



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin April 4, 2024

Hello Chad,

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Bulletin, which features recaps and videos from recent programs and a summary of the winners for this year's [OPC Annual Awards](#). Please remember to purchase tickets now for the awards dinner [on April 25](#) at Cipriani 25 Broadway.

This installment also includes:

- A recap of the book night [on March 13](#) to discuss *Newshawks in Berlin*
- The OPC Foundation's Evening Reception [on March 5](#) to honor this year's scholarship awards
- A book night [on Feb. 29](#) to discuss *The Red Hotel* and *Putin's Exiles*

Upcoming events:

- An OPC and American Library in Paris panel [on April 23](#) the U.S. Presidential Elections
- A book night, online and in person, [on May 2](#) to discuss Adriana Carranca's book, *Soul by Soul*

You can also read about OPC Governor Rod Nordland's new memoir, catch up on updates on OPC community members in the People column, find programs and opportunities for journalists, and more.



OPC Announces Annual Award Winners

Coverage of the wars in Gaza and Ukraine dominated the competition in the 85th Annual Overseas Press Club Awards. The New York Times and Reuters were the big winners, with each news organization claiming four awards. Two of the Times' awards were for coverage of the Israel-Hamas war and two were for work in Ukraine and Russia. In addition to its coverage of Gaza, Reuters won for reporting on violence in Sudan, drug trafficking in Mexico, and the global risk of new human viruses spread from bat populations.

The awards will be presented at the annual OPC awards dinner in New York on

April 25, with David Remnick, editor of The New Yorker, receiving the club's President's Award for his inspired contribution to international journalism over three decades.

"We are thrilled to be able to honor so much remarkable and courageous work this year," said OPC President Scott Kraft. "The quality of the journalism our judges reviewed was especially strong and competitive – a reminder that international reporting remains not only vital but essential."

"We also are extremely proud to introduce a new award that recognizes continuing coverage of a global conflict. A special congratulations to our first winner in that category – a team from Reuters for its powerful work on the civil war in Sudan."

Please keep an eye on the OPC's X account, [@opcofamerica](#), on [LinkedIn](#), and on this year's awards hashtag, [#OPCAwards85](#), to watch as we continue sharing links to the winning work.

The OPC will honor the journalists at an event [on April 25](#).

The keynote address will be delivered by Maria Ressa, co-founder and CEO of the Philippines' Rappler news service and winner of the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize.

The OPC Press Freedom Candle honoring journalists who have been killed, injured or imprisoned in the past year will be lighted by Ayman Mohyeldin, host of MSNBC's "Ayman."

Marcus Mabry, Senior Vice President of Digital Editorial and Programming for CNN, will serve as the awards presenter.

The OPC Awards judging process is led by John Daniszewski, vice president and editor-at-large for standards of The Associated Press. The entries are reviewed by more than 100 judges from across the profession with deep experience in international journalism.

To see Citation for Excellence (runner-up) winners, [click here](#).

A summary of this year's winners follows. To see a list of winners on the OPC website with full award descriptions, sponsors and judges' comments, click the button below.

85th Annual Overseas Press Club Awards

Newspapers, News Services, Print or Digital

THE HAL BOYLE AWARD

*Best newspaper, news service or
digital reporting from abroad*

Staff
The New York Times

Any Medium

THE MALCOLM FORBES AND MORTON FRANK AWARD

*Best international business news
reporting in any medium*

Miles Johnson
Financial Times

“Israel/Gaza”

THE WILLIAM WORTHY AWARD

Best newspaper, news service or digital interpretation of international affairs

Staff

The New York Times
“Russia/Ukraine”

THE ED CUNNINGHAM AWARD

Best magazine-style, long-form narrative feature in print or digital on an international story

Heidi Blake

The New Yorker
“The Fugitive Princesses of Dubai”

THE MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD

Best international reporting in the print medium or digital showing a concern for the human condition

Krithika Varagur

Harper’s Magazine
“Love in the Time of Sickle-Cell Disease: What’s the Cost of Rolling the Genetic Dice?”

