

# Northwestern | MEDILL



**It's Official**  
**CHARLES WHITAKER**  
**IS DEAN OF MEDILL**

**ALUMNI TRAVEL  
WRITERS**

**JEFFREY ZUCKER  
SCHOLARSHIPS**

**IMC IN  
SAN FRANCISCO**

# Congratulations to Max Bearak of the Washington Post

*Winner of the 2018 James Foley  
Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism*



The Nairobi Bureau Chief won for his reporting from sub-Saharan Africa. His stories from Congo, Niger and Zimbabwe chronicled a wide range of extreme events that required intense bravery in dangerous situations without being reckless or putting himself at the center of the story, said the judges, who were unanimous in their decision.

The 2018 medal is given for work published during the 2017 calendar year to an individual or team of journalists, working for a U.S.-based media outlet, who best displayed moral, physical, ethical, financial or political courage in the pursuit of a story or series of stories.

Visit [www.medill.northwestern.edu/news](http://www.medill.northwestern.edu/news) for the complete story.

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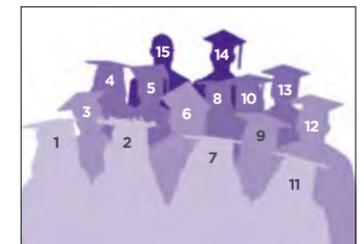
Alumni work in travel-focused positions that encourage others to explore the world.

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COVER PHOTO: Class of 2019 students with Dean Charles Whitaker. 1. Haley Glazer 2. Tyra Triche 3. Kali Robinson 4. Emma Sarappo 5. Leo Ji 6. Melvin Butler 7. Kaitlyn Budrow 8. Hannah Curcio 9. Nicole Fallert 10. Meredith Sonnefeldt 11. Anna Cebulski 12. Matthew Zdun 13. Alexander Muller 14. Benjamin Trachtenberg 15. Charles Whitaker



ISSUE 100 - CORRECTIONS: On page 31, in the IMC Immersion Quarter section, "San Rafael" was misspelled as "San Raphael."



**CHARLES WHITAKER**  
DEAN

To the Members of the Medill Family,

It is an honor for me to assume the reins as the ninth dean of Medill. The out-pouring of support that greeted the announcement of my appointment was incredibly heartwarming. I received more than 800 congratulatory emails and close to 200 Facebook and LinkedIn messages from friends, colleagues and class-mates, as well as current and former students. While I tried to respond to every missive, eventually I had to get back to the job of being dean. So, to those whose encouraging words I may not have had the opportunity to acknowledge, please forgive me. I hope to thank you in person on one of my visits to our robust alumni clubs in or near your city.

I will confess that when I entered Medill in the fall of 1976 as a shy, unsure freshman from the South Side of Chicago, I never imagined that I would someday find myself walking the same path as legendary Dean Ira “Bill” Cole, a larger-than-life figure who developed many of the curricular innovations that put Medill on the map, including our journalism residencies (“Teaching Newspaper” as it was known to old-timers like me) and our Washington, D.C., and Chicago programs. But even an educational visionary like Bill Cole would not recognize the advances that Medill has made—with our groundbreaking Integrated Marketing Communications program, our multi-platform digital curriculum and our ever-expanding international footprint.

As the first alumna tapped to lead Medill, I have a deep appreciation for both the storied history of this amazing institution and a vision for the tremendous opportunities that lay ahead. But I am well aware that we cannot rest on our laurels. We must not only continue to provide amazing, real-world experiences for our students at home and abroad, we also must carve out a reputation as thought leaders and innovators in the domains we serve. No longer is it sufficient for a great institution like Medill to be content solely with preparing the next generation of journalists and marketers to enter those fields. We must take up the mantle of leadership for those industries, both of which have been upended by the digital revolution. We must be the standard bearers (and in some instances, the standard setters) for the creative output and conduct that marks journalism and marketing. We must stand up for truth, ethics and the highest ideals that govern our fields.

And we must do a better job—in both our curriculum and in the composition of our community—of reflecting and understanding the cultural and socio-economic diversity of the world we inhabit and the worlds in which our students will be employed. My decades-long relationship with Medill makes me painfully aware of when and how we have fallen short in our practice and pedagogy in this regard, and I have spent the better part of the past 30 years championing diversity in media and higher education. That will not change now that I occupy the dean’s seat. In fact, I would consider it a dereliction of my duty as dean if I did not continue to press for equity and inclusion in our school and industries. (Recent MSJ grad Elaine Ramirez has vowed to hold my feet to the fire on this pledge. She is just the sort of firebrand who will publicly take me to task should I renege.)

Of course, no leader can singlehandedly advance an institution. I will need the help of the entire Medill community—including faculty, students, staff and our network of 17,000 alumni—to propel our school in a direction that enables us to maintain our position as one of the best schools of its kind in the world. February of 2021 will mark Medill’s centennial, and I welcome your critique and your advice as my team and I build upon the foundation laid by my decanal predecessors. This is an exciting time to be at Medill.

I look forward to partnering with you as we chart the course for our next 100 years.



## NPR’s Antonia Cerejido named inaugural Cecilia Vaisman award winner by Medill, NAHJ

### CEREIJIDO TO VISIT NORTHWESTERN IN NOVEMBER

Audio journalist Antonia Cerejido was selected as the first recipient of the Cecilia Vaisman Award for Multimedia Reporters. The award is a partnership between Medill and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Cerejido is an award-winning producer at NPR’s Latino USA where her coverage has included a profile of the Mexican-American man who became wealthy by building controversial shelters housing migrant children, a meditation on whether Latinos cry more on average, and a historical and feminist analysis of Mattel’s Frida Kahlo “Barbie.”

Members of the award selection committee, which included NAHJ Chicago and student chapter members, along with Medill representatives, selected Cerejido based on her body of work, as well as her willingness to mentor students, speak in classes and serve as a role model. The award, which will be given each year, includes a \$5,000 cash prize. Cerejido will visit Northwestern in November to talk about her audio journalism work with students, faculty and the community.

“Antonia’s curiosity and journalistic instincts, combined with her hard work and unique lens on the world, make her stories both memorable and important,” said Medill Dean Charles Whitaker.

The award is named in memory of Vaisman, a Medill associate professor who was a leader in audio journalism and a member of NAHJ. The award recognizes Latinx and Hispanic audio and video journalists who bring light to the issues that affect the Latinx and Hispanic communities in the U.S. and around the world.

Cerejido is an alumna of Medill where she had Vaisman as a professor. “Through Cecilia’s guidance, I learned of stories that rejected tropes that portray immigrants as one dimensional and showed how immigrants could make art of their lives by daring to envision new futures. She was a fierce advocate for quality and thoughtfulness,” said Cerejido. “At the editing phase of every story I produce, I wonder what she could take issue with or what other sources she would suggest ... I am deeply honored to be given this award and am very grateful to both Medill and NAHJ.”

“Cecilia Vaisman was a personal and professional mentor to Antonia during her time at Medill, and I know Professor Vaisman would be thrilled that Antonia was selected to be the first recipient of this award,” said Medill Associate Professor Mei-Ling Hopgood, who served on the award committee.

Cerejido was a USC California Health and Institute for Justice & Journalism Fellow. She was the co-host of The Payoff, a podcast about personal finance for millennials from Mic.com, a guest on BuzzFeed’s Another Round and on Slate’s Represent. She also hosted a Twitter exclusive video for the History Channel. She has interpreted for *This American Life* and *Love + Radio*.

“It is imperative for NAHJ to support our Latinx and Hispanic journalists, who possess the moral, ethical or physical courage to bring light to issues that affect underserved communities,” said Alberto B. Mendoza, NAHJ Executive Director. “Announcing the winner of the 2019 Vaisman award, is announcing the young journalist who will help to preserve the legacy of Cecilia Vaisman and the mission dedicated to telling the stories of people who deserve to be heard.”



## Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter Debbie Cenziper joins Medill faculty

Award-winning investigative reporter **DEBBIE CENZIPER** joined Medill's faculty as associate professor and director of investigative journalism. For more than 20 years, Cenziper's investigative

stories have exposed wrongdoing, prompted Congressional hearings and led to changes in federal and local laws.

Cenziper is currently a contributing member of The Washington Post's investigative team and an assistant professor of journalism at The George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs. She spent nearly a decade on staff at The Post, investigating local nonprofit groups that failed to provide services for people with AIDS and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's troubled housing-construction program for the poor.

At The Miami Herald, Cenziper won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for local reporting for a year-long investigation about

affordable housing corruption, which led to the convictions of several developers and to a federal takeover of the housing agency. In 2006, she was named a Pulitzer finalist in explanatory reporting for her series exposing breakdowns in the nation's hurricane-warning system.

At George Washington University, where she has been on the faculty since 2016, Cenziper serves as an undergraduate adviser, media fellow with the Graduate School of Education, and board member and faculty adviser to the student newspaper. She has twice forged partnerships with the Medill Justice Project, leading to the publication of joint investigations on front pages of The Washington Post.

In addition to teaching courses in investigative reporting to both graduate students and undergraduates at Medill, Cenziper, who will be based in D.C., will help develop the school's investigative reporting curriculum and direct the Medill Justice Project. She will start at Medill in September, teaching an investigative reporting course to undergraduates on Northwestern's Evanston campus in the fall.

## More Faculty Appointments



**JESSICA HULLMAN** is now an assistant professor with a joint appointment in journalism and computer science. Her primary research interests are in information visualization and the communication of uncertainty. She hopes to help more people, including news readers, make sense of complex information through tools that use visualization, structured data and automation.

Hullman's research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, Google, Adobe, Tableau Software and the Navy, among others. She has received multiple Best Paper awards from top journals. Prior to joining Northwestern, she was an assistant professor at the University of Washington Information School and a postdoctoral fellow in Computer Science at the University of California Berkeley.

Hullman received her Ph.D. and MSI from the University of Michigan School of Information.

On May 1, Hullman was awarded one of five Microsoft Research Faculty Fellowships, which come with a \$100,000 annual prize for two years to pursue breakthrough, high-impact research. The grant is an unrestricted gift, providing the Fellows the freedom to plan their research, hire graduate students, build labs, and acquire equipment.



**MI HYUN LEE** has joined the IMC faculty as an assistant professor. Her research interests focus on the economic and societal aspects of new technology-enabled channels as well as empirical modeling and marketing analytics. Her current work explores emerging mobile channels and their impact on consumer behavior by using both statistical and econometric models.

Lee also worked as a senior research fellow at the Samsung Research Institute of Finance in Seoul, South Korea. She has a Ph.D. in marketing from Arizona State University and a Ph.D. in statistics from Virginia Tech.



◀ LEFT: Associate Professor Susan Mango Curtis (center) with students and faculty at the spring 2018 Northwestern Creative Jam contest on the Northwestern Evanston campus.

Leader, she was an early adopter of digital publishing on smartphones and tablets.

"Susan's creative energy is infectious and she is a true asset to the Medill faculty," said Medill Dean Charles Whitaker. "As storytelling methods and platforms continue to evolve, Susan's journalistic perspective, visual skills and unique approach are helping Medill students and graduates tell critically important stories in new ways."

