



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin

Oct. 19, 2023

Hello Chad,

We hope you enjoy this October edition of the Bulletin. This month includes event recaps and previews, and a piece about photojournalist and 1956 OPC Award winner John Sadovy, written by his daughter Yvonne. Please take a look at details of tonight's book night with Jane Ferguson at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time below.

Videos and recaps of OPC events in this issue include: a "How I Did It" discussion [on Oct. 3](#) with freelance journalist Lynzy Billing and filmmaker Almudena Toral about their film *The Night Doctrine*; a panel of expert observers discussing issues of race in France [on Oct. 5](#), a book night with William J. Holstein and Michael G. McLaughlin on [Sept. 20](#) and a psychological safety training [on Sept. 13](#).

Events coming up over the next few weeks:

- **Oct. 19:** [Book Night - 'No Ordinary Assignment' – With Jane Ferguson](#)
- **Nov. 2:** [Covering Climate Change: Tips on Engaging Readers and Viewers Without Overwhelming Them](#)

We also have updates on OPC members and new programs.

Scroll down to the Resources section at the end of the Bulletin for important information for journalists covering conflict in Israel and the Gaza Strip.

Upcoming Events

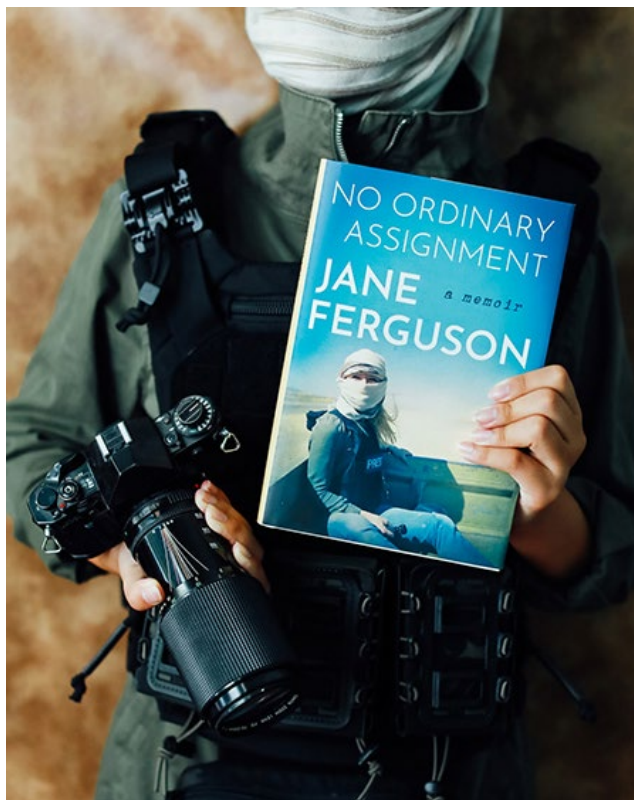
Oct. 19: Book Night - 'No Ordinary Assignment' – With Jane Ferguson

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online via Zoom

Jane Ferguson has covered some of the biggest war stories of recent years. She won the OPC's Peter Jennings Award in 2021 for her coverage on PBS NewsHour of the fall of Afghanistan. Her reporting on Yemen earned an Emmy, a George Polk Award and an Alfred I. du Pont Columbia Award.

No Ordinary Assignment starts with her childhood in Northern Ireland during the Troubles and moves on to chronicle her experiences reporting in numerous conflict zones.



Ferguson told the OPC her memoir is “a deep look at what shapes someone in their early lives to pursue this work, and then what happens to that person when they are out in the world at some of its roughest moments, trying to do the job well while being the complicated, flawed, passionate human beings that we are. So, I could say it's a book about what it takes to become a war reporter and then what it does to that person as they do the work.”

Elizabeth Becker, author of *You Don't Belong Here: How Three Women Rewrote the Story of War*, will moderate the discussion. Becker won the Sperber Book Prize and Harvard's Goldsmith Book Prize for her book, which was featured in an OPC [program](#) in 2021.

No Ordinary Assignment is for sale on Amazon [here](#).