THE KIM WALL AWARD

Best story or series of stories on international affairs using creative and dynamic digital storytelling techniques

Renata Brito and Felipe Dana
The Associated Press
“Adrift”

TV, Video, Radio, or Podcast

THE LOWELL THOMAS AWARD

Best radio, audio, or podcast coverage of international affairs

Eyder Peralta, Dan Girma, Jenny Schmidt, Tara Neill and Ayesha Rascoe
NPR

“The Sunday Story: A Rare Look Inside Locked-down Nicaragua”

“Wagner Inc: The Criminal Empire of Yevgeny Prigozhin”

THE CONTINUING COVERAGE OF CONFLICT AWARD

Best reporting on a continuing international conflict or crisis in any medium

Maggie Michael, El Tayeb Siddig, Ryan McNeill, Zohra Bensemra, Khalid Abdelaziz, Nafisa Eltahir, Aidan Lewi and Staff
Reuters
“Slaughter in Sudan”

THE JOE AND LAURIE DINE AWARD

Best international reporting in any medium dealing with human rights

Isobel Yeung, Maya Rostowska, Daniel Vergara, Kateryna Malofieieva, Sean Stephens and Staff
VICE News
“Stealing Ukraine’s Children”

THE WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD

Best reporting in any medium on international environmental issues

Staff

Reuters
“The Bat Lands”

THE ROBERT SPIERS BENJAMIN AWARD

Best reporting in any medium on Latin America

Drazen Jorgic, Diego Oré, Jackie Botts, Sarah Kinosian and Stephen Eisenhammer
Reuters
“Mexico Narcotics”

THE ROY ROWAN AWARD

Best investigative reporting in any medium on an international story

Ian Urbina, Joe Galvin, Maya Martin, Susan Ryan and Staff of the Outlaw Ocean Project
The New Yorker and The Outlaw

THE DAVID KAPLAN AWARD
*Best TV or video spot news reporting
from abroad*

Staff
CNN Worldwide
“Israel-Hamas War”

THE EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD
*Best TV, video or documentary
interpretation of international affairs
with a run time up to 30 minutes*

Mohammed Sawwaf, Ibrahim Al-Otla,
Salah Al-Haw, Marwan Al-Sawwaf,
Alef Multimedia and the Al Jazeera
Witness Team
Al Jazeera English
“Witness – Rescue Mission Gaza”

THE PETER JENNINGS AWARD
*Best TV, video or documentary about
international affairs with a run time
over 30 minutes*

Mstyslav Chernov, Michelle Mizner,
Raney Aronson-Rath, Derl McCrudden
and Staffs
FRONTLINE (PBS) and The
Associated Press
“20 Days in Mariupol”

**THE DAVID A. ANDELMAN AND
PAMELA TITLE AWARD**
*Best international TV, video, radio,
audio or podcast reporting showing a
concern for the human condition*

Leila Hussain and Bloomberg Staff
Bloomberg News
“Run For Your Life: The Murder that
Shook the Running World”

Ocean Project
“The Crimes Behind the Seafood You
Eat”

THE FLORA LEWIS AWARD
*Best commentary in any medium on
international news*

Mosab Abu Toha
The New Yorker
“Essays on Gaza”

Photography

**THE ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL
AWARD**
*Best photographic reporting from
abroad requiring exceptional courage
and enterprise published in any
medium*

Samar Abu Elouf
The New York Times
“Gaza”

THE OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD
*Best photographic news reporting from
abroad in any medium*

Mohammed Salem
Reuters
“Gaza, ‘Hell on Earth’”

THE DANISH SIDDIQUI AWARD
*Best feature photography on an
international theme published in any
medium*

Nanna Heitmann
The New York Times
“Putin’s Forever War”

Books

THE CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD
*Best non-fiction book on international
affairs*

Paul Caruana Galizia
Penguin Random House, Riverhead
Books
“A Death in Malta”

Cartoons

THE BEST CARTOON AWARD
*Best print or digital graphic journalism,
including cartoons, on international
affairs*

Matt Davies
Newsday

UPCOMING EVENTS

Keynote Speaker
Maria Ressa
Co-founder and CEO, Rappler
Winner, 2021 Nobel Peace Prize

President's Award Winner
David Remnick
Editor, The New Yorker
Winner, 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction

Cocktail Reception
sponsored by
Bloomberg

Post-Dinner Reception
sponsored by
 **REUTERS**

TICKETS
Member \$295
Member's Guest \$295
(limit of one at this price)
Non-Member \$750

Mail a check to the OPC
40 West 45th Street
New York, NY 10036
or buy them online at
bit.ly/OPC_RSVP85

*Honoring the Best
in International
Journalism*

**YOU
ARE
INVITED**

CIPRIANI
25 Broadway, New York
BLACK TIE

**85th ANNUAL
AWARDS DINNER**
April 25, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online via Zoom

Please join the OPC on April 25 for the 85th Annual Awards Dinner to celebrate international journalism.

Maria Ressa, co-founder and CEO of Rappler and winner of the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize, will be the keynote speaker.

David Remnick, editor of The New Yorker and winner of the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction for his book *Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire*, will receive the President's Award for lifetime achievement.

Please follow us on Twitter [@opcofamerica](https://twitter.com/opcofamerica) and tweet using [#OPCAwards85](https://twitter.com/OPCAwards85).

[Purchase Tickets Now](#)



**Feb. 29: American Library in Paris – The
US Presidential Elections – Journalists
Look at What's Ahead (Hybrid)**

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Paris,

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online and at the American Library in Paris, 10 rue du Général Camou

Join the American Library in Paris for a panel discussion in partnership with the OPC on the US presidential race.



The US presidential race has provoked intense anxiety, not only among voters but also around the world. The results could have profound implications on almost every front: immigration, the war in Ukraine, the Middle East, NATO, Russia, the Supreme Court. Join us for an extended, 90-minute media panel moderated by Vivienne Walt, to discuss how the campaign is going, what to look for in the months ahead, and to answer your questions.

About the speakers:

Vivienne Walt is an OPC Governor and a Paris correspondent for TIME Magazine and Fortune Magazine. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, National Geographic, BusinessWeek, and more. She is governor of the Overseas Press Club of America.

The Washington Post's senior national political correspondent, **Ashley Parker**, has covered the White House since Trump's 2016 election, a campaign she also covered. She has shared two Pulitzer Prizes, one for Russia's interference in the 2016 elections, the other for the January 6 insurrection.

The New York Times chief diplomatic correspondent in Europe, **Steven Erlanger**, has covered about 120 countries. He's been bureau chief in eight cities, including London, Moscow, Jerusalem and Paris, and has also served as the Times' chief diplomatic correspondent in Washington. He has shared two Pulitzer Prizes for the New York Times, one for covering Al Qaeda after 9/11, the other for coverage of Russia in 2017.

Guillaume Debré, Deputy Editorial Director of TF1, France's biggest TV news network, was based in Washington for 16 years, working for CNN and French TV, covering the Obama and Trump presidencies. He's the author of several books on US politics, including on Obama and Trump, and a book titled *How Money Ruined American Democracy.*"

For years, Cuban-American illustrator **Edel Rodriguez** has captured the dark absurdity of US politics on the covers of TIME, the New Yorker, and others. His "Meltdown" and "Total Meltdown" TIME covers became iconic representations of the Trump presidency.

RSVP to Attend Online or In-Person

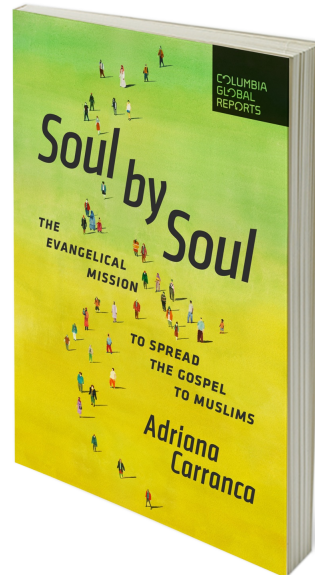


May 2: Book Night – 'Soul by Soul' by Adriana Carranca

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online and at the Columbia Journalism School's Lecture Hall at Pulitzer Hall

Join the Overseas Press Club and Columbia Global Reports in the Lecture Hall at Pulitzer Hall for a conversation to celebrate the publication of [*Soul by Soul: The Evangelical Mission to Spread the Gospel to Muslims*](#) by **Adriana Carranca**, a Columbia Journalism School graduate who covers conflicts and human rights. The Overseas Press Club Foundation awarded Carranca a Harper's Magazine Scholarship in Memory of I.F. Stone in 2018.