Curtis has applied her expertise in strategic planning and product management to champion visual thinking and immersive storytelling. She is a design consultant for publications and organizations in the U.S. and other countries and is frequently invited to lecture at various universities and media events.

Prior to her academic work, she was assistant managing editor for the Akron (Ohio) Beacon Journal, and a member of the team that won the Pulitzer Prize gold medal in 1994 for a series titled "The Question of Color." Curtis is also a founding member of the National Association of Black Journalists' visual task force.

## SOCIETY FOR NEWS DESIGN HONORS SUSAN MANGO CURTIS

Medill Associate Professor **SUSAN MANGO CURTIS** has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for News Design (SND). SND is an international organization for news media and visual communications professionals who create print, web and mobile publications and products.

Curtis joined Medill in 1997 and has taught students to report, create, edit and design visuals to tell the news in both digital and print. An award-winning Adobe Education

## Loew Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences



Professor **PATTY LOEW** has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. This is an incredibly prestigious and well-deserved honor.

As its website states, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which was founded in 1780, "honors excellence and convenes leaders from every field of human endeavor

to examine new ideas, address issues of importance to the nation and the world." The list of Academy honorees includes more than 250 Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners. With Patty's election, she joins such notable figures as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Alexander Graham Bell, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., Jonas Salk, Albert Einstein and Nelson Mandela. Patty will be inducted in a formal ceremony in Cambridge, Mass. in October.

## Edgerly Honored by University of Wisconsin-Madison



Medill Associate Professor **STEPHANIE EDGERLY** has been honored by the University of Wisconsin-Madison for her early success in her academic career. Edgerly, who earned her Ph.D. from UW-Madison's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, was named a recipient in the inaugural class of the Sharon Dunwoody Early Career Award. This award honors

excellence in both teaching and scholarly work, including a promising program of published research and demonstrated success in teaching or advising undergraduate and master's students.

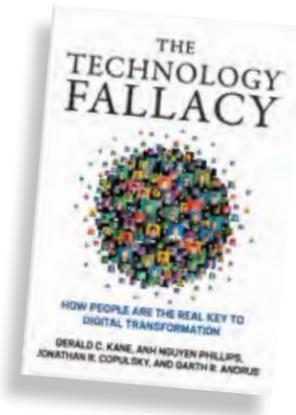
Edgerly's research explores how various aspects and features of news media affect the way audiences consume news and engage in politics. Edgerly has published more than 24 journal articles along with a half-dozen book chapters. She has presented her research at a number of major scholarly conferences, where three of her papers have been chosen for top faculty paper honors.

## Faculty Books

### “THE TECHNOLOGY FALLACY” BY GERALD C. KANE, ANH NGUYEN PHILLIPS, JONATHAN R. COPULSKY AND GARTH R. ANDRUS

IMC FACULTY MEMBER **JONATHAN COPULSKY** has co-authored a new book, “The Technology Fallacy: How People Are the Real Key to Digital Transformation,” published by MIT Press. The book draws on more than four year of research conducted by Jonathan and his co-authors under the aegis of Deloitte (where Jonathan was a senior partner and Global Insights Leader prior to joining the Medill faculty) and the MIT Sloan Management Review.

“The Technology Fallacy” focuses on the mistaken assumption that just because digital technologies cause much of the business disruption that companies are experiencing, that it follows that the implementation of technology is also the solution or the best response for organizations. In the book, Jonathan and his co-authors argue that many of the cultural, organizational, strategic, leadership, and talent responses are far more important and difficult than the technological ones. Cutting-edge technologies implemented in organizations with dated business practices, are unlikely to get organizations to where they need to go. While many leaders acknowledge digital disruption, their responses are frequently ineffective and the book offers up a healthy buffet of recommendations to tackle the people issues critical to successful digital transformations.



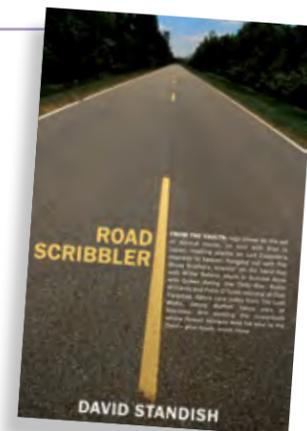
### “EYE TO EYE: SPORTS JOURNALIST CHRISTINE BRENNAN” BY JULIE RUBINI

Medill Professor-in-Practice **CHRISTINE BRENNAN (BSJ81, MSJ81)** is the subject of a new young readers book by Julie Rubini titled “Eye to Eye: Sports Journalist Christine Brennan.” In the book, which targets middle school-age kids, Brennan uses her voice to advocate for diversity and equality in the world of sports and to share her wisdom to encourage future journalists. Her passion for sports was sparked by her dad, who encouraged her to participate in athletics and, as he said, “smell the game”— go watch baseball and football games together.

As a child, Christine wrote daily entries in her diary and listened to play-by-play coverage on her radio. She pursued this love of words through journalism school and applied her passion for sports by reporting on them for various newspapers. Since then, she has portrayed the setbacks and triumphs of athletes, all the while fighting her own battles for success—and respect—as a female journalist. Eye to Eye invites young readers to learn more about this remarkable journalist and perhaps to nurture their own dreams of investigating and telling important stories.

### “ROAD SCRIBBLER” BY DAVID STANDISH

A music journalist on the road with legends almost always has stories editors refuse to publish. So it is with David Standish, assistant professor emeritus at Medill, in his book, “Road Scribbler,” a “writer’s cut” of sorts about his adventures in the rock world. In the book, Standish details a bumpy flight with Led Zeppelin, hanging out with the Blues Brothers, smokin’ on the band bus with Willie Nelson, stuck in Buenos Aires with Queen, taking care of business with Jimmy Buffett, relaxing with Robin Williams and Peter O’Toole at Club Paradise, touring with Kiss in Japan and high times on the set of “Animal House.”



## Medill Alumni Events

MEDILL REGULARLY HOSTS EVENTS NATIONWIDE THAT WELCOME ALUMNI AND GUESTS FOR SPEAKING EVENTS, NETWORKING AND MINGLING.

HERE ARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM WINTER/SPRING 2019.

### Medill in Miami

◀ **YNDIRA MARIN (BSJ06)** and **ORNELLA HERNANDEZ (BSJ16)**



👤 **Devin Benjamin** and **AJA EDWARDS (BSJ13)**



Long-time Medill friends ▶ **ANA MANTICA (BSJ03, MSJ04)** and **PATRICIA NUNEZ (BSJ06, IMC07)** at the American Social bar and restaurant in Miami on February 21.

University of Miami faculty ▶ member and Medill alumna **HEIDI CARR (MSJ87)** brought a crew of prospective MSJs to the event.





## Medill Club of New England

FROM LEFT: ROY HARRIS (BSJ68), MARK MCWEENY (WEINBERG91) and MIKE BRAATZ (WEINBERG91, KELLOGG98) at the Sam Adams Brewery on April 4 in Boston.



A big Medill welcome from The Sam Adams Brewery

Alums enjoyed barbecue with their Boston beverages.



## Medill in DC

SUSAN PAGE (BSJ73), the Washington Bureau Chief of USA Today, spoke to the Medill Club of D.C. and the NU Club of D.C. in May about her new best-selling Barbara Bush biography, "The Matriarch." From left: JOIE CHEN (BSJ82, MSJ83), director of Medill programs in Washington; Susan Page.



# MEDILL HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT WELCOMES 2019 INDUCTEES

Medill welcomed five inductees into its Hall of Achievement at a ceremony on May 16 in Evanston. The Hall of Achievement was established in 1997 to honor Medill alumni whose distinctive careers have had positive effects on their fields. "Each of this year's Hall of Achievement inductees represents the best of Medill and is truly deserving of the school's highest honor," said Dean Charles Whitaker. "This year's class is particularly special because it includes two long-time faculty members who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to their students, their colleagues and their fields."



BSJ70, MSJ71

## DONNA ROSENE LEFF, PH.D.

Professor Donna Leff (BSJ70, MSJ71) is currently the longest-serving full-time member of the Medill faculty and is a longstanding faculty affiliate of the University's Institute for Policy Research. She was editor of the Daily Northwestern from 1969 to 1970.

Leff teaches courses in science writing, urban reporting, urban issues, culture and the business of journalism, and media law and ethics. She does research on science/policy issues and the role of minorities and race in media coverage and in the profession. She is co-author of "The Journalism of Outrage" and several related studies on the effect of investigative reporting on social issues.

Leff's interest in health policy research is an outgrowth of her award-winning investigative reporting for Chicago Today and the Chicago Tribune newspapers and the Ypsilanti Michigan Press, where her exposés included the cover-up of murders at a Veterans Administration Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and widespread waste in public hospitals in Chicago.

Leff received a doctorate degree in public policy from the University of California at Berkeley.



**BSJ 87, MSJ 88**

**MATT MURRAY**

Matt Murray is the editor in chief of The Wall Street Journal and Dow Jones Newswires New York, and is responsible for all global newsgathering and editorial operations.

He previously served as executive editor since 2017, and had been deputy editor in chief since 2013. He joined Dow Jones & Company in 1994 as a reporter for the Pittsburgh bureau.

Murray is the author of two books. “The Father and the Son” tells the story of his father’s spiritual quest and decision to enter a Benedictine monastery after the death of Murray’s mother. He also is the co-author of “Strong of Heart: Life and Death in the Fire Department of New York,” a memoir published in 2002 with former New York City fire commissioner Thomas Von Essen that chronicles Von Essen’s career in the New York City Fire Department pre-and-post 9/11.



**MSJ 87**

**BRETT A. PULLEY**

Brett A. Pulley is an executive vice president, director of corporate content and senior media strategist at Weber Shandwick, one of the world’s leading communications firms. He advises corporate clients and C-Suite executives on a range of issues, including marketing communications, storytelling, crisis response, and diversity and inclusion. His responsibilities include editorial content and speechwriting for senior executives, strategizing on thought leadership and media, and managing various content-related initiatives.

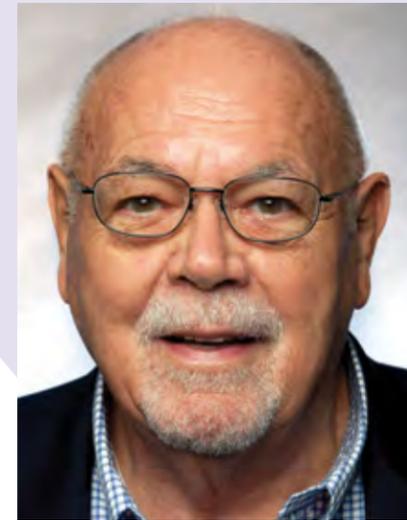
A veteran journalist, author and educator, prior to joining Weber Shandwick, Pulley served as dean of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University in southeastern Virginia.

A longtime business and finance journalist, prior to his work at Hampton,

Pulley spent three years covering the media and entertainment industries at Bloomberg L.P. where he appeared regularly on the company’s wire service, website and inside Bloomberg BusinessWeek magazine. He also appeared frequently on Bloomberg Television, providing commentary and insight into media industry news.