RSVP Now



Nov. 2: Covering Climate Change: Tips on

Engaging Readers and Viewers Without Overwhelming Them

Time: 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online via Zoom

Floods, fires, hurricanes and other environmental disasters are occurring with increasing frequency across the globe. Climate reporters cover not only the initial disaster, but the effects on infrastructure, health and migration. How

can journalists capture the quickening climate crisis with impact, engaging but not overwhelming audiences?



Zachary Goldfarb, climate and environment editor at The Washington Post will moderate a discussion by climate reporters and editors who grapple with these issues every day.

The panelists are:

Juliet Eilperin, deputy climate and environment editor, The Washington Post.

Kendra Pierre Louis, climate reporter with Bloomberg.

Peter Prengaman, news director of The Associated Press' climate and environmental team.

Steve Sapienza, senior editor at the Pulitzer Center who has led work on connected coastlines and fisheries.

[RSVP Now](#)

Photo above: Surrounded by hazy conditions in June due to smoke from wildfires in Canada, the Washington Monument is barely visible from Arlington, Virginia. Photo by Matt McClain/The Washington Post

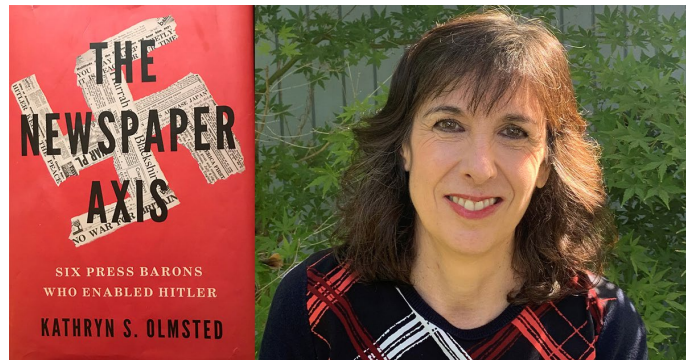
Non-OPC Events

Nov. 6: 2023 Sperber Book Prize Awards Ceremony at Fordham University

Time: 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time

reception, 6:30 p.m. awards ceremony and lecture

Place: Corrigan Conference Center, Lowenstein 12th floor, Fordham University Lincoln Center campus, 113 West 60th Street, corner of Columbus Avenue



Join Fordham University for the awarding of its 2023 Sperber Book Prize, for exceptional achievement in biography, autobiography or memoir in works about media figures.

The Sperber Prize is being awarded to Kathryn Olmsted, Professor of History, University of California at Davis, for her book *The Newspaper Axis: Six Press Barons Who Enabled Hitler* (Yale University Press). Olmsted's book, based on meticulous research, describes how media owners in the United States and Britain not only underplayed the Nazi threat before the outbreak of World War II but actually promoted Hitler's leadership.

The Sperber Prize honors Ann M. Sperber, author of the seminar biography of journalist Edward R. Murrow, *Murrow: His Life and Times*, one edition of which was published by Fordham University Press.

The event is free and open to the public. Please direct questions to Sperber Prize Director and OPC Governor Beth Knobel at knobel@fordham.edu.

RSVP Now

Hungarian National Museum to Display OPC Award Winner John Sadovy's 1956 Photographs

In 1956, photojournalist John Sadovy won the OPC's Robert Capa Gold Medal Award for his coverage of the Hungarian Revolution. Those photographs will be displayed at an exhibition later this month at the Hungarian National Museum. The following piece, written by his daughter, reflects on the personal and international importance of those



images. [Click here to see the exhibition page on the museum website.](#)

by Yvonne Sadovy

Growing up in the 1950s and 1960s, photos taken by my father, John Sadovy, were a constant presence at home. Over time they gradually changed, shifting from black and white to color, from conflict and everyday life to celebrities, models and advertising. One small set of photos, however, remained the same, and I knew that it must be important: This small selection of images he took in Budapest in 1956 as events of the Hungarian Revolution unfolded. It was only many years later that I came to understand, in two very different ways, their relevance to both of us personally, as well as for global events that followed 1956.