Carranca will be joined by **Graciela Mochkofsky**, Dean of the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism, and **Sarah Stillman**, staff writer at The New Yorker. The conversation will be moderated by **Samuel Freedman**, professor of journalism at Columbia Journalism School, with welcome remarks from **Patricia Kranz**, executive director of the OPC.

This event is free to attend, but registration is required. A Q&A and book signing will follow.

[*Soul by Soul*](#) will be available for purchase at the event from Book Culture.

Attend in Person

Attend Online



Non-OPC Events

April 16: Journalism and Crisis

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: The Forum at Columbia University | 601 W 125th St, New York

The Columbia Global Paris Center, Le Monde, and the

Columbia Maison Française will host “Journalism and Crisis,” three specialized panels with world-renowned journalists on the threats they face.

This event will be held in English.

It is free and open to all, with a reception to follow.

RSVP Now



PARIS GLOBAL CENTER | The Paris Center for the Study of the Americas | le Monde | COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE

+ Journalism + Crisis

Asia Balluffier <i>Le Monde</i>	Hoda Osman ARJ
Elvire Camus <i>Le Monde</i>	Gilles Paris <i>Le Monde</i>
Jelani Cobb <i>The New Yorker</i>	Lydia Polgreen CRJ
Robe Imbriano Emmy Award-winner	Laurent Richard <i>Forbidden Stories</i>
Sylvie Kauffmann <i>Le Monde</i>	Bruce Shapiro Dart Center
Habiba Nosheen Emmy Award-winner	Saidu Tejan-Thomas Jr. Peabody Award-winner

Researchers Discuss AP’s Coverage of Nazi Germany in ‘Newshawks of Berlin’

by Chad Bouchard

In the spring of 2016 a German historian, Harriet Scharnberg, [published](#) an academic paper alleging that from the 1930s through World War II, there had been a mutually beneficial two-way cooperation between The Associated Press bureau in Berlin and the Nazi regime.

The article, published in the journal *Studies in Contemporary History* under the title “The Nuts and Bolts of Propaganda,” landed what author and AP investigative journalist Randy Herschaft called “a bombshell that hit the AP offices and startled its staff.”

Herschaft spoke to the OPC during an event on March 13, along with editor and collaborator Ann Cooper, to discuss the ensuing four-year investigation and resulting book, *Newshawks in Berlin: The Associated Press and Nazi Germany*.

He said in the wake of Scharnberg’s revelations John Daniszewski, a longtime OPC member and President of the OPC Foundation who serves as the vice president and editor at large for standards of the AP, felt it was important for the agency to investigate its role in Germany during the war.

Herschaft teamed up with Larry Heinzerling, who served as reporter, foreign correspondent, and news executive during his forty-one-year career at the AP. Cooper, Heinzerling’s wife, worked with Herschaft to complete the book following Heinzerling’s death in 2021.

He and Heinzerling pored over formerly classified government records, diary entries and correspondence, and reviewed countless published articles and images to analyze what the AP covered and what was omitted. The agency’s own official histories did not give a complete picture, so they delved into an extensive repository of journalist writings housed at the Wisconsin Historical Society, where four of the AP’s Berlin “newshawks” had donated their personal collections. The collection included the diaries of Louis P. Lochner, AP’s Berlin bureau chief from 1924 to 1941, and Kent Cooper, AP’s general manager at the time. Lochner served as president of the OPC in the early 1950s.

“He was accused by others of being enthusiastic and reporting the German propaganda line,” Herschaft said.

But he said Lochner reported thoroughly on antisemitic incidents, and in 1939 reported on Hitler’s “liquidation” campaigns against Jewish communities and mass deportations of two million Jews to Eastern Europe in 1941.

Newshawks In Berlin is available for [purchase here](#).

Click the window below to watch a playlist of video clips from the program.