Formerly a senior editor at Forbes Magazine, Pulley authored many cover stories for the magazine on topics ranging from the legendary Hollywood studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, to the entertainment giant, The Walt Disney Co. Prior to joining Forbes in 1999, he spent five years at The New York Times, as a national correspondent and as a local reporter covering politics and economic development. His work at The Times was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He also spent five years as a reporter at The Wall Street Journal.

Pulley has received numerous journalism awards, including two first place annual prizes from the National Association of Black Journalists. He is the author of The Billion Dollar BET (JohnWiley & Sons, April 2004), a book that takes an in-depth look at Black Entertainment Television and its founder, Robert L. Johnson.



**PROFESSOR EMERITUS-IN-SERVICE**

**DON E. SCHULTZ, PH.D.**

Often called the father of Integrated Marketing Communications, Don E. Schultz is professor emeritus-in-service of integrated marketing communications at Medill and president of Agora, Inc., a global marketing, communication and branding consulting firm. He joined Medill in 1977 and has served as department chair and associate dean. Schultz played a crucial role in creating the IMC master’s degree at Medill more than 25 years ago.

He is the author/co-author of 28 books and more than 150 trade, academic and professional articles. He was the founding editor of the Journal of Direct Marketing and the associate editor of the Journal of Marketing Communications.

Schultz was the recipient of Northwestern University’s Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award in 2010, Direct Marketing News’ Emerson Award in 2012, the Marketing Management Association Marketing Innovator Award in 2013 and the American Academy of Advertising Ivan Preston Outstanding Contributions to Research Award in 2014.

Schultz received a bachelor of business administration from the University of Oklahoma as well as a master of arts and doctorate in psychology from Michigan State University.

**BSJ 91**

**MARY LOU SONG**

Mary Lou Song is an entrepreneur with more than 20 years of experience founding and growing technology companies in Silicon Valley.

Song’s e-commerce career began in 1996 when she joined eBay as a founding employee. She led the product management and community teams, helping grow the user base from 15,000 members to more than 20 million globally.

After leaving eBay, she continued to work on digital technologies. She joined social networking company Friendster as an early employee. She also launched several media companies focused on blogging, aggregated news and video products. Currently she is the executive chair at FuelX, a digital advertising company she founded in 2013.

Song attended the National High School Institute for Journalism—also known as Medill Cherubs—in 1986 and has been an instructor with the cherub program since 2003.

In addition to her degree from Medill, Song received a master of arts in media studies from Stanford University.



# Jeffrey Zucker Scholarships:

## BUILDING A JOURNALISTIC FOUNDATION

BY KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17)

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ENTERING JOURNALISM TODAY, there are more opportunities than ever before to gather and disseminate the news, tell stories and educate the world. While the reporting environment has changed, Jeffrey Zucker, chairman of WarnerMedia News and Sports and president of CNN Worldwide, believes the journalism principles he practiced as a Medill Cherub more than 40 years ago remain the same. To him, today's great journalists still need to know the basics of how to ask questions, gather and check facts, dig in, get their hands dirty and tell great stories.

Zucker's belief in the importance of a strong journalism foundation is in part what inspired him to support Medill students. In 2018, Zucker established two different Medill funds that give students access to the types of learning and experiences he said helped shape his love of journalism.

The first fund, the Jeffrey Zucker Medill Cherub Scholarship, provides financial assistance to high school students participating in Medill Cherubs, or the Medill-Northwestern Journalism Institute. Through a five-week summer program, rising high school seniors get the opportunity to live on Northwestern's Evanston campus and dive deep into topics like reporting, writing, editing, photojournalism, video, and audio and digital storytelling.

Inaugural scholarship recipient Sai Rayala said she's been passionate about journalism since she was a little girl and is interested in studying journalism in college. She's grateful for the opportunity to stretch her journalism muscles further in the Cherubs program without worrying about the cost.



ABOVE: Photo provided by CNN Worldwide.

"I'm really excited to be heading to Medill, and knowing I have the scholarship makes me want to work even harder," Rayala said. "I'm really grateful for [Mr. Zucker's] generosity, and I think it's great that he's giving back and not forgetting the past experiences that made an impact on him."

The second fund Zucker created, the Jeffrey Zucker Medill Student Experience Fund, helps cover costs for undergraduate Medill students to participate in hands-on experiential learning opportunities like journalism residencies, travel abroad, internships, and individual research and reporting projects. Zucker says it's important to make sure journalists today are familiar with and are covering the world, a truth he says his seven years at CNN have only reinforced.

One of the first student beneficiaries of the Zucker Medill Student Experience Fund is current junior **MIA MAMONE (BSJ21)**. The scholarship helped Mamone enroll in Medill's global reporting course and attend the week-long reporting component in London, covering the arts and culture, over her spring break. This course was Mamone's very first time out of the United

“

**I wanted to give back to Medill as an acknowledgement of my time there and also the incredibly important role Medill continues to play in fostering good journalism today.**

”

Jeffrey Zucker

States, an experience she says enriched her journalism education and immediately changed the way she approaches storytelling.

"I always knew I liked writing, and when I decided to try out journalism in college, I looked at Medill as one of the top journalism schools in the country," Mamone said. "I'm really grateful for the experience to report abroad at Medill through the scholarship, something I could never have done before. It helped me learn that I am capable of doing a lot more than I thought."

Zucker said he's always found giving back to be an incredibly rewarding experience. He loved everything about his time in the Medill Cherubs program when he was in high school and hoped he could do something special to champion the next generation of strong journalists.

"I wanted to give back to Medill as an acknowledgement of my time there and also the incredibly important role Medill continues to play in fostering good journalism today," Zucker said. "Specifically, I wanted to be sure there were opportunities available for those who wouldn't otherwise be able to take part in such a program."

As for advice, Zucker said students should remember they don't always have to start at the top. They have to learn how to ask the



TOP: Mia Mamone

ABOVE: Sai Rayala

questions and check the facts. In journalism, he said, there's not just one path to follow.

"People ask me all the time if they need to go to journalism school or graduate school to be a journalist," Zucker said. "I tell them they don't have to do anything, but if they're going to do it, I say there's no better place to study than at Medill." ♦

KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17) IS A MARKETING STRATEGIST, PASSIONATE STORYTELLER, GLOBAL CITIZEN, PROUD DAUGHTER AND CHILI COOK-OFF CHAMPION ALWAYS ASKING "WHY."

# Alumnae Talk the Power of Networks in Medill Women in Marketing Panel

BY KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17)

KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17) IS A MARKETING STRATEGIST, PASSIONATE STORYTELLER, GLOBAL CITIZEN, PROUD DAUGHTER AND CHILI COOK-OFF CHAMPION ALWAYS ASKING “WHY.”

On Friday, February 1, Medill put female alumni center-stage in a panel event called Medill Women in Marketing—Current Trends and Challenges in an Evolving Industry. The night of networking, inspiration, and conversation was held at Medill’s downtown Chicago campus to a packed room of more than 70 students and alumni.

Moderator Karen Entriken, an IMC Part-Time student and marketing communications professional, wasted no time kicking things off. She first asked panelists to talk about their

or two people who are your go-to’s for a linear answer and can help you sort out the crazy in your own mind.”

For panelist **HEIDI BARKER (BSJ91)**, the chief communications officer at Cleveland Avenue, the power is in flooding our networks with strong, knowledgeable and yet different women.

“My network looks like a cabinet,” Barker said. “I have people who specialize in all different levels of expertise, and can give me an objective perspective because they’re coming in from the outside.”

“  
I knew a discussion with four women, sharing their success and challenges, would be inspiring to me and anyone who attended.”

Karen Entriken

own inner networks and how their circles have helped shape their careers.

“My network is my safety blanket for helping me make decisions,” said panelist **MELISSA BEN-YOSEPH (WCAS95, IMC00)**, the founder and owner of health and wellness agency KELZ PR. “It’s important to find one

Panelist **TIFFANI SAXTON (IMC14)** agreed with Barker, saying building a solid network is one of the top three things she believes a successful marketer needs to master.

“People go out of their way to help people they like,” said Saxton, Senior Manager, Brand Marketing & Communications for Drift, a new



LEFT: From left: **KAREN ENTRIKEN (IMC19)**, **TIFFANI SAXTON (IMC14)**, **ELISA ALL SCHMITZ (MSJ95)**, **MELISSA BEN-YOSEPH (CAS95, IMC00)** and **HEIDI BARKER (BSJ91)**.

car sharing service from Allstate. “Remember to always build relationships outside of marketing.”

Entriken kept the momentum going, engaging panelists on topics from how much data informs their work today, to how they’ve seen the role of women in marketing shift and change, to the role influencers play in their campaigns. Each question gave the audience the opportunity to take away advice and see how the world of marketing today is really about blending the art with the science.

“We will always need people on the forefront of technology and data analysis, so if you understand data, you can be the person that helps a company grow and learn,” said panelist **ELISA ALL SCHMITZ (MSJ95)**, the founder and CEO of digital media platform 30seconds.com.

“Women today have more and more opportunities to be the person who leads the change in a company,” Saxton said. “Be that change-agent.”

“Pay attention to the way influencers are being funded, and ask the right questions,” Barker said. “What’s their rate of engagement, how is the influencer posting, do you want to be a brand aligned with this person. Do your due diligence before you work with influencers.”

For students in the room like **TIFFANI STEVENSON (IMC20)**, the opportunity to learn, grow, and build their communities is the key highlight of a Medill education.

“This event was great because it provided an intimate setting and a safe space to meet people and to ask questions where no one sugar coated the truth,” Stevenson said.

For Medill alumni like **RACHEL AGUIAR (BSJ07)**, the

all-female panel provided a refreshing perspective on the role of gender in marketing.

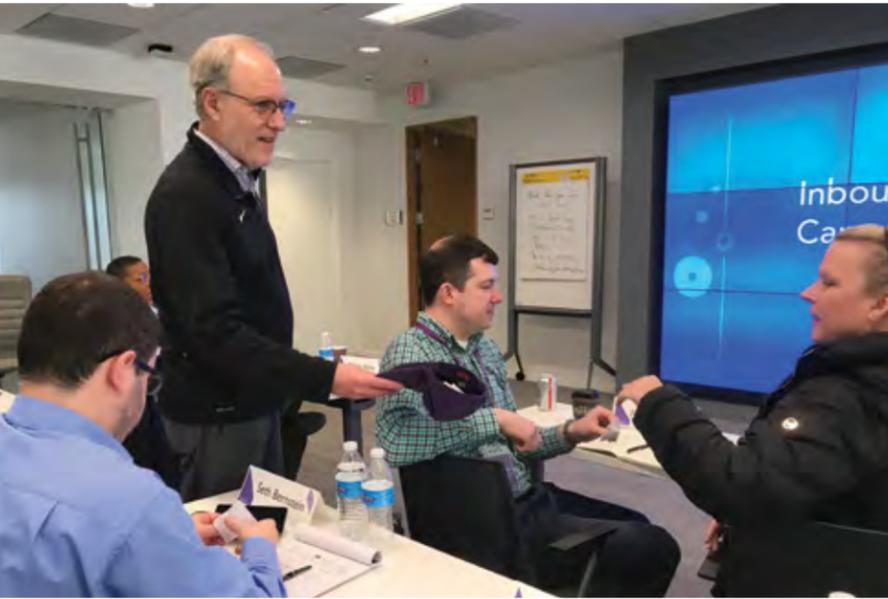
“I have been to several women-led panels that are all about how women can move forward as women, but this was about what great marketing looks like regardless of gender. It’s learning the best practices and the opportunity to network with Medill role models that I appreciate most,” Aguiar said.