In the 1990s, after John had suffered several strokes, he stopped taking photos and put to one side a project that he had been working on to compile a collection of his work since the 1950s. His photos were also a special part of my own life and so I decided to try to complete this project. I did not know much about his earlier work, his LIFE assignments in particular, and decided to reach out to family and colleagues to learn more. I was incredibly lucky that Tim Foote (1926-2015), the LIFE correspondent who had worked with John in two of his most important LIFE assignments – the uprisings in Oued Zem, Morocco, in 1955 and in Budapest in 1956 – generously shared many memories of their time together. He described to me how my father took his powerful photos and his remarkably calm style when working under stress.

The upcoming exhibition in Budapest from Oct. 20 to Dec. 10 this year, and its extensive catalogue, are the result of a cooperation between the Hungarian National Museum and the Committee of National Remembrance, with contributions from John's family. They present the pictures of a photojournalist who came to Hungary on behalf of the American LIFE magazine, and whose pictures – taken in Budapest and extensively published in the press – helped to show the world what was happening, and brought him international recognition as the recipient of the Overseas Press Club's Robert Capa Award for this work.

Czech-born John Sadovy took around seven hundred photographs during his short assignment in Hungary. His two daughters, I and my sister, Liza Jane Sadovy, have made available his films for research and exhibition. In 2016, the Hungarian Cultural Centre exhibited some images in Europe House in London. The upcoming joint exhibition in Budapest will give a comprehensive picture of John's life and his work in Hungary in 1956.

[Read More](#)

2023 Maria Moors Cabot Prize Winners

Discuss Their Work at Columbia Panel

On Oct. 17, honorees of this year's Maria Moors Cabot Prizes gathered at Columbia University to discuss their work with host Juan Manuel Benítez, Columbia professor of local journalism and former bilingual reporter at Spectrum News NY1. The program, both in-person and online, was in Spanish with English subtitles, and was co-presented by the OPC and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.



The honorees who attended were:

- Alejandra Xanic, managing editor and co-founder of the non-profit Quinto Elemento Lab in Mexico
- Miguel Mendoza, an independent journalist in Nicaragua
- Nayeli Roldán, Animal Político in Mexico
- June Carolyn Erlick, ReVista, The Harvard Review of Latin America in the U.S.
- Joshua Goodman, The Associated Press in the U.S.
- Carlos Eduardo Huertas, Connectas in Colombia

How I Did It: Filmmakers Discuss 'The Night Doctrine' After Screening

by Chad Bouchard

Freelance journalist Lynzy Billing traveled to Afghanistan at the beginning of 2019 without a clear reporting plan – she was just looking for answers to questions about what had happened to her mother and sister, who were killed during a night raid nearly three decades ago. That story led her on four-year journey in which she uncovered CIA-backed night raids that killed hundreds of Afghan civilians with no accountability.



During a discussion on Oct. 5 that followed a screening of her animated film on the subject, *The Night Doctrine*, Billing told OPC Vice President Azmat Khan,

the director of the Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism at Columbia University, that her investigation began to grow while she was exploring Rodat, a rural district in the middle of Nangarhar province. Residents recommended that she speak to a woman named Mahzala about the fate of her two sons, who had been shot and killed in a raid only three months before.

“She didn’t have anyone to talk to, to go to, to find answers as to what had happened. So I told her I’d go to provincial officials on her behalf,” Billing said. After returning to Kabul, she said she put everything else on hold, “and [Mahzala] became this proper driving force behind looking into this story. I was like ‘this is mad. Her two sons had been killed, no one was giving her answers, no one really cares. So that just shifted everything.”

The OPC and Li Center co-hosted the screening and discussion with Billing and filmmaker Almudena Toral, which was part of the OPC program series "How I Did It" that convenes journalists, producers and editors to discuss exceptional work.

[Read More](#)

Photo above, left to right: Azmat Khan, Lynzy Billing and Almudena Toral.

Panelists Discuss Race in France at the American Library in Paris

by Chad Bouchard

On June 27 this year, a French police officer in a suburb of Paris shot and killed Nahel Merzouk, a 17-year-old boy of Moroccan and Algerian descent. The incident sparked protests in Paris and across the country and surfaced persistent wounds of racism, discrimination and police brutality.



A diverse group of four journalists and one academic gathered at the American Library in Paris on Oct. 3 to discuss race in France and place recent events in context.