[Read the Full Recap](#)

OPC Foundation Honors 2024 Scholars at Evening Reception



by Chad Bouchard

On March 5, OPC Foundation President John Daniszewski opened this year's scholarship awards celebration, his first time presiding over the event since taking the helm last year.

"I think you'll agree that we have an impressive group of young people this year, who prepared themselves and aspire to the great and noble vocation of being international correspondents, helping to bring the world closer," Daniszewski said, addressing the crowd of family, friends and supporters who gathered to honor 18 journalists chosen by judges to be among the best of their generation. "And believe me, in these times, we need that."

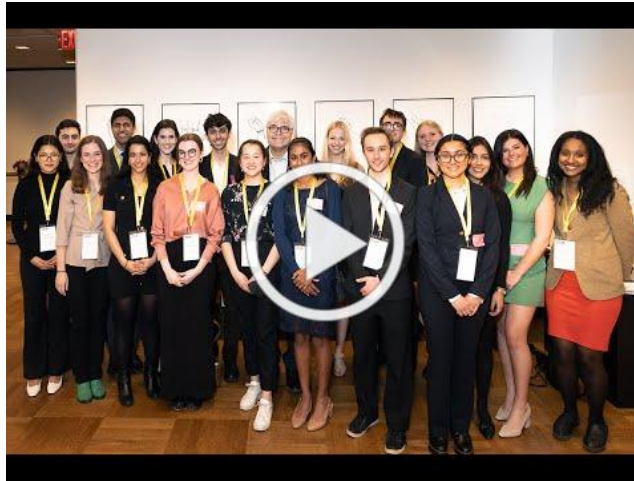
To watch a full recording of the celebration, [click the window below](#). More information about this year's scholars [can be found here](#) on the foundation's website.

Daniszewski also took a moment to honor the vital work of his predecessor, William J. Holstein, who served as the foundation's president for 27 years. "It is no exaggeration to credit him for making this organization what it is today. His zeal for helping young journalists get started is unmatched," Daniszewski said.

Holstein is a former China correspondent for United Press International (UPI), and over his career was reporter and editor for BusinessWeek and the U.S. News & World Report, among many others.

The foundation will send 11 winners this year to newsrooms around the world for The Associated Press, Reuters and The Wall Street Journal, among others. The OPC Foundation expressed gratitude to its sponsors: the Benefactors – Bloomberg, Jeremy Main and Mercedes-Benz; Patrons – Reuters, The Wall Street Journal and the Ward Creek Foundation; and its Friends – The

Associated Press, CBS News, the Pamela Howard Family Foundation, NBCUniversal Media Group, Quest Diagnostics and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York.



[Read the Full Recap](#)

Photo above, left to right: Brunella Tipismana, Michael Wakin, Catherine Cartier, Simar Bajaj, Trisha Mukherjee, Hannah-Kathryn Walles, Laura Robertson, Dani Morena Trettin, Kate Selig, John Daniszewski, Sonia A. Rao, Paige Cromley, Mark Banchereau, Sam Harshbarger, Audrey Thibert, Jade Lozada, Coral Murphy Marcos, Noelle Harff and Hana Kiros

Authors Discuss Press Suppression in Russia's Past and Present

by Chad Bouchard

Russian and Soviet history is fraught with the use of censorship, misinformation and restrictions on press freedom to shape a favorable narrative for citizens and observers abroad. On Feb. 29, the OPC hosted a discussion with authors whose books detail tools of Russian repression in two eras nearly a century apart.

Alan Philps, a former Moscow correspondent for Reuters and the Daily Telegraph, wrote *The Red Hotel: Moscow 1941, the Metropol Hotel, and the Untold Story of Stalin's Propaganda War*.

He said in the early days of World War II, European correspondents jockeyed for limited spots in Moscow as German occupation expanded and Russia limited access to only about two dozen foreign correspondents.

"It was a strange time. Complete fraternization was allowed in the Metropol between the foreigners and the Soviet citizens, which wasn't allowed anywhere else in Stalin's time. That was to keep the journalists quiet, since they weren't really allowed to do their job."

Paul Starobin, former Moscow bureau chief of Businessweek and a frequent reporter on Russia, is the author of *Putin's Exiles: Their Fight for a Better*

Russia.