Entriken says she is forever curious about how other women have balanced all they want to accomplish in work and life. For her, the opportunity to moderate the panel devoted to women in marketing was an honor.

“I knew a discussion with four women, sharing their success and challenges, would be inspiring to me and anyone who attended,” Entriken said. “I brought my two high school-aged daughters to the event in hopes that they would learn and be inspired by the over 100 alums and students present who are creating their own journeys. My daughters and I came away awed and inspired by the stories we heard and the people we met.”

Saxton concluded the evening by issuing out a specific challenge to all attendees in the room.

“If you want to be lifted and connected, be a person who lifts and connects,” Saxton said. “Build connections early, and often, and soon.”



# THINKING CLEARLY ABOUT MARTECH

MEDILL'S FIVE-DAY IMMERSION COURSE IN SAN FRANCISCO HELPS STUDENTS ASK THE RIGHT MARTECH QUESTIONS.

## BY NIKHILA NATARAJAN (IMC19)

NIKHILA NATARAJAN IS A CURRENT IMC ONLINE STUDENT. SHE WORKS AS A DIGITAL CONTENT FELLOW AT OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INDIA'S LEADING THINK TANK. SHE IS CURRENTLY BASED IN NEW JERSEY.

**MEDILL FACULTY MEMBER JONATHAN** Copulsky led a team of 24 IMC Online and Part-Time students through a caffeine-fueled, five-day immersion course in Marketing Technology (MarTech) at Northwestern's San Francisco campus in the heart of the city's financial district in March.

MarTech is the blending of marketing and technology, especially programs and tools that harness technology to achieve specific marketing goals.

"This course is intended to peel back the onion a bit for marketers who may be familiar with concepts like personalization, recommender systems, remarketing, and programmatic buying, but are curious to understand a little more about the technologies necessary to deliver these concepts," Copulsky said. "It also exposes students to what's next, in terms of the technologies that will become increasingly more prominent in the next 2-3 years."

He added, "The class is meant to be introductory in nature where the goal is to equip you to ask smart questions. This isn't for the expert."

The experience, which counted as a full class credit, brought in 13 guest lecturers from com-

panies such as ZenReach, Hubspot, Salesforce, Deloitte Digital and Google. Discussion themes included the new marketing reality, designing campaigns, conversational AI tools, integrating the physical and digital worlds, inbound marketing, the MarTech "stack", enterprise-level solutions and best practices.

The goal was for students to be able to identify how marketing technologies create value by enabling responsive customer journeys and understand what a MarTech stack looks like in its most complex forms and how all of this can generate actionable insights.

With phones put away and laptops shuttered, students in this class went back to the classic pen-on-paper note taking system as speakers unraveled the many layers of modern MarTech tools.

Marketers almost never have the luxury of starting on a clean slate; legacy systems are always in place and you just have to layer new capabilities on top of those, Copulsky and most of the guests pointed out throughout the week. When Carla Borsoi talked through Patreon's marketing technology stack

“You don't need a complex tool when a simple tool can do the same job.”

Jonathan Copulsky

comprising nearly 30 pieces across general, event, blog and engagement tools, she looked at the sheer number listed on her slides and admitted that this is the reality of MarTech at work.

Great customer journeys happen when brands are able to attract, delight and engage prospects and customers no matter when and where they interact and help them progress in the moments that matter most. Technology is redefining consumer expectations from brands. Salesforce presented research results saying nearly 80% of customers point to their experiences with the brand's touchpoints being as important as the product itself. Nearly the same percentage of customers expect a consistent experience with brands irrespective of the channel on which they are engaging.

In the small and big moments, the SFO MarTech course served as a reminder that tools in any industry are there to help customers. "You don't need a complex tool when a simple tool can do the same job," said Copulsky, putting an IMC lens on all the jargon.

Student participant **WYETH WATNIK (IMC19)** summed up one of the course's key takeaways. "Many of the tools can perform essentially the same tasks with only small points of differentiation. The people using the tools matter more than the tools," Watnik said. "It is better to find a rock-star employee and let them use the tools they are comfortable with."



**OPPOSITE:** Jonathon Copulsky, faculty lead for the course, asked students to select numbers from a hat to randomly pair up team members for the student final projects.

**ABOVE:** The students got to know each other, which was especially meaningful for the online students who prior to the immersion course had only known their colleagues through online interaction.

**BOTTOM:** Medill alumna and course guest speaker **LESLIE TAYLOR (IMC12)**, director of firmwide marketing for Gensler, spoke to the IMC students during the course.

Midway through the week, a group of Medill IMC graduates came to speak to the group to discuss the changing marketing landscape and how technology is playing a role. The speakers, **ANYA CHENG (IMC08)**, Head of Product Marketing, Wi-Fi Technology, International Marketing, Facebook; **CHRISTIANA STEWART (IMC15)**, Senior Marketing Manager, Loyalty Promotions, Sephora; **KIMBERLY LEE (BSJ13, IMC CERTIFICATE 13)**, Associate Director, Business Development - International Business, Tencent America; and **BRANDON MANZANO (IMC16)**, Regional Marketing Manager, North America at Ingenico ePayments, discussed how they are applying MarTech tools in their career after the Medill IMC program. Lee revealed how facial recognition technology is already in use at Tencent events and the primacy of artificial intelligence in the company's future planning. Christiana Stewart said Sephora's next big leap would be in using a combination of chatbots and conversational tools to deliver the right products to customers at just the time they

may be running low or running out of their previous stocks.

This alumni event got a lot of great reviews from the group. "I intended to stay an hour and ended up there much later, jet lag and all," said **CORINNE AARON-PAVIC (IMC19)**, an online student who flew in from the Netherlands for the course.

If there was one question that dominated the week, it was, "Where does a contextual customer journey end and when does it get 'creepy'?" Cheng got a rousing round of applause for her answer during the alumni panel: "Oh, we're nowhere near doing it right, we're still 10 years away from great customer journeys."

**SYLVIA YU (IMC20)**, one of the few San Francisco locals in the course, said she really loved hearing from people outside of Silicon Valley talk about technology. "I feel sometimes people in the Bay Area are caught up by technology. They end up overlooking the focus, which should be the consumer we serve and the value which marketing creates for business, not the different tactical tools." ♦

# MEDILLIAN TRAVEL WRITERS

MEDILL ALUMNI WORK IN TRAVEL-FOCUSED POSITIONS THAT ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO EXPLORE THE WORLD.

BY MARY NEIL CROSBY (MSJ89)

MARY NEIL CROSBY (MSJ89) IS A FREELANCE WRITER LIVING IN BAY MINETTE, ALABAMA.

Celebrated chef, writer and television personality Anthony Bourdain implored others to “Open your mind, get up off the couch, move.” The four Medill alumni profiled here personify that mantra as they pursue careers that combine curiosity with a passion for travel and a zest for life.

## CHRIS GRAY FAUST (BSJ91) MANAGING EDITOR AT CRUISE CRITIC

CHRIS GRAY FAUST (BSJ91) never dreamed when she graduated from Medill that one day she would review cruises for a living.

“I’m a travel junkie,” said Gray Faust. “I don’t think I could have planned a better job while I was at Medill if I had tried.”

As Managing Editor at the cruise review site Cruise Critic (www.cruisecritic.com), Gray Faust oversees a staff of seven professional cruise writers and production staff who make up the site’s U.S. editorial department. Owned by TripAdvisor, Cruise Critic’s mission is to provide users with information that will enable them to research and choose the right cruise for their dream vacation.

Gray Faust’s job requires her to travel about every six to eight weeks. In late 2018, she spent three weeks on two back-to-back Asia cruises that included visits to Shanghai, Laos, Japan and the upper Mekong River. When she is not traveling, Gray Faust tackles the less glamorous aspects of her job: Managing personnel, budgets, planning and strategy in Cruise Critic’s office in Ewing, N.J.



RIGHT: Chris Gray Faust (BSJ91) holds her catch from an Alaskan fishing expedition she took while traveling on UnCruise Adventures. Gray Faust is Managing Editor at Cruise Critic and lives in Yardley, Pa. Photo by Don Faust

“It’s a sense of adventure with each new assignment.”

Chris Gray Faust

Gray Faust’s career path has included interesting journalism destinations along the way. After graduating from Medill, she worked in reporting and editorial roles at the York Daily Record (Pa.), The Times-Picayune in New Orleans and the Philadelphia Inquirer before becoming USA Today’s travel assignment editor.

While at USA Today, Gray Faust started her own travel blog, Chris Around the World. As industry pressures and newspaper cutbacks mounted, she left USA Today and wrote consumer content for Microsoft before focusing fulltime on her blog, which won the prestigious Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Award in 2010.

In what she calls “act two” of her career, Gray Faust combined blogging with freelance gigs in writing, editing and digital media. Assignments with Cruise Critic led to her current job,

which draws heavily on the skills she honed in her fast-paced newspaper years.

“It’s a sense of adventure with each new assignment,” she said.

Gray Faust appreciates her Medill training for helping her get ahead of the curve; she’s always focused on how and where people consume information. In addition to her Lowell Thomas Award, a top career highlight is having a job she looks forward to every day.

“Journalism gives you magical opportunities,” she said. “When I go on a ship, I must review every single bar and restaurant, but I’m still having fun....although I don’t know if sitting at the pool and testing how long it takes to get a drink is work!”

## LILY FU (MSJ04) EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AT TRAVELZOO

LILY FU (MSJ04) understands the value of a good deal. As an executive producer at Travelzoo, Fu manages a team of 8 West Coast producers who research and vet travel deals for consumers.

“We were the original deal publisher—before Groupon,” Fu said. “Now in the age of social media and Instagram, people are starting to get more creative about where they go.”

Travelzoo producers work with such clients as airlines, hotels, cruise lines, local spas and restaurants to package deals for consumers. Producers then research consumer sites like Expedia and TripAdvisor to ensure that users can’t get better deals than the ones promoted on Travelzoo.

“Ultimately our job is to inspire others to get out of the house and their day-to-day and experience something new,” said Fu. “We do all the hard work so that it’s a no-brainer to book a deal through Travelzoo.”

Working for a travel deal company has its advantages. All Travelzoo employees are allotted \$1500 each year—and five extra vacation days—to take one of the trips promoted on the site.

“We make [employees] book something we publish,” said Fu, adding that this benefit enables Travelzoo employees to visit high-end hotels and resorts that they might not be able to afford otherwise. This perk has enabled Fu to experience Hawaii’s Big Island and such Mexican locales as Tulum, San Miguel de Allende and Punta Mita. One of her all-time favorite destinations is Morocco, and her future travel aspirations include India and Bhutan.

Fu’s work history before Travelzoo included freelance writing as well as editorial roles at Fox Interactive Media, Citysearch and the Recording Academy/Grammy Awards, among other outlets. She appreciates how her career has evolved to keep pace with changes in the media world.