The moderator for the event, OPC member Vivienne Walt, who serves as Paris correspondent for TIME and FORTUNE magazines, noted in her introduction that it’s particularly difficult to talk about race in France.

“It’s a very prickly subject in this country. That prickliness, in a way, is rooted in a very strong commitment to effectively color-blind policies, not seeing race or

even discussing race much,” she said. In light of the police killing and aftermath, Walt added, “the big question is how sustainable these policies are.”

Rokhaya Diallo, a French journalist, author, and filmmaker known for her activism in the fields of racial and sexual equality, said taboos surrounding race hinder work toward positive change.

“Figures show that if you are a young male perceived as Black or Arabic, you are 20 times more likely to be checked by the police than if you are not,” she said. “We pretend to be color blind, but our institutions are not color blind. And, actually, your color can kill you.”

Other panelists were Angelique Chrisafis, the Guardian's Paris correspondent, Mame-Fatou Niang, associate professor of French and Francophone Studies at Carnegie Mellon University, and Roger Cohen, Paris bureau chief for The New York Times.

[Read More](#)

Photo above, left to right: Angelique Chrisafis, Mame-Fatou Niang, Vivienne Walt, Rokhaya Diallo and Roger Cohen.

OPC and Dart Center Host Training on Stress, Burnout and Trauma

by Chad Bouchard

On Sept. 13, the OPC and the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma hosted a training session on coping with stress, burnout and trauma on the job.

The trainer, Elana Newman, Ph.D., the McFarlin Professor of Psychology at the University of Tulsa, covered a range of strategies for journalists to develop self-care and collegial support, provided techniques for enriching coping skills and wellness, and gave guidance on how to build resilient news teams.

Newman said during her introduction that she considers herself a journalist ally, and has been working with journalists for the past 25 years.

“I value what you do, and I think it’s really important. I know these are hard times, and I just want to thank you for the work that you do,” she said. “This is a period of extraordinary stress and upheaval in journalism, and telling stories about trauma is vitally important for democracy.”

[Read More](#)

‘Battlefield Cyber’ Authors Urge More Cooperation To Thwart Digital Attacks

by Chad Bouchard

The co-authors of a new book on international cyber warfare told an OPC audience on Sept. 20 that shortcomings in computer security and digital literacy have left Americans vulnerable to attacks, intrusion and manipulation from countries with sophisticated cyber systems such as China and Russia.



“It’s only just now that we’re waking up to the fact that we’re basically wide open,” said OPC Past President William J. Holstein, who discussed *Battlefield Cyber: How China and Russia Are Undermining Our Democracy and National Security* along with co-author Michael G. McLaughlin at the Club Quarters book night. “We have not invested the time, the money, or the education in protecting ourselves.”

John Avlon, a vice president of the OPC, moderated the discussion.

The authors argued that, contrary to popular perception, cyber warfare is not merely a fight between hackers and tech security agency departments – it is a societal problem that needs broad public attention.

“If you connect to the internet, you are on the battlefield,” McLaughlin said. “There are no non-combatants. That’s the idea we need to get across, desperately, to everyone who is a part of our society.”

[Read More](#)

Photo above, left to right: John Avlon, William J. Holstein and Michael G. McLaughlin.

Press Freedom

UNESCO [on Oct. 7](#) condemned attacks on journalists in Israel, calling on combatants to respect and enforce international law and calling the first week of October “the deadliest week for journalists in any recent conflict.” The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reported [on Oct. 16](#) that at least 15 journalists have been killed in the Israel-Hamas war, including 11 Palestinian journalists, three Israeli and one Lebanese. An additional eight journalists were injured, and three were reported missing or detained. The International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF) also [released a statement](#) calling for the

protection of journalists in the region, saying “we stand in support of journalists continuing to bring truth to light and demand that press and civilians be protected during this crisis.”

Using the CPJ’s database, an independent cartoonist, **Gianluca Constantini**, has made portraits of each of the journalists killed, injured, detained or missing in the war. [See his work here](#).