Starobin said he started focusing on Russian exiles after the 2022 invasion of Ukraine and ensuing crackdown on media, which caused about one million people to flee the country.

“It seemed to me very interesting that a kind of age-old Russian pattern was repeating itself – of exile – which has always been the flipside of repression,” he said. “You can go back to the 19th century or even earlier, and there have always been these exiles, many of whom have been politically charged and organized, with an agenda for change inside of Russia, but brought about from outside of Russia.”

The Red Hotel is available for [purchase here](#).

Putin’s Exiles is available for [purchase here](#).

Click the window below to watch a recording of the program.



[Read the Full Recap](#)

OPC Member Rod Nordland Finds a New Life ‘Waiting for the Monsoon’

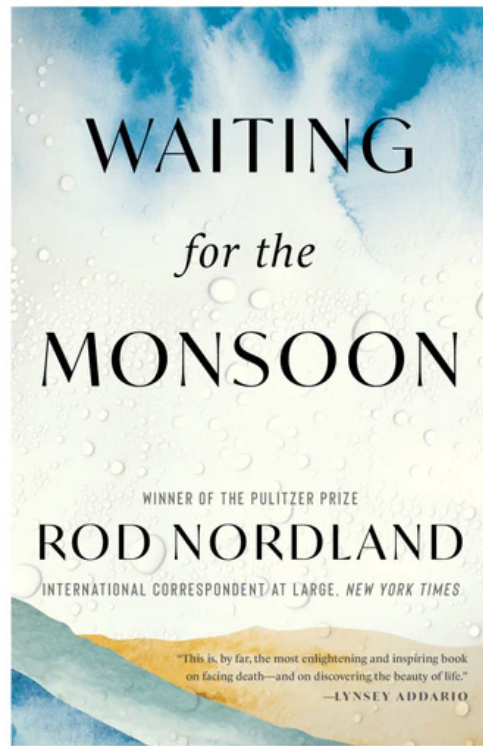
In July 2019, international correspondent Rod Nordland was on assignment for The New York Times in Delhi when he collapsed during a morning run. That was the beginning of a medical odyssey leading to a diagnosis of a brain tumor – the always fatal glioblastoma. “This disease will kill you, and you need to come to terms with that,” Nordland’s New York neurosurgeon told him. The median life expectancy for those with the diagnosis is 15 months.

Nearly five years later, Nordland, an OPC

Governor, is still fighting. He has chronicled that battle in a new memoir, *Waiting for the Monsoon*.

In it, Nordland describes a “second life” born of his illness. “I no longer flinched at love and intimacy,” he writes. “Gone was the old arrogance, the certitude that dominated my every action – a combination that likely helped make me a successful foreign correspondent and bureau chief but denied me the opportunity of becoming so much more.”

The memoir is also an accounting of Nordland’s 30-year career as a war correspondent for The Philadelphia Enquirer, Newsweek and the Times in Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere – a total of 150 countries. New Yorker Editor David Remnick calls him “the foreign correspondent’s foreign correspondent.”



Covering war meant that “death was no stranger to me,” Nordland writes. But “my tumor was the best thing that ever happened to me, a gift that has enhanced my life ever since.”

Waiting for the Monsoon is [published by Harper Collins](#).

Barcelona Tour

Last September, (pictured from left to right) Lilian King, Katy Frank and OPC Past President Allan Dodds Frank, were treated to a tour of Barcelona's ancient foundations at the El Born Center of Culture by Elisabet Cantenys, the executive director of the ACOS Alliance, her partner Roger Arquer and their daughter Alba.



Welcome New Members

Sarah Schröer López
Columbia University
Journalism School
New York
Student



Tara Todras-Whitehill
Media Consultant
and Agency Owner
TW Storytelling
Agency
Lisbon, Portugal
Associate Overseas



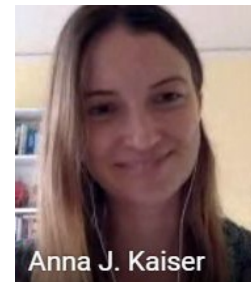
People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Francis Tang, the David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship winner in 2023, has been hired as news reporter at the Japan Times. Tang has an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Tokyo.