ABOVE: Lily Fu

“People are starting to get more creative about where they go.”

Lily Fu

"[This job] has allowed me to keep journalism in my repertoire, but it is about partnering with clients to help them get people to travel more," she said.

One of Fu's career highlights at Travelzoo: Under her account oversight, Virgin America's advertising spend increased 70 percent, and the airline grew during its period of marketing collaboration with Travelzoo. (Virgin America has since merged with Alaska Airlines.)



RIGHT: Nashville resident **MARGARET LITTMAN (MSJ94)** writes about a wide range of topics including travel, Tennessee, music, food, health and pets. Photo by Mickey Bernal

**MARGARET LITTMAN (MSJ94)**  
**FREELANCE WRITER, EDITOR, PROJECT MANAGER AND ENTREPRENEUR**

"I like to write about things people might not know are in their own backyards," said writer, editor, entrepreneur and project manager **MARGARET LITTMAN (MSJ94)**.

Case in point: Littman's 2018 guidebook, which will be updated in 2020, "Moon Nashville to New Orleans Road Trip," explores many little-known highlights of the historic 444-mile Natchez Trace Parkway.

"A lot of the trail is in Mississippi," said Littman. "What was great was finding all these amazing things to do in a place where people don't necessarily think about vacationing."

Other guidebooks in Littman's portfolio cover Tennessee, Nashville and Chicago, with a Memphis one scheduled for release in 2019 to coincide with that city's bicentennial.

In addition to writing and traveling, stand-up paddleboarding is another of Littman's passions. After falling in love with the sport in 2011, she set the goal of paddleboarding in 10 states during the span of a year. Once the year ended, she expanded her goal to include all 50 states; thus far, she has paddleboarded in 42.

"Part of the point to that is that there are cool things to do wherever you go, and there is water wherever you go," said Littman, who owns her own stand-up paddleboard business, Nashville Paddle Company.

Littman's career and wanderlust have taken her to such far-flung locales as Copenhagen, Cape Town, Buenos Aires and

A fundamental lesson Fu learned at Medill is the importance of reporting and asking questions. "It helps in life to be an engaged and curious person," she said. "Part of making sure clients are happy is getting into their heads. ... Medill taught me never to stop asking 'why.' Getting into the psyche of people and understanding their motivation is important."

Tel Aviv, plus 48 states. (She still lacks Alaska and Rhode Island to round out her U.S. adventures.) Besides travel, Littman has covered a range of topics during her prolific career, including health, pets, gardening, music, stand-up paddling and startup businesses. Her work has appeared in books as well as such publications as Woman's Day, Entrepreneur, Crain's Chicago Business, Nashville Lifestyles and Rolling Stone Country.

Littman worked as an editor and writer at a food trade magazine before attending journalism school but credits Medill with giving her the confidence to pursue a freelance career.

"Medill taught me how to be a reporter," she said, adding that even though the media world has changed drastically

“  
**Going to places is how we get exposed to more ideas.**  
 Margaret Littman

since her Northwestern days, the basic skills of reporting, writing and editing remain the same.

What's next for Littman? She plans to write more narrative nonfiction books and anticipates future travels. Banff and Lake Louise are high on her bucket list, as well as Turkey with a stop in Istanbul.

"My opinion is that the more people travel, the more things can change," she said. "Going to places is how we get exposed to more ideas."



**KELSEY OGLETREE (MSJ10)**  
**FREELANCE WRITER, EDITOR AND CONTENT STRATEGIST**

Stories by writer, editor and magazine journalist **KELSEY OGLETREE (MSJ10)** embolden even the most committed couch potatoes to get out and see the world.

As a freelance writer, Ogletree covers travel, food, health, business, golf and boutique hotels, with people profiles thrown in for good measure. Stories by Ogletree focus on a broad range of topics, including the 15 fittest U.S. cities, art galleries that double as Airbnbs and a Q&A with renowned chef José Andrés at his Bahamas restaurant, Fish.

Chicago resident **KELSEY OGLETREE (MSJ10)** is a writer, editor and content strategist covering travel, food, health and business for a variety of print and digital publications.

Australia is a favorite international destination of Ogletree's, where she held a koala, shook a kangaroo's hand and savored the laid-back vibe of the people and culture. She also enjoys exploring closer to home.

"As much as exotic trips are fun, I love going to small towns and shining light on lesser-known places, especially places I have a personal connection to," she said, adding that she has a penchant for stories involving her native Montana and her husband's home state, Alabama. An assignment especially close to her heart is a story she wrote about a Hutterite farmer who supplies chickens and produce to a luxury resort in Montana.

"That was a special story for me to tell, because the main character was such a lovely, real person, and it spoke to my roots," she said.

Ogletree's affinity for storytelling goes way back. At age five, she produced a news piece, the "Monthly Media," that her mom distributed to family and friends. By second grade, she was penning a book review, "Kelsey's Korner," for her local paper. She went on to write for her high school and college papers.

Ogletree values Medill for the ethics training and interviewing experience she gained. Post-Medill, Ogletree held editorial positions with such companies as McKinsey & Company, Modern Luxury and Connect Meetings before taking the freelance plunge in November 2017. In her first year on her own, she has garnered an impressive client roster, including Shape, Architectural Digest, Cooking Light, Real Simple, Modern Luxury and National Public Radio.

Her advice to those considering a freelance career is simple. "When you do that first story for someone, you have to do your best," she said, adding that an excellent first submission helps a writer establish credibility with the editor.

Another tip: "Understand what it means to be an editor before you become a writer. You need to understand both sides of it in order to do this job well."



Photo by Mazin Shaban

**Meet the Mastermind Behind the Geography Challenge & GeoQuiz**

**AL BORCOVER (MSJ57)** has made travel the linchpin of his career. Borcover wrote and edited for the Chicago Tribune's travel section for three-plus decades and served as the travel editor for 20 years before retiring in 1994. He developed the Tribune's popular Geography Challenge and GeoQuiz after seeing results from a Gallup survey commissioned by the National Geographic Society in 1988.

"The survey detailed how pathetic Americans are in geography," said Borcover.

Launched in 1990, Geography Challenge is a detailed quiz that runs in the Tribune during National Geographic Society's Geography Awareness Week, which is celebrated every third week of November.

In addition to Geography Challenge and GeoQuiz, Borcover's career highlights include destination stories and consumer coverage of such issues as air travelers' rights and cruise ship sanitation. He received the Chicago Better Business Bureau Consumer Education Award in 1993 for his body of work.

Always one to stay busy, Borcover volunteers for Travelers Aid at an information desk in O'Hare International Airport. There he directs people to gates and eateries and helps reunite them with lost belongings. Occasionally a traveler's question stumps him.

"Early on a young guy came through and said, 'What's the meaning of life?'" Borcover said. "I told him, 'I don't know, but let me know if you find out.'"

# AN AMERICAN SUMMER: LOVE AND DEATH IN CHICAGO



ON MARCH 12, MEDILL FACULTY MEMBER AND AUTHOR ALEX KOTLOWITZ SAT DOWN WITH DEAN CHARLES WHITAKER TO DISCUSS KOTLOWITZ'S NEW BOOK, "AN AMERICAN SUMMER: LOVE AND DEATH IN CHICAGO," WHICH WAS PUBLISHED MAY 5. A SENIOR LECTURER AND WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE AT NORTHWESTERN, KOTLOWITZ TEACHES COURSES IN NONFICTION STORYTELLING.

**Here's an edited excerpt from the March 12 event, which was held at the McCormick Foundation Center in Evanston.**

**WHITAKER:** I was moved to tears at times reading this book, and angered at times, but the whole time I was deeply invested in the read. It has a very cinematic quality, and puts me in the mind of a Steven Soderbergh film where all of the lives are connected, and in this case, connected by the death and tragedy swirling around them. The book focuses on one summer, but the narrative spans years. Can you talk about that?

**KOTLOWITZ:** I felt I needed some boundaries, and while I had the geographic boundary, the city of Chicago, I needed a time frame to help give the book some scaffolding. In this case it was the summer of 2013. Of course what I came to learn as I found the stories over the course of that summer is that those stories then unfurled over the coming months, and then years, and that then the additional time I spent revealed so much more about the people in the book.

**WHITAKER:** You talked to more than 200 people for the book. Can you tell us a little about your reporting process?

**KOTLOWITZ:** I never get to talk about craft, so this is great. Reporting is messy and disorienting. That summer I embedded with a homicide unit but I ended up not writing about it. But I found stories there. I also spent time at the trauma unit at Cook County Hospital. I hung out at the courthouse and I talked to

people I knew all with the aim of looking for stories that upended what I thought I knew. Once I find them it's hard for me to let go and for some people, I did 20-30 interviews. I visited a teenager under house arrest every Sunday for a year and a half. We'd have sandwiches and play chess and talk. It's a privilege to be invited into their lives.

**WHITAKER:** You went to a lot of neighborhoods full of people who don't look like you. How did you get people to open up to you and share these vulnerable and sometimes heartbreaking stories with you?

**KOTLOWITZ:** The bottom line is we are always outsiders by the nature of being a journalist. I'm clearly an outsider by race and class and all I can do is try to be direct, honest and straightforward about my intentions, knowing stories change. I always make a point of having my notebook out, and sometimes a recorder so that people don't forget why I'm there. Inevitably you build relationships with people and you don't want them to feel you have betrayed their confidence. For me, my ultimate goal is to find empathy, to try to understand people without judging them, to understand why they make the choices they do.

**WHITAKER:** How did you choose the subjects? There are so many and they are so different.

**KOTLOWITZ:** There are a couple of stories about people I knew before and I had to try and figure out how to land those stories in

the summer time frame. But the common thing about the stories is that in one manner or another they knocked me off balance, and I hope it does the same for the readers.

**WHITAKER:** This is not a policy book in that it's not prescriptive about violence, but then there are these riveting stories. What are we supposed to get from those - what is the takeaway?

**KOTLOWITZ:** Policy is not my forte, and the other thing is that we just don't know what works. We have ideas, but I'm a storyteller and the point of the stories isn't that they answer questions but rather that they ask them. My hope is that when people finish the book they look at the world and look at themselves a little differently. There are stories in here that make you sit up and think about how the violence has so deeply impacted the spirit of individuals and the spirit of community. I hope that these stories inform public policy.

**WHITAKER:** Some may say that this is just putting poverty on display, and some journalists might argue that we do have the obligation to come up with an answer or be more prescriptive.

**KOTLOWITZ:** My feeling is that there is nothing more powerful than bearing witness. For me, I don't know how you can read this book and not help but decry the utter neglect in this country, the profound poverty, the segregation in cities like Chicago and the fraught relations between the police and communities of color, so my hope is that part of this book will anger.

**WHITAKER:** In the 1990s we actually had a higher murder rate in Chicago, and we've actually seen the rate fall to 600 in 2018 and 700 or so in 2017. Yet somehow this time seems so much more different, and it feels more random. You feel this ominous sense of threat and doom.