The International Press Institute (IPI) reports that the organization has been battling a targeted and sustained cyberattack [since Sept. 1](#). The IPI says the attack appears to be in retaliation for advocacy work on behalf of independent media in Hungary, which has faced a wave of similar attacks since this summer. A series of distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks took the organization’s website offline for three days. The IPI said it has bolstered security, but continues to experience milder DDoS attacks and attempts to breach its website. In a release, the IPI said this has been the most “brazen and direct attack on IPI’s online infrastructure in our organization’s history.”

Welcome New Members

Levi Bridges

Freelance Journalist
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Active Overseas



Madjdy Kassem

New York University
Arthur L. Carter
Journalism Institute
New York
Student



Mady Camara

Freelance
Dakar, Senegal
Active Overseas



Ashlee Ruggels

Freelance
Photojournalist
Chicago, IL
Active Non-Resident, Young (29 or under)



Fu-Yi Hsieh

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
Student

Timothy Wolfer

Freelance Video
Journalist
Baltimore, MD
Active Non-Resident



The OPC is grateful to OPC Vice President Azmat Khan, director of the Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism at Columbia University, for subsidizing OPC memberships and large OPC press IDs for the following 18 journalism students.



**Tanisha Priya
Ahmed**

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Katherine Lin

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Jensen Bird

Columbia University School of
Journalism
New York
Student

Tory Lysik

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



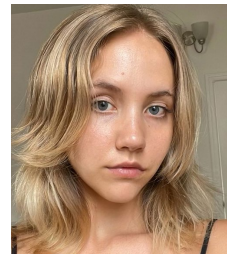
Josh Cain

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Louise Miller

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Madison Colombo

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Liza Monasebian

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Carolyn Gevinski

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Taylor Nicioli

Columbia University
School of
Journalism
New York
Student



**Juliana Tao Miin
Giacone**

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Anna Oakes

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Claudia Gohn

Daniel O'Connor

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Sarah Karpati
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



John Williams
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Olivia Levieux
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Bei Wang
Columbia University School of
Journalism
New York
Student

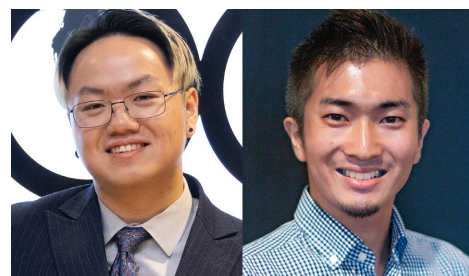
People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Nuha Dolby, the 2023 Roy Rowan Fellowship winner, and **Katherine Swartz**, the 2022 Stan Swinton Fellowship winner, have been named to the inaugural class of fellows at the Allbritton Journalism Institute (AJI). As fellows in the two-year program, they will learn from and work alongside top reporters and editors on AJI's team. AJI is backed by a \$20 million grant from Robert Allbritton, the founding publisher of Politico. The new non-profit organization and newsroom, staffed by veteran journalists, will train aspiring reporters to produce fact-based, non-partisan journalism on government and politics. As an OPC Foundation fellow, Dolby covered business and technology this summer in the London bureau of The Wall Street Journal.



Francis Tang, the 2023 David R. Schweisberg Scholarship winner, has started his OPC Fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Tokyo. In his first published story, [about abuse in the J-pop industry](#), he shared a byline with Reuters reporter and the 2020 Stan Swinton Fellowship winner, **Kantaro Komiya**. Komiya started his career with an



OPC Fellowship in the Associated Press Tokyo bureau.

Yuchang Tang, the 2023 Richard Pyle Scholarship winner, published seven articles, including three feature stories and several breaking news pieces during his OPC Foundation fellowship with The Associated Press in Bangkok, including articles [on young Chinese nomads](#) and [Chinese LGBTQ tourism in Thailand](#).



Kaela Malig, the Sally Jacobsen Scholarship winner in 2023, was named this year's Tow Journalism Fellow. She will spend her year-long fellowship at FRONTLINE immersed in all phases of documentary storytelling, from reporting to the production process. Before attending Columbia Journalism School, she reported on the bloody drug war in her native Philippines. A four-time winner of the Society of Publishers Asia Awards for Editorial Excellence, she interned for Nobel Peace Prize winner Maria Ressa's news outlet Rappler and reported for The Washington Post and CNN before working for the Philippines' biggest broadcast company.



