war in Ukraine. **Mstyslav Chernov**, **Evgeniy Maloletka**, **Vasilisa Stepanenko** and **Lori Hinnant** were named among other AP staff in both awards. **Terrence McCoy** of The Washington Post won a Pulitzer Prize in the category of Explanatory Reporting for the work on illegally raised beef in the Amazon rainforest that also won the OPC's Robert Spiers Benjamin Award this year.

Staff of The New York Times were named as winners of the Pulitzer Prizes' International Reporting category for work in Bucha, Ukraine that also garnered the OPC's Joe and Laurie Dine Award for human rights reporting. In a Times celebration of the awards, speakers mentioned OPC members **Daniel Berehulak**, winner of multiple OPC Awards, and **Valerie Hopkins**, an OPC member and the OPC Foundation's 2013 winner of the Jerry Flint Internship for international Business, for their work on the ground in Bucha, Ukraine.



Yaroslav Trofimov and **James Marson** of The Wall Street Journal, who won a

Citation for Excellence in the OPC's Hal Boyle category this year, were also finalists in the Pulitzer Awards' International Reporting category, for their reporting in Ukraine.

UPDATES

OPC Governor **Deborah Amos**, one of three of NPR's longest-serving foreign reporters who left the network in recent weeks, spoke to Poynter [on May 15](#) along with former colleagues Julie McCarthy and Sylvia Poggioli. Among the changes Amos said she saw during her 35-year career at NPR, she mentioned that when she started covering the Middle East in the early 80s, every side of a conflict would usually want to talk to journalists, and saw coverage of their perspective as helpful, but "as time went on, that was no longer true," she said. Amos, who teaches journalism at Princeton University, said she also had to rethink her curriculum over the years, noting that when she started in 2012 her students said they got their news from The New York Times, The Washington Post, NPR and Al Jazeera English, but now none of her students listen to radio or read newspapers. "And it's not that they're not informed. They are. But the gap between the professors and them has grown in a remarkable way. And so I have to rethink how I teach journalism – because it's changed that much," Amos said.



A new book by **Melissa Fung**, an OPC member and an award-winning Canadian broadcast journalist, delves into the 2014 kidnapping of nearly 300 school-aged girls in Nigeria by the terrorist group Boko Haram. HarperCollins published *Between Good and Evil: The Stolen Girls of Boko Haram* [on April 18](#). Fung was taken hostage in Afghanistan in 2008 while on assignment for the CBC, an experience she recounted in her book *Under an Afghan Sky*. Her story, and those of three Nigerian girls, were the subject of her first feature documentary, *Captive*, which premiered in 2021 and has been nominated for several major awards. For *Between Good and Evil*, she conducted hundreds of hours of interviews with the survivors and their families. In an interview about the book for the CBC's The Current, she said she was drawn to the story because of experiences she shares with the survivors. "In sharing our stories, learning how they're coping with the aftermath, I learned a lot about trauma and the long trail it leaves."



Cristian Movilă, an OPC member who is founder of the EIDOS Foundation and representative of the World Press Photo in Romania, [on May 5](#) launched an exhibition of 120 photographs covering important events around the world including the war in Ukraine, effects of the climate crisis, and civil protests. In a release announcing the event, he said that in the face of fake news, ethical photojournalism is becoming increasingly crucial, "to render everything as raw as possible, so that we manage to transpose people in that very place and at that moment. Only in this way can we truly act and understand the problems facing this world." The exhibit is open through May 31 in Bucharest, Timisoara and Sibiu, and will



be open from June 3 to July 3 in Constanta and Oradea.

OPC member **Ruchi Kumar** wrote an opinion piece for The Globe and Mail [on May 8](#) reporting that part of the Taliban's strategy for cracking down on restrictions against women is to criminalize men's support for the women's rights movement. She wrote that male allies "have been threatened, jailed, and even tortured for the mere act of expressing support for their female compatriots." Women in Afghanistan are protesting policies such as a ban on women attending schools and universities, restrictions on employment, political participation, travel, and even entry into public spaces. "It is a testimony to the strength of Afghanistan's women that, despite the lack of allies and with mounting pressures, they still step out on the streets and lead their protests against the loss of their freedoms," she wrote. Kumar is an Indian journalist based in Mumbai covering South Asia.



A new animated short documentary produced by **Lynzy Billing**, winner of this year's Ed Cunningham Award, will [premiere](#) at the 2023 Tribeca Festival later this month. *The Night Doctrine* is a continuation *The Night Raids*, the OPC Award-winning film, which focuses on Billing, a young Afghan-Pakistani journalist, on her mission to find out who killed her family 30 years ago, as she discovers that hundreds of civilians were killed in a secretive American-backed program in Afghanistan. *The Night Doctrine* was directed by Mauricio Rodríguez Pons and Almudena Toral of ProPublica. The film is part of an animated shorts program curated by Whoopi Goldberg, and it will be screened on June 10, 11 and 17.



OPC member **Kang-Chun Cheng** has been filing stories on climate change from Kenya for The Africa Report, with reporting on water and land use conflicts in the Mount Kenya Reserve [on May 12](#) and farmers battling a noxious weed that is killing Maasai livestock [on May 18](#). A series of droughts starting in 2020 in the Horn of Africa has devastated agriculture and displaced thousands in search of water and land for grazing. Cheng argues that Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi mismanaged forests for political gain in the 1990s, which has worsened current crises.