**KOTLOWITZ:** Yes, and it feels more intense. Thirty years ago most of the violence occurred within the confines of public housing. So the city was utterly able to turn its head and not take notice. The other thing is that the violence in the '90s was centered around a really robust drug trade and was directed at maintaining a gang's drug turf. Then, there was a big effort and we arrested and convicted many of the gang leaders in the city. The unintended consequence and the upshot is the gangs fractured and now the police estimate there are as many as 600 to 800 different factions in the city. Now, the violence isn't just over the drug trade but over petty disputes that erupt into something more, and so it feels more arbitrary. And, much of that public housing is gone and so the violence has spilled out.

**WANT TO HEAR MORE?** To watch Alex and Charles' talk in full, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2IUuJgJ>

**The numbers are staggering: over the past twenty years in Chicago, 14,033 people have been killed and another roughly 60,000 wounded by gunfire. What does that do to the spirit of individuals and community? Drawing on his decades of experience, Alex Kotlowitz set out to chronicle one summer in the city, writing about individuals who have emerged from the violence and whose stories capture the capacity—and the breaking point—of the human heart and soul. The result is a spellbinding collection of deeply intimate profiles that upend what we think we know about gun violence in America.**

From the publisher about "An American Summer"

1970s



**JOE FROLIK (BSJ76)** has been promoted to the newly created position of executive editor at ideastream, Northeast Ohio's public

media source. In his new role, Frolik is responsible for the planning, creation and supervision of all local news and information content produced or presented for ideastream audiences. He leads content managers and staff across all platforms and develops and maintains ideastream's partnerships. Frolik previously served as ideastream's managing producer for community affairs and spent more than 30 years with Cleveland's The Plain Dealer as a reporter, national correspondent and chief editorial writer.

1980s



**JEANIE CAGGIANO (COMM82, MSJ83)** was named a 2019 "Working Mother of the Year" by She Runs It, formerly

Advertising Women of New York. Caggiano is an executive vice president and executive creative director at Leo Burnett. The awards recognize working mothers in marketing, media and tech who also serve as role models or mentors and who demonstrate a positive influence at work, home and within their communities.

Caggiano also serves as the executive sponsor for WomanKind, Leo Burnett's employee resource group focused on championing the advancement of women. She has led creative work on the agency's Allstate and UnitedHealthcare accounts and helped lead creative execution of Allstate's "Our Stand" and "Mayhem" campaigns.



**DAVID BARSTOW (BSJ86)**, a senior writer at The New York Times, won the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory reporting. It marked Barstow's

fourth Pulitzer, which according to Pulitzer historian and Medill graduate Roy Harris, Jr., is a historic number in the reporting categories.

Barstow was honored along with two colleagues, Susanne Craig and Russ Buettner, for their investigative pieces about President Donald Trump's personal finances. The series dove into "dubious tax schemes" and outlined the millions of dollars Trump inherited from his father.

"This incisive examination of the dubious sources of the President's wealth is a stellar example of David's tremendous talent and ability to thoroughly analyze complex issues and explain the information in ways readers can understand," said Medill Dean Charles Whitaker. "We are very proud of David and honored that he continues his relationship with Medill."

Barstow, a 2015 inductee into Medill's Hall of Achievement (the school's highest honor), has also served on an advisory committee to strengthen Medill's teaching of investigative journalism skills. Medill Associate Professor Emeritus-In-Service Roger Boye, who taught Barstow while he was at Medill, said that "as a student, David had a strong interest in public affairs and current events. In class he asked many thoughtful questions of the teacher and guest speakers. He was inquisitive without being overbearing. And even then, as a college sophomore, he seemed quite serious about pursuing journalism as his life-long profession."

Barstow has also won two Pulitzer Prizes in investigative reporting and another for public service. He joined The New York Times in 1999, becoming a member of the investigative team in 2002.

**JEFFREY POLLACK (BSJ86)** has been named president and chief operating officer for the XFL. He oversees the professional football league's strategic planning and business operations, as well as the management of its eight teams. Pollack had been serving as chief marketing and strategy officer and special advisor to the National Football League's Los Angeles Chargers before being named to his new role. Pollack also served as an executive in the National Basketball Association, NASCAR, Professional Bull Riders and Caesars Entertainment.

**DONALD TYLER JOHNSON JR. (MSJ87)** is working for Xfinity/Comcast Game of the Week as a freelance football color commentator and provides radio coverage with Rusty Silber on WRLR 93.8 The Voice of Lake County. Johnson also co-hosts The Sports Corner on the same radio station. He has worked as a play-by-play announcer and sideline reporter for Comcast and as a producer, helping to secure coverage and sponsorship of the Chicago Football Classic clash of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Johnson, also known as "DJ", lettered from 1978-80 while playing as a running back on the Northwestern football team. His history as an anchor/reporter includes hosting for ESPN's Black College Sports Today, sideline reporting for Fox Sports Networks College Football Saturday Coverage, Fox 32 News Chicago, and serving as a reporter and anchor for WFMY-TV 2 in Greensboro, N.C.



**RANDY ROSS (MSJ87)** performed his one-man show, "The Chronic Single's Handbook" at the Providence Fringe Festival

in Providence, R.I., from July 22-27. The show offered an unflinching look at how men really feel about sex, love, marriage and massage parlors.

1990s

**STEVE WARMBIR (BSJ90)** has been named managing editor of the Chicago Sun-Times. He oversees all print and content that does not include content from the editorial board and manages day-to-day administrative operations, according to editor-in-chief Chris Fusco via Robert Feder's media website.

Warmbir began his career at the Daily Herald in suburban Chicago and joined the Sun-Times in 1999, where he's worked as an investigative reporter, federal courts reporter, deputy editorial editor and assistant managing editor for metro news. He also served as the director of digital and editorial innovation.

"I am lucky to be asked to help run a newsroom with reporters and editors so dedicated to their craft and who serve the city we all love," Warmbir said, according to RobertFeder.com. "There has never been a more relevant or exciting time for local journalism."

His series with journalist Tim Novak, "Clout on Wheels," which exposed Chicago's scandal-plagued Hired Truck program, won the George Polk Award in 2005.

**KRIS GOODFELLOW (BSJ92)** is running for a state senate seat in California. Goodfellow, a journalist and small business owner, is running as a Democrat to represent District 23, which is located between Los Angeles and Palm Springs and includes the city of Yucaipa. After graduating, Goodfellow worked as a journalist for the Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, The Associated Press and National Geographic. She covered such breaking news as the Oklahoma City bombing and worked on award-winning graphics that included the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She and her husband now own Voyager Search, an enterprise-search, software company based in Redlands, Calif.

**ALISON FITZGERALD KODJAK (MSJ94)** has been elected as the 112th president of the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Kodjak, a health policy correspondent for NPR, began her duties as NPC president in January. She has won the George Polk Award three times in her print and broadcast journalism career.



**NIKOLE KILLION (BSJ99, MSJ99)** has joined CBS News as a correspondent for CBS Newspath in Washington, D.C. Nikole's

reporting is featured on local news broadcasts across more than 200 CBS affiliates nationwide, as well as CBS News broadcasts and platforms, including CBS Evening News and CBS This Morning. Nikole was previously a Washington correspondent for Hearst Television.

2000s

**KATHERINE RITCHY (MSJ01)** joined the University of Chicago in January as senior director of internal communications. She previously served in strategic communications roles for Deloitte and Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, D.C.

**STEPHANIE RICCA (MSJ01)** was promoted to editorial director of Hotel News Now, a division of STR. Ricca joined the team at Hotel News Now in January of 2015. She has 12 years of hotel trade publication experience. She frequently serves as a moderator at industry conferences.

**ERIN CHAN DING (BSJ03)** started a new role as executive director of communications for The Evangelical Covenant Church, a justice-oriented, multiethnic Christian denomination with more than 875 churches in North America and ministry partnerships in more than 60 countries. As executive director, she oversees the ECC's

bimonthly magazine, mobile and web presence, social media, public relations, marketing, the development of ministry branding and curricula, a fulfillment center and a book imprint. Chan Ding, who also co-leads the Asian American Journalists Association's national freelance affinity group, continues to occasionally freelance, which she has done for the past decade for such publications as the Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, Midwest Living, Drive and Diversity Woman.

**EVAN BENN (BSJ04)** has joined the Philadelphia Inquirer as its first director of editorial marketing. Benn has served as editor-in-chief of Indulge, the luxury lifestyle magazine of The Miami Herald, as the Herald's food editor and as an assistant features editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Benn has also been a freelance writer for such publications as Esquire, Bon Appetit and Travel and Leisure.

**JAMES EDWARDS (MSJ08)** served as producer for the podcast series, "16 Shots," a collaboration between WBEZ Chicago and the Chicago Tribune. The series covered the police shooting of teenager Laquan McDonald and the trial of former officer Jason Van Dyke, who was convicted of second-degree murder for killing McDonald. The podcast series has been honored with an Amnesty International USA Media Award in the domestic news category and a National Headliner Award for best podcast. It was also nominated as a radio/podcast finalist for the Scripps Howard Awards and a finalist for four Peter Lisagor Awards.



**BRITTANY (PETERSEN) WILLIAMS (BSJ09)** and her husband, Rocky, welcomed a baby Wildcat, November Lynn, in January.

November Lynn has already mastered the growl and looks forward to her first Northwestern football game this fall.

2010s

**RENITA D. YOUNG (MSJ09)** has joined Bloomberg TV as an on-air markets reporter in New York. Previously, Young covered commodities at Reuters, where she launched Reuters TV's first original Twitter show, #GoldWatch, focusing on trends in the gold market and gaining more than 150,000 views per weekend. She also served as the "Voice of God" for the 2018 National Association of Black Journalists convention.



**BRENNA CLAIR O'TIERNEY (BSJ11)** serves as a business communications adviser for Royal Dutch Shell in the greater Seattle area.

She oversees internal communications and employee engagement, external communications, executive communications counsel and community relations. Outside of the office, she serves on the board of the Anacortes Family Center, which assists women and children in crisis. She also regularly visits Medill and the University of Southern California to guest lecture. After graduating from Medill, where she also obtained an IMC certificate, she earned a master's degree in strategic public relations from USC.



**KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17)** married **KYLE BURR (KELLOGG16)** in January on the beach in her hometown of Sarasota, Fla. Thompson works in brand strategy at the creative agency, Energy BBDO, and Burr works in marketing and brand management at Tyson Foods. The couple lives in Chicago with their mush of a dog, a Yorkie named Rocky.



**GILLIAN B. WHITE (MSJ12)** has been promoted to deputy editor at TheAtlantic.com. In the role, White shapes day-to-day coverage

on the website and collaborates on the execution of the site's most ambitious stories and series. White has worked for The Atlantic since 2014, working on its business desk and as senior editor.



**RAHELE SOLOMON (MSJ12)** is now a general assignment reporter for CNBC in Philadelphia. Previously she

was the morning weekday anchor at CBS-3.