Youcef Bounab, 2023 winner of the Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory of I.F.Stone, recently returned from his OPC Foundation fellowship with the Associated Press bureau in Paris. Among the stories he covered were [French lawmakers approving tapping devices](#), [booksellers along the Seine](#), and [Bastille Day celebration after recent unrest](#).



Claire Parker, the Stan Swinton Fellowship winner in 2019, was named Cairo bureau chief for The Washington Post, leading the coverage of North Africa and Yemen. She was previously a staff writer on the Post's international desk and a freelance journalist in Tunisia. She was an OPC Foundation fellow with The Associated Press in Paris.



Jeff Horwitz, who won the Fred Wiegold Scholarship in 2009, and a team of journalists from The Wall Street Journal received the 2022 Impact Award for Distinguished Financial Journalism from the New York Financial Writers Association for their "Facebook Files" series, which details Facebook's knowledge of the harmful impact of Instagram on young users – particularly teenage girls, and how the company hid and played down this knowledge. [View the winning articles here](#).



AWARDS

The judging committee for the **2023 Hinzpeter Awards** announced winners in

four categories [in September](#). Winners include the documentary “Inside Russia: Putin’s War at Home,” which covered narratives inside Russia following the onset of the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, won the grand prize of The World at a Crossroads Award; “The Battle of Bakhmut,” with reporting from reporters Adam Desiderio, Julia Kochetova and Ben C. Solomon, covering southeastern Ukraine’s treacherous battleground, won the Award for News; “Russian Soft Power in The CAR,” with reporting from Carol Valade and Clément Di Roma, exposing manipulated public opinion and brutality by Russia’s Wagner Group in the Central African Republic, won the Award for Features; and four Ukrainian journalists from Central TV in Ukraine, honored for their coverage of the ground coverage of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear plant catastrophe, won the May Gwangju (Lifetime Achievement) Award. An awards ceremony will be held on Nov. 8 at the National Assembly Library Auditorium in Seoul, Korea.

The Washington Post’s multi-part story “[The Amazon, Undone](#),” which received the Robert Spiers Benjamin Award this year, has also [won](#) a **Gerald Loeb award** for international reporting. The investigation, led by Terrence McCoy, the Post’s Rio De Janeiro bureau chief, examines the destruction of the world’s largest rainforest. The series also won a George Polk Award and was a Pulitzer finalist for explanatory reporting earlier this year.

UPDATES

OPC member **Kim Hjelmgaard** is covering the war in Israel for USA TODAY, with the most recent piece covering President Joe Biden’s visit to Israel and his assurances [on Oct. 18](#) that the U.S. would stand by Israel and provide help in its war against Hamas. Other reports include an [Oct. 11](#) piece about a 67-year-old American activist for Palestinian rights who was presumed kidnapped by Hamas. He wrote that Cindy Flash, along with her Israeli husband Igal, were among more than 100 who vanished from areas near Gaza. “They are breaking down the safe room door,” Hjelmgaard quoted Flash as writing in one of her final messages to her daughter Keren, who had been communicating with her parents from a few houses away. Hjelmgaard also wrote [breaking news updates](#) on the Hamas attacks, and contributed to [a piece](#) about the history of Israeli and Palestinian conflict in graphics. on Oct. 18



Nilo Tabrizy, a visual forensics reporter for The Washington Post who serves as OPC governor, spoke to the Post Reports daily podcast [in late September](#) about crackdowns in Iran, where human rights groups say security forces have killed at least 530 protesters over the last year. “I think that the government understands the power of grief and how powerful that can be to move people,” she said. Tabrizy detailed her [recent reporting](#) on the Heydari family, which was among the first to go public about the death of a loved one after their son Javad was killed on Sept. 22 while protesting in the northwestern city of Qazvin.