Yasmine Mosimann, an OPC member and freelance multimedia journalist based in Baghdad, has reported on violence in Iraq over the last month for The Associated Press, with stories on the case of an Iraqi police officer convicted and sentenced to death [in early May](#) for the killing of a security analyst and critic of powerful militias. [On May 16](#), Mosimann filed a story about an alleged Turkish drone strike that targeted a Yazidi militant group in Iraq's Sinjar region of Ninewa Province.



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

United Press International (UPI) veteran and former OPC member **Patrick Killen** died in Dallas [on May 3](#) after a brief hospitalization at the age of 92. Killen’s first book, *Asia Earnie*, about the swashbuckling Occupation-era United Press Tokyo bureau chief Earnest Hoberecht, was published in January 2022. One of Killen’s most recent public appearances had been in April in Las Vegas at a reunion of the Alley Cats, the softball team of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, of which he'd been a stalwart. After attending Colorado College and UCLA and a stint with the U.S. Navy, Killen joined the then United Press in 1956 before its merger with International News Service, which created UPI in 1958. He reported from San Francisco, Honolulu, Karachi, New Delhi, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Washington, D.C., Manila, Chicago (where he oversaw the reporting efforts of Bill Holstein in the Lansing, MI bureau) and back to Washington again. From 1987 to 2004, Killen worked in Japan for the Daily Yomiuri, the Weekly Nikkei and the Kikkoman Corp., a maker of soy sauce. He moved to Dallas in 2005 with wife Miyoko. They had a daughter, Kimberly.



Claudia Rosett, a longtime Wall Street Journal journalist and past OPC member and awards judge who received a Citation for Excellence from the OPC for coverage of Tiananmen Square in the spring of 1989, died [on May 27](#) at the age of 67. Rosett’s career spanned four decades, including 20 years with the Journal. Her work included notable investigations into the U.N. oil-for-food program in Iraq, a stint as Moscow bureau chief covering Russia’s war against the Chechens, and serving on the Journal’s editorial board. She previously worked for The New York Times, Forbes and the New York Sun. Her 1989 citation in the Bob Considine category honored her “incisive and uncompromising” reporting on events in China.



People Column

New Resources

RESOURCES

The Feature Shoot website has listed 15 photography grants for women and nonbinary photographers on a single page. The list includes grants from: [Women Photograph Project Grants](#), [Women Photograph + Leica Grant](#), [CENTER’s \\$1,000 Me&Eve Grant](#), [Leica Women Foto Project Award](#), [Julia Margaret Cameron Award for Women Photographers](#), [The Prix Virginia](#), [The FotoEvidence W Award](#), [Anja Niedringhaus Courage in Photojournalism Awards](#), [70:15:40 Project UK](#), [The PHMuseum Women Photographer’s Grant](#), [Black Women Photographers x Nikon Grants](#), [The Inge Morath Award](#), [Female](#)

in Focus, [Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award](#) and [Women Street Photographers Exhibition \(plus grants for women photographers\)](#). [Read more here](#).

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The **International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF)** has announced that Craig Newmark Philanthropies is renewing its support for Hostile Environment and First Aid Training (HEFAT) programs. The IWMF is currently the only safety training provider offering HEFATs at no cost to women and nonbinary journalists in the U.S. The additional funding will formalize a series of four safety trainings in 2023 and 2024 for both staffed and freelance journalists. [Read more and apply here](#).

The **Dart Center**, in partnership with the **ACOS Alliance** and the **Foley Foundation**, is offering a four-day crisis zone reporting course in New York from Oct. 19 to 22. The course is open to freelancers from over the world covering hostile environments. There are five slots reserved for paying staff or freelance participants from small news organizations, nonprofits and public media. There are also 16 slots for freelance journalists at no cost. The deadline to apply is June 14. [Read more here](#).

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The **Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting** is now accepting applications from experienced journalists – freelancers or on-staff – working with local regional and international media outlets for its new Ocean Reporting Network (ORN). The network will establish a collaborative ecosystem of journalists around the world, to uncover “the harmful and illegal practices of the fishing and extractive industries, systemic threats to marine biodiversity and coastal communities, and the supply chains facilitating global demand for the ocean’s increasingly dwindling resources.” The deadline to apply is June 18. [Read more and apply here](#).

Applications are open for the **Sir Harry Evans Global Fellowship** for an exceptional early career journalist to participate in a 9-month program at Durham University including undertaking an investigative project from inside a newsroom which could be in London, New York, or Toronto. The deadline to apply is July 10. [Read more and apply here](#).

Applications are open for the **John Alexander Project’s “Above the Fray”** NPR fellowship for early career journalists. Those with at least five but no more than seven years of experience are eligible to apply. The deadline to apply is July 1. [Read more and apply here](#).

More Resources

- The **OPC** hosted a psychological safety and resilience training with the **International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF)** on March 2 with Ana Zellhuber, a psychoanalyst and Emergency Psychology specialist based in

Mexico City. [Read more and watch that training here.](#)

- The **OPC** also hosted a psychological safety and resilience training session with the **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma** on Oct. 12, 2022, that is available to watch on our YouTube channel. The program included a model to help understand the impact of trauma and other stresses in journalism, strategies for enhancing individual wellbeing and tips for building peer support networks. [Watch the program here.](#)

Click the button below to go directly to the OPC's Resources page, 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



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