**MICHELLE EDGAR (BSJ15)** is the new vice president of brand marketing for Epic Records. Previously, she was a branding agent at ICM

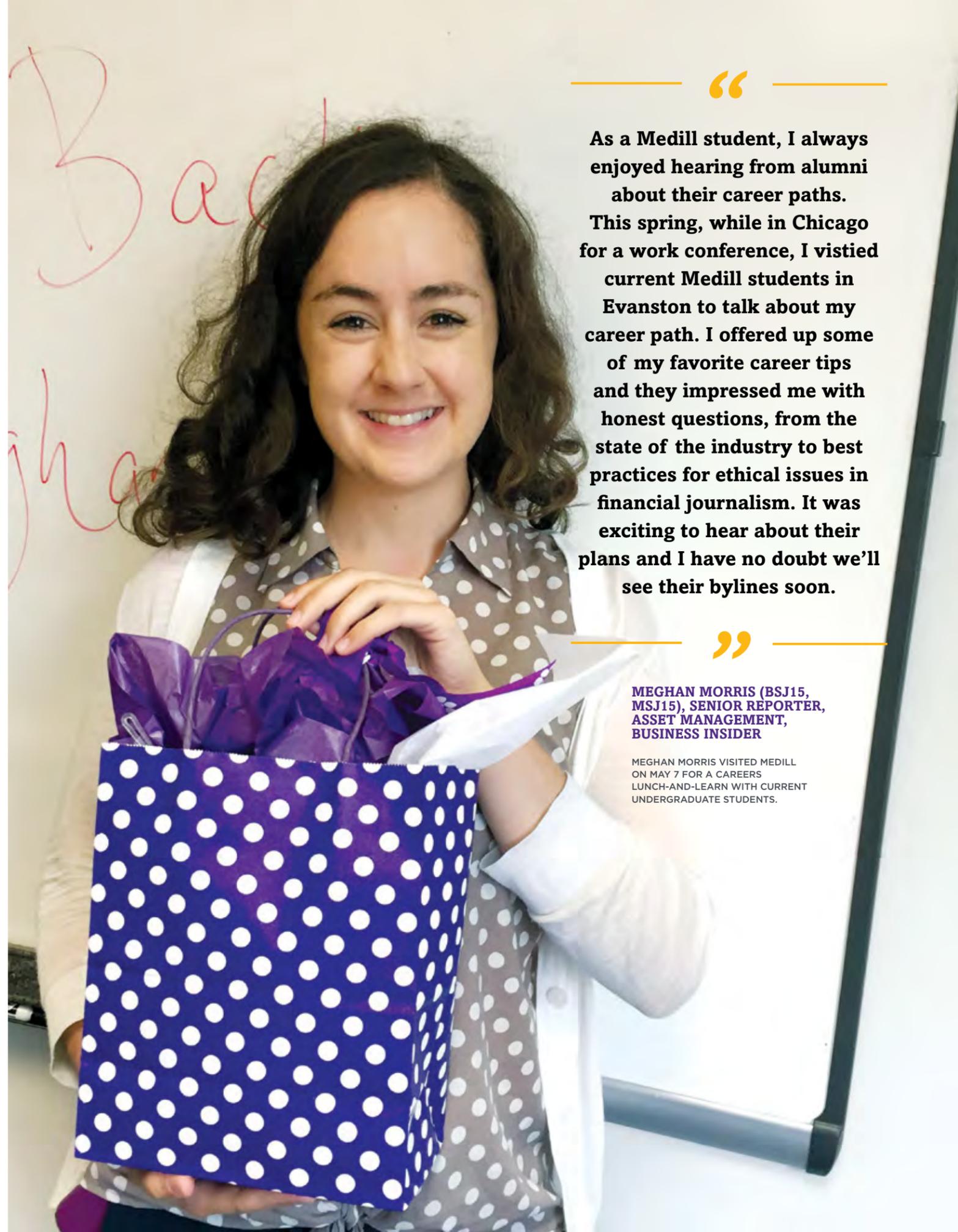
Partners and has worked at FRUKT, KIDinaKorner, Red Light Management and Warner Bros. Records. Her expertise and focus is in securing strategic marketing partnerships and developing artists across all musical genres. Epic's roster of artists includes Travis Scott, 21 Savage, Camilla Cabello and DJ Khaled. Edgar also founded Music Unites, a non-profit organization that funds sustainable music education programs in public schools. Music Unites launched an academy program in partnership with the Compton Unified School District and has programs in New York and Chicago. More than eight years ago, Edgar also founded The XX Project, a platform for leading women in business.

**ALAN SURIEL (MSJ17)** is the Spanish language translator for the New York Mets. Alan is responsible for translating for the Latino players on the team who

need help with their interviews. He also serves as a communications assistant for the Mets, helping with the media guide and credentialing system.

**KATE CIMINI (MSJ18)** is a reporter for The Salinas Californian with the USA Today network. She was recognized in Gannett's 2018 fourth-quarter awards in the writing category for features on the Camp Fire and on how jail architecture contributes to recidivism in Monterey County. In spring 2019, she placed in the top three in both business and digital feature categories with the California News Publishers Association 2018 awards. She also served as a question writer for the national security panel at the Panetta Institute 2018 series.

Submit to: [b-clarke@northwestern.edu](mailto:b-clarke@northwestern.edu)



“  
As a Medill student, I always enjoyed hearing from alumni about their career paths. This spring, while in Chicago for a work conference, I visited current Medill students in Evanston to talk about my career path. I offered up some of my favorite career tips and they impressed me with honest questions, from the state of the industry to best practices for ethical issues in financial journalism. It was exciting to hear about their plans and I have no doubt we'll see their bylines soon.”

”  
**MEGHAN MORRIS (BSJ15, MSJ15), SENIOR REPORTER, ASSET MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS INSIDER**

MEGHAN MORRIS VISITED MEDILL ON MAY 7 FOR A CAREERS LUNCH-AND-LEARN WITH CURRENT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.

**MARGUERITE CLEARY MCNULTY REMIEN (BSJ39)**, 101, of Glencoe, Ill., an editor and a lover of music and books, as well as a participant in her church choir through the age of 97, died March 7.

Her father's changing executive positions meant McNulty Remien moved around in her youth, attending seven different high schools.

After graduating from Medill, McNulty Remien served as an editor at the Chicago Journal of Commerce. Later, as a volunteer, she wrote and edited the annual Appeal for Funds for St. Vincent's Orphanage in Chicago.

She met her first husband, Jim McNulty, a U.S. Navy pilot, in grade school, re-met him in high school and finally began a friendship with him as they both accompanied their parents to a book discussion group. Ten days after the birth of their son, her husband was lost at sea near the Aleutian Islands.

McNulty Remien agreed to marry her second husband, Jack Remien, just in time for her son's college "Parents Weekend." She and Remien spent 27 happy years together.

In addition to singing in the choir for Faith, Hope and Charity Catholic Church in Winnetka, Ill., McNulty Remien participated in Winnetka Fortnightly, in which she could listen to the writing of others while also reading her own, which included several anecdotes about her friends and family. She drove until the age of 99, when the State of Illinois declined to renew her driver's license.

McNulty Remien is survived by son, Patrick McNulty; stepdaughter, Caro Hunsicker; and grandsons Devin and Brennan McNulty.

**JERROLD WERTHIMER (BSJ47, MSJ51, PHD60)**, 93, of San Francisco, served in World War II, taught high school students, worked as a newspaper reporter and editor and co-founded the journalism department at San Francisco State

University. He died on Dec. 9, 2018.

Born in Chicago in 1925, Werthimer served as a communications officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II before attending Northwestern. According to a story in the San Francisco Chronicle, Werthimer taught high school in Colorado but was fired when he refused to sign a McCarthy-era oath.

He went back to Medill for advanced degrees before teaching at Washington State University and then San Francisco State, where he co-founded the journalism department with Leo V. Young. As a professor—the department's first at San Francisco State—he was so easygoing his students called him "Jerry." He retired from active teaching in 1990.

"He made us think that journalism could be more than a lot of hard work, and of course he was right," said Ben Fong-Torres, a noted journalist who went on to work for Rolling Stone magazine, told the Chronicle. "Jerry taught his students well, and I will always be in his debt."

**LOIS SEILER (BSJ48)**, a longtime journalist at the Daily Herald newspaper in suburban Chicago, died Oct. 10, 2018.

Born to Evelyn and Irving Gohde in Chicago on July 29, 1926, Seiler grew up in Chicago and met her husband, Ted C. Seiler, while attending Northwestern. After graduating from Medill, Seiler worked for a couple of years as women's editor at the Daily Herald. She wrote two columns for the newspaper—"Cook of the Week" and "Favorites for Flavor"—until she retired in 1986. She worked at the newspaper for 37 years.

In her free time, Seiler started the Great Books program for youth in Arlington Heights. She also served as a docent for the Arlington Heights Historical Society Annual House Walk and was a lifetime member of The Ridges Sanctuary, a nature preserve in Baileys Harbor, Wisc., and of the Door County Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay, Wisc.

Seiler was preceded in death by her husband, Ted, and is survived by four children, Robin Latta, Jeffrey Seiler, Wendy Hagy and Julie Jacobs; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**JANET "JAN" LOUISE HARPER DRANGSHOLT (BSJ49)**, 91, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, who worked as an editorial assistant, library assistant and enthusiastic civic servant—she once served as the mayor of King City, Oregon—died Jan. 24.

Born Nov. 26, 1927, in Pocatello, Idaho, to Megnild Bundlie Harper and Edwin Sage Harper, she grew up in Idaho before attending Northwestern, where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and met her husband, Helger "Steve" Drangsholt (BSJ49, SESP50), a returning World War II veteran. After graduating from Medill with honors, she worked as an editorial assistant for Commerce Clearing House.

She and her husband, she would say, lived in a "horrid apartment in Chicago and were terribly happy." She and her husband lived in about a dozen different places across the country while raising their three children.

Harper Drangsholt made heavy investments as a volunteer, including as a room parent for each of her kids, an active member of the League of Women Voters, a weekly library volunteer, on the County Board for the El Paso Women's Chamber of Commerce, and as a King City Councilperson, where she also served for four years as mayor.

As her kids attended college, she went back to work full-time, as an administrative assistant for the Glen Ellyn School District, an administrative assistant for K-Wood Development, a library assistant at Tehama County Library and an executive secretary for the head partner of a large accounting firm in El Paso. She also read, danced, played cards (especially Bridge) and had lots of coffees and pot-lucks with friends.

Her husband, Steve, died in 2007, and she is survived by her children, Meg Diane, Kent Steve and Amy Jane.

**ENRIQUE P. ROMUALDEZ (MSJ52)**, 92, of Manila, who served as the executive editor of Malaya Business Insight and whom some staff referred to as the "editor of editors," died Feb. 28.

Before attending Medill on a Fulbright scholarship, Romualdez graduated from the University of the Philippines, according to a story by ABS-CBN News.

The story cites Romualdez as having worked for the Philippines Commonwealth, Manila Post, Philippines Herald, Daily Express, Taipan Magazine and the Manila Times before joining Malaya Business Insight.

Federico D. Pascual Jr. paid tribute to Romualdez in The Philippine Star, writing, "to him I owe much of what I know of journalism."

**KULDIP NAYAR (MSJ52)**, 95, a journalist, editor, politician, a champion of press freedom who was once imprisoned for opposing a state of emergency declared by India's prime minister and an inductee into the Medill Hall of Achievement, the school's highest honor, died Aug. 23, 2018.