Anna Jean Kaiser, the Sally Jacobsen Fellowship winner in 2021, celebrated her one-year anniversary as the Florida correspondent for Bloomberg, where she covers the business and politics. Before her time at Bloomberg, she was a staff reporter on the business desk at the Miami Herald. She previously freelanced in Brazil.



After two and a half years at the Argus Leader in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, **Annie Todd**, winner of the S&P Global Award for Economic and Business Reporting in 2020, is headed to the Cascadia Daily News in Bellingham, Washington, where she will cover criminal justice.



Wall Street Journal reporter **Alexander Saedy**, the Fritz Beebe Fellowship winner in 2015, is now [covering](#) banking for the paper. He previously covered credit markets, financial distress and sovereign debt for the Journal. Before that, he covered corporate bankrupt for Reorg, and was a senior reporter for Leveraged Commentary & Data. Before covering finance and economics in the U.S., he was a reporter in Brussels, covering European politics. His fellowship for the OPC Foundation placed him at the Reuters' bureau in Brussels at the height of the Greek debt crisis.



AWARDS

In addition to winning this year's Peter Jennings Award from the OPC, the FRONTLINE (PBS) documentary *20 Days in Mariupol*, [won](#) the Oscar for Best Documentary Feature. OPC Governor **Raney Aronson-Rath** was part of the team that produced the documentary, produced in collaboration with The Associated Press, marking her sixth OPC award since 2015 for her work with FRONTLINE (PBS), and several citations over the same period. *20 Days in Mariupol's* production team includes Michelle Mizner, Derl McCrudden and Mstyslav Chernov. Chernov was also part of the team that won the 2022 Hal Boyle Award for AP coverage of Mariupol.



OPC member **Alice Driver** [won](#) a J. Anthony Lukas Prize Project Award in the Work-in-Progress category for her book, *The Life and Death of the American Worker: The Immigrants Taking on America's Largest Meatpacking Company*. The award comes with a \$25,000 prize, presented by the Columbia Journalism School and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University.



Krithika Varagur, an OPC member and the winner of the Sally Jacobsen Fellowship in 2019, won the OPC's Madeline Dane Ross Award for her piece in Harper's Magazine, which follows the story of "what happens when you fall in love, but your genes are incompatible." That article, titled "Love in the Time of Sickle Cell Disease," involved a year of reporting from Nigeria.



UPDATES

The New York Times has [hired](#) OPC member **Cassandra Vinograd** as a news editor in London. She has reported news from Africa, Europe and the Middle East for almost 20 years, starting with The Associated Press in West Africa, and later working as an editor with The Wall Street Journal in Brussels and then in London, where she has freelanced and covered defense, foreign affairs and politics for the AP. She also previously worked for 60 Minutes and NBC News and was part of the NBC team that won a 2014 Peabody Award for coverage of ISIS and Emmy nominations for coverage of the 2016 attacks in Brussels and Charlie Hebdo attacks in Paris.

OPC member **Mady Camara** wrote a piece for The New York Times [on March 24](#), along with colleague Ruth Maclean, about the presidential election in Senegal that "many young people see as a chance to overhaul the political and economic order." The election was beset by sudden changes, with incumbent President Macky Sall calling off the election three weeks beforehand, then reversing that decision, and releasing a rival, Ousmane Sonko, from jail along with a man Sonko was supporting for president, Bassirou Diomaye Faye. Faye won the election, with early counts showing he had garnered 54 percent of the vote.



Prue Clarke, an OPC member who is co-founder and executive director of New Narratives, a women-led

organization that supports local news and independent journalism, noted that the group supported an investigation in Liberia, published [on March 22](#), into the use of cleaner cookstoves to improve health and reduce environmental impact from cookpots on open fires. “Cookpots are often used in confined areas with little ventilation, exposing families to air pollution which causes diseases such as asthma, lung disease, pneumonia, and cancer,” wrote reporter Tina S. Mehnepaine, with support from New Narratives.