OPC member **Borzou Daragahi**, a journalist and nonresident senior fellow with the Atlantic Council’s Middle East Program,

talked to WNYC's Here and Now program [on Sept 18](#) about a U.S.-Iran prisoner exchange that included one of his friends. In exchange for the release of five American prisoners, the U.S. released five Iranian prisoners and gave Iran access to \$6 billion in oil revenues that were previously frozen under sanctions. Daragahi's friend, Siamak Namazi, who like all five Americans had dual citizenship with Iran, was held in Evin Prison on unsubstantiated charges of spying. "It broke my heart watching this [incarceration] happen to him. His family, his father was held for a long time, a very elderly father," he told host Scott Tom. "These are just ordinary people, successful in many respects, there is a common denominator – successful in the West – trying hard to lead a life in the West without their home country of Iran, and they paid an extremely high price."



Photographs from Ukraine's front lines taken by OPC member **Nicole Tung** are on display in a group exhibition [through Nov. 12](#) at Place de la Liberté in Bayeux, France. The display is part of a series of exhibitions in connection with the 30th Bayeux Calvados-Normandie War Correspondents Awards. Her work is on display with six other photographers in an exhibition meant to capture "the resilience, hope, and harsh realities of war."



Nico Hines, an OPC member who serves as World Editor for The Daily Beast, spoke on a panel from London on "[The World This Week](#)" program on France 24 about the Nobel Peace Prize going to human rights activist Narges Mohammadi, who's currently serving what amounts to 12 years behind bars in Tehran's notorious Evin prison. Hines called Mohammadi a "particularly brilliant" winner, "someone who has put their own life on hold for years and years for a determined cause, for liberation for women, something that people all around the rest of the world get to experience on a daily basis."



OPC member **Andrew Nagorski** contributed to a piece for the [Foreign Service Journal](#) about an online reunion of classmates who attended primary school at the Cairo American College (CAC). The group of so-called third-culture kids included 10 classmates from 60 years ago who had been invited for a reunion in September 2021. The group has been meeting online monthly since then. Nagorski, who was born in Scotland to Polish parents, moved to the United States as an infant, and then traveled the world as his father joined the U.S. Information Service (USIS), serving as a press attaché in Cairo, Seoul, and Paris where he attended American schools. "The initiative by some of my Cairo schoolmates to reconnect so many years later brought back a flood of memories, not just of Egypt but of other postings: riding horseback by the pyramids, getting my first exposure to tear gas while observing South Korean students protesting against the regime of military strongman Park Chung Hee, and celebrating the end of my senior year



at the American School of Paris prom at the Eiffel Tower,” Nagorski wrote.

Evening Post Books in Charleston South Carolina has recently acquired OPC member **Will Cathcart’s** novel, with an expected publishing date of July 1 next year. The book has a working title of *The Chopin Agency*, and explores the “fractures and violent flareups that constitute that relentless fault line between East and West and the Byzantine pockets of Europe scattered in between,” Cathcart said in an email.



“Europe is a tendency, not a geography, and for centuries it has fallen prey to the Russian empire’s oscillating capacity for expansionism—killing what it does not understand. This is a story of survivor’s guilt and existential regret.” The book spans multiple points of view and timelines from 1877 to 2017, beginning in the American South and threading through Warsaw, Paris, Tbilisi, Brussels, and finally the Turkish border. Cathcart is an American war correspondent living in Tbilisi, Georgia, and is originally from Charleston, South Carolina.

Jim Bittermann, an OPC member and senior correspondent for CNN, reported from Paris on the sweeping bedbug infestation and its possible effect on next summer’s Olympics.

Bittermann said in [an Oct. 2](#) dispatch that bedbugs are a global problem, but he they are getting noticed more in Paris now because of preparations for the Olympics. “One of the things that has augmented the number of bedbugs, if indeed they are a growing problem, is the fact that after Covid, a lot of people were again traveling. During Covid people were sleeping in their own beds, not moving around, and the amount of contagion was probably restricted,” he said.



OPC member **Sayyara Mammadova**, a research assistant with the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab (DFRLab) based in Azerbaijan, spoke at the EU [DisinfoLab Annual Conference](#), which was held from Oct. 11 to Oct. 12 in Krakow, Poland, on tools for public interest investigations. Mammadova and her colleagues from DFRLab presented case studies and an overview of resources for Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) investigations through a hub known as the European Open Source Intelligence Organisations Observatory, or ObSINT. The session focused on ObSINT guidelines, which is available to explore [via this link](#).

People Column

New Resources

RESOURCES

The **CPJ** has posted a page of resources for journalists covering conflict in

Israel and Gaza Strip, along with insights from reporters familiar with the area including Bethan McKernan of the Guardian, freelance reporter and producer Haya Abushkhaideem, Nicolas Rouger of La Croix and Noam Shalev of Highlight Films. [Read more here.](#)

The **IWMF** included links to resources in its statement calling for protection of journalists in the conflict, including [IWMF's Emergency Fund](#), the [Journalists in Distress Network](#) and [Free Press Unlimited](#).

The Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ) has released an [Arabic translation](#) of its [Fundraising Guide](#). The Guide provides a list of emergency funding and crisis resources that may be of use to journalists operating in the area. This section has also been translated into Arabic and was also shared with journalists in Sudan over the summer.

The **CPJ** has also updated its page of resources dedicated to covering climate change. CPJ recommends [completing a risk assessment](#) ahead of the assignment, and outlines digital safety tips for [arrest and detention](#), [protecting confidential sources](#), [adversarial sources](#) and [covering the Amazon basin](#). The resource page also includes coverage of extreme weather, psychological safety and more. [Explore the resource page here.](#)

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) offers an interactive course in which the participant learns about Psychological First Aid (PFA) and Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR) by taking on the role of a provider after a disaster. The course includes expert tips, videos, and activities in support of learning. The course is available free of charge; however, to complete a course, you must create a National Child Traumatic Stress Network Learning Center account. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma Research Center** at The University of Tulsa is seeking help with research into topics about journalism experience, training, traumatic experiences such as harassment or covering violence, mental health, occupational stress and/or well-being. To sign up to participate in future research, [complete this form](#).

In an episode of the podcast [Media Confidential](#), hosts **Alan Rusbridger** and **Lionel Barber** are joined by journalists **Esther Solomon**, editor-in-chief of *Haaretz English*, and former Middle East correspondent **Sarah Helm** of *The Independent*, who is currently writing a book about the Gaza Strip, to discuss how violence in Israel and Gaza is being reported by media in the region and around the world, and ethical dilemmas faced by reporters covering one of the world's most complex and emotive conflicts.

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are open for the **2024 OPC Foundation Scholar Awards**. Graduate and undergraduate students at North American colleges and universities or American students studying abroad are invited to apply. An

applicant must be a college junior, senior or graduate student enrolled in a degree program at the application deadline and have demonstrated an interest in international journalism. In a typical year, the Foundation grants 18 scholar awards for the pursuit of academic goals. Winners receive either a \$3,000 scholarship for independent work or a \$4,000 fellowship to be used to fund time in a bureau of a leading news organization such as the Associated Press, Reuters, Bloomberg or the Wall Street Journal. The application deadline is Dec. 1. [Read more and apply here.](#)

Applications are open for the **Wall Street Journal Finance Reporting Fellowship** for early-career journalists with an interest in covering financial markets or personal finance to spend 12 months in the New York newsroom as full-time members of the reporting staff. The deadline to apply is Nov. 10. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Artdocfest is accepting applications for the Artdocfest/Riga IFF Pitch Session, which will take place in March 2024, in Riga. Ten documentary projects will be selected. The application deadline is Jan. 15. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **New York Financial Writers' Association** is calling for nominations for this year's Impact Award to honor a distinguished story or body of work by reporters whose work spurred change. The deadline to submit nominations is Oct. 31. [Read more here.](#)

Applications are open for fellowships from the **Alicia Patterson Foundation**. These fellowships are open only to U.S. citizens who are full-time print journalists, or to non-U.S. citizens who work full-time for U.S. print publications, either in America or abroad. Freelancers are welcome to apply. The deadline to apply is Nov. 1. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The National Press Foundation is offering a year-long fellowship for journalists of color. The Widening the Pipeline Fellowship will provide "expenses-paid trainings in Washington, D.C., as well as virtual workshops to support journalists of color staying in – and leading – the newsrooms of tomorrow." The deadline to apply is Nov. 5. [Read more and apply here.](#)

More Resources

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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