Anand Gopal, a club member and past OPC Award winner, wrote a longform story for The New Yorker’s [March 18](#) issue about a U.S.-supported prison camp in Syria where tens of thousands of survivors and supporters of ISIS have are being held indefinitely in horrific conditions. Gopal wrote that about fifty thousand people, more than half of them children, are currently imprisoned in Al-Hol, a place that the United Nations has called a “blight on the conscience of humanity.” He described atrocious conditions at the prison, which is effectively under the control of its ISIS inmates. including assassination squads, makeshift Sharia courts where judges order floggings and executions, and bodies of murdered detainees regularly turning up in ditches. Gopal is a four-time OPC Award winner, most recently winning the 2021 Ed Cunningham Award for his examination of how Afghan women have been affected by waves of war.



OPC member **James Brooke** will speak about Ukraine and Russia [on April 9](#) for an online chat at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Berkshire Community College. Brooke lived and worked in Kyiv and Moscow for a total of 14 years as correspondent for The New York Times, Voice of America and Bloomberg, among others. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Registration is free, and the program will be recorded and posted on the [OLLI YouTube channel](#) afterward.



OPC member **Judith Matloff** has been working as a consultant for an HBO pilot comedy about war correspondents. The show-runner for the project is actress Amanda Peet.



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Neil Hickey, a past OPC member and awards judge, died on March 22 in Mahopac, New York at the age of 92. Hickey started his career in journalism in Baltimore, serving for three years as a naval officer aboard a destroyer during and after the Korean War, and then resuming his career as a reporter in New York. He reported from Vietnam, the 1991 war in Kuwait, the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Cuba, the Baltics, Northern Ireland, Singapore, and around the U.S. He was New York bureau chief for TV Guide, and served as editor-at-large for the Columbia Journalism Review and was adjunct professor at the Columbia

University Graduate School of Journalism. He was welcomed as a new member of the OPC in 1962. Hickey was a judge for the OPC Awards for a number of years spanning from about 2007 to 2019. His book, *Adventures in the Scribblers Trade*, was published [in February 2015](#). His wife, Lisa Lane, a champion chess player, died [on Feb. 28](#) at the age of 90.

People Column

New Resources

RESOURCES

The **Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute** and research firm **Smith Geiger** announced the results of its large survey seeking solutions to burnout in newsrooms. Read about the results [here](#), view a short video [here](#) and download a white paper [here](#).

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The **A Culture of Safety (ACOS) Alliance** and **The World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA)** have launched an Editor Safety Hub, a free training platform for news editors and managers. The Hub is starting off with with The Fundamentals of Safe Commissioning, a self-paced training course that equips news editors and managers with the skills they need to safely commission journalistic work, support the safety of freelancers they work with and embed a culture of safety within their everyday practice. The course was created with [Aegis Safety Alliance](#) and in consultation with news editors, safety trainers and educational consultants. [Explore the Editor Safety Hub here](#)

WAN-IFRA has also released a new podcast series focusing on Press Freedom Around the World. An April 3 episode focuses on press freedom challenges in The Americas, with interviews with journalists from the US, Guatemala and Mexico. [Listen to the episode here](#).

The **International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF)** and **Bronx Documentary Center** are offering a 2-day safety training for NY journalists from April 29 to 30. Spaces are limited, and the deadline to apply is April 5. [Read more and apply here](#).

The **IWMF** is also offering safety support to U.S. newsrooms ahead of the November election. The organization offers short needs-based assessments to review policies, an hour-long call with an online abuse expert, templates, policy examples, guides, and training for staff and freelancers if requested. [Read more and apply here](#).

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The **National Press Foundation** and the **National Press Club Journalism Institute** jointly award up to \$75,000 in grants to U.S.-based journalists who plan to cover environmental justice. [Applications for the 2024 grants are open](#)

[until April 24.](#)

The Fund for Investigative Journalism (FIJ) is calling for proposals for regular grants of up to \$10,000 for full investigative stories, and seed grants for early reporting of up to \$2,500. Proposals for regular grants are due April 29, and applications for seed grants are due May 10. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Carter Center is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism. Applicants should demonstrate a strong interest in mental health reporting during the fellowship year. Previous mental health reporting experience is not required. Applications are due by April 12. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Pulitzer Center is offering reporting grants through its Peace and Conflict reporting initiative, and actively seeking to support coverage on underreported angles of the Israel-Hamas war. Grants are given on a rolling basis. [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.

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