Born Aug. 23, 1923 in the Punjab city of Sialkot, which is now in Pakistan, to Puran Devi and Gurbaksh Singh, Nayar studied at Forman Christian College before obtaining a law degree in Lahore in what is now Pakistan. When violence broke out during the partition of the sub-continent into India and Pakistan in 1947, the family migrated to India. Kuldip, who had dropped the Singh from his name, settled in Delhi.

In 1948, Nayar began his career with an Urdu newspaper, Anjam. Although he loved the language and its poetry, he was told there was no future in Urdu journalism because it was now the national language of Pakistan. (Establishing peaceful relations between India and

Pakistan would be a lifelong ambition of Nayar's.) To work in English, he joined the United States Information Services in 1952, which enabled him to go to the U.S. to study at Medill.

After graduating, Nayar joined the Indian Information Service, where he became spokesman for the country's home minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri, who went on to become the second prime minister of India.

He then joined the United News of India, or UNI, India's second news agency. In 1977, Nayar broke the news that Indira Gandhi intended to call an early election, following her 1975 declaration of a state of emergency, suspending fundamental rights and censoring the press.

Most editors and journalists accepted censorship without protest, but Nayar, who had by then already been editor of the Delhi edition of the Statesman and the Indian Express, persuaded about 100 journalists to sign a protest and send it to Gandhi. As a result, he spent three months in jail and was released only because the government learned the judge hearing his appeal was likely to find in his favor. Gandhi was defeated in the election she called but before long, in 1980, she returned to power. The owner of the Indian Express who had supported Nayar during the emergency asked him to mend fences with her. He refused and resigned.

That was the beginning of his long career as a freelance journalist and columnist. He used to say he was thankful to the owner of the Indian Express because he made much more money syndicating his weekly column, "Between the Lines," throughout south Asia. In addition to his journalism he wrote 15 books, including a lengthy autobiography, "Beyond the Lines," which took him 22 years to write.

Nayar is survived by his wife, Bharti, whom he married in 1949, two sons, Sudhir and Rajiv, three grandchildren, Kanika, Mandira and Kartik, and three great-grandchildren.

**DAVID Y. BURKETT III (BSJ56, MSJ57)**, a journalism professor, motivational speaker and member of the U.S. Air Force, died in November 2018.

Born in Vandergrift, Pa., in 1934, Burkett joined the U.S. Air Force after graduating from Northwestern with this bachelor's and master's degrees. He later shifted to the Air Force Reserves and upon retiring, had spent a total of three decades in military service.

When he joined the Reserves, Burkett also started teaching as a professor at Trinity University. Burkett's wife, Lynell, whom he married in 1979, also taught journalism.

In addition to his wife, Burkett is also survived by his niece, Susan Burkett Proctor, and by his nephew, John David Burkett.

**CARL WAYNE HASTY JR. (BSJ61)**, 79, of Columbus, Ohio, died Jan. 7. Hasty was born on Oct. 16, 1939, in Charleston, W.Va., to Carl and Phebe Hasty.

In his youth, Hasty earned an Eagle Scout badge with the Boy Scouts of America. After graduating from Medill, Hasty also earned a master's degree in public relations from Ohio University. He worked in corporate communications and public relations for 40 years, first with Newport News Shipbuilding and then with American Electric Power.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Gregg; daughters, Anne Caswell, Beth Moten and Mary Lynne Hasty; and several grandchildren.

**DAVID HOROWITZ (MSJ61)**, 81, a legendary consumer journalist and the host force behind the television program, "Fight Back! With David Horowitz," died Feb. 14.



Photo credit: Erik Hylar

Born in the Bronx on June 30, 1937, Horowitz earned a bachelor's degree from Bradley University in 1959 before graduating from Medill.

Horowitz worked at newspapers and television stations in the Midwest, according to KNBC-TV, his former station. A story from KNBC-TV notes he became a writer for NBC's "Huntley-Brinkley Report" and held several other positions with the network before joining KNBC in 1973 as its consumer reporter. According to a story in *The Hollywood Reporter*, Horowitz moved to KCBS-TV in 1993, and his Emmy-award winning show, "Fight Back! With David Horowitz," was syndicated in more than 60 markets for 18 years.

In the show, Horowitz investigated defective products, advertised claims and confronted companies with customer complaints. It first debuted on KNBC as "California Byline."

He also appeared as a regular guest on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" and as himself on episodes of "Silver Spoons," "ALF," "The Golden Girls" and "Saved by the Bell." He also spent eight years as the consumer correspondent for "Today" on NBC. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, he also wrote a newspaper column and had a program on more than 200 radio stations.

According to KNBC, Horowitz was on the station's 4 p.m. newscast when a man with what appeared to be a gun took the journalist hostage live on the air. According to the station, Horowitz remained calm and read the gunman's statements on camera, but the station had cut the broadcast without the gunman becoming aware of that fact.

The gun turned out to be a toy B.B. gun, according to KNBC, and Horowitz then took on the campaign to ban toy guns that look like real guns.

His family said this in an official statement about him. "He was an extraordinary man whose life was defined by his vision

translated through a continuous stream of remarkable achievements – all to make the world a better and more honest place. He did it as a husband, father, journalist, educator, and humanitarian with integrity, a sense of justice and beautiful wisdom and wit."

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne, two daughters, including Amanda Horowitz, who's enrolled in the master's degree program at Medill and will graduate in August 2019, and two grandchildren.

**CHARLES MOUNT (BSJ62, MSJ63)**, 78, of Elgin, Ill., who spent 33 years as a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* and developed a reputation as dogged and tenacious, died on Dec. 18, 2018.

Born in Cincinnati, Mount was the son of an Army lieutenant colonel father and grew up all around the country and for a time in the late 1940s, in Trieste, Italy.

According to a story in the *Chicago Tribune*, Mount began high school at Fenger High School in the far South Side Chicago neighborhood of Roseland but moved with his family in early 1956 to Fort Knox, Ky., and graduated from Fort Knox High School, where he edited the school newspaper.

At Medill, Mount served as the sports editor for the *Daily Northwestern*; he also worked part-time as a sports reporter for the *Associated Press*. After graduating, he went through basic training for the U.S. Army and then spent 28 years in the Army Reserves, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 1964, Mount began at the *Chicago Tribune* as a neighborhood news reporter. He would go on to cover the city's North Shore suburbs, military affairs and then, in 1973, he began covering Cook County criminal courts.

On March 31, 1975, according to the *Tribune*, "Mount used his Army training while on the job when an 18-year-old who had been charged with armed robbery tried to escape out the door of a court-

room in the Criminal Courts Building and was hit with a flying tackle in the hallway by Mount."

Later that year, Mount started covering the State of Illinois, and he was assigned to report on the gruesome discovery of bodies inside the home of mass murderer John Wayne Gacy Jr. He then covered the Cook County Board while also working as a general assignment reporter and would go on to cover McHenry County.

"He was as gung-ho as they come, but he also grounded himself in facts, prepared for interviews like he would prepare for jumping out of a plane, and always had a sense of fair play," former *Tribune* reporter Donna Gill told the *Tribune*. "One can't really separate the Army officer from the newspaper reporter. They were intertwined."

After retiring in 1998, Mount drove around the country in a recreational vehicle, substitute teaching in several California towns before moving back to the Chicago suburbs and serving as an election judge for several election cycles. In the 1980s, Mount also taught at Medill. He served as president of the Special Forces Association Chicago Area Chapter 37 from 2014 until 2018.

Mount is survived by daughters Hillary Fiveash, Kimberly Grabiner and three grandchildren.

**STEVE BELL (MSJ63)**, 83, of Muncie, Ind., a former ABC News anchor, Ball State University professor and member of the Medill Hall of Achievement, the school's highest



honor, died Jan. 25.

Born on Dec. 9, 1935 to Howard Arthur Bell and Florence Scott Bell in Oskaloosa, Iowa, Steve Bell spent decades in broadcasting. He covered anti-war protests in Washington, D.C., the assassination and

funeral of Martin Luther King Jr., and was at the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy.

Bell worked as a war correspondent in Vietnam in 1970-71, and he and his camera crew were captured and held at gunpoint by the Viet Cong before being released. He served as ABC News bureau chief in Hong Kong and then returned to the U.S. to cover Watergate.

In 1975, he became the first news anchor for ABC's "Good Morning America" and worked on the show until 1986.

He then anchored KYW-TV in Philadelphia before moving to Muncie, Ind., to join Ball State University in 1992. At Ball State, Bell was named the first Ed and Virginia Ball Chair of Telecommunications, and he continued to teach through his retirement in 2007.

Two years ago, the Indiana Broadcasters Association honored Bell with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Bell is survived by his wife, Joyce Dillavou Bell, to whom he was married for 61 years; two daughters, Allison K. Bell and Hilary A. Borlack; and six grandchildren.

**THOMAS F. STEINER (MSJ68)**, 73, of Inverness, Ill., a marketing executive and consultant, as well as a Vietnam War veteran, died on Dec. 6, 2018.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, to Edward and Julia Steiner, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism from Marquette University and married his wife, Linda, before graduating from Medill with a master's degree.

Steiner served as a U.S. naval officer during the Vietnam War and then spent 35 years in the optical industry as a marketing executive with Wesley Jessen and CIBA Vision. He also worked at J. Walter Thompson, Kraft and Sara Lee, and he started his own business as a marketing consultant.

Known as a voracious reader of history, Steiner consumed multiple biographies about each U.S. president, and he also

spent 40 years carving detailed furniture in his personal workshop.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, to whom he was married to for 51 years; son, Ted; and grandchildren, Grace, Isaiah and Lauren.

**FRANK OATESS (MSJ72)**, 73, of Wilmette, Ill., worked in public relations and communications and also served in the U.S. Navy. He died Feb. 26.

Born and raised in Ohio, Oatess attended Cathedral Latin High School and the University of Dayton before graduating from Medill. He also went to U.S. Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I., and served on White Beach and Naha in Okinawa, Japan.

He and his wife, Karin, eventually settled in Wilmette, enjoying the beauty of Lake Michigan, Saturday morning tailgates at Northwestern football games and summer fishing trips to Door County in Wisconsin with their children, grandchildren and many basset hounds.

**JUDY KRIZMANIC (BSJ88)**, 51, of Wilmette, Ill., a vegetarian health and nutrition author, died in October 2018. She is survived by her husband, Bill Weingarten and sons Benjamin and Leo Weingarten, as well as a brother, John Krizmanic, and a sister, Anna Kirwan.

**SHOBHANA "SHO" CHANDRA (MSJ98)**, 53, of Virginia, an economics reporter in the Washington bureau of Bloomberg News, a longtime National Press Club member



and leader of the Washington-based Medill Mentors program, died Feb. 20.

Chandra grew up in Lucknow and Allahabad in India among a large extended family. In 1984, Chandra moved to Delhi with her mother and one of her two sisters.

She received a bachelor's degree from Jesus & Mary College in New Delhi and a master's degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, inspired by her parents Prakash and Nirmala Chandra and elder sister Vandana, all economists. Chandra then received a second master's degree from Medill.

In 1998, she joined Bloomberg in its bureau in Princeton, N.J., as a general assignment and consumer reporter. Before that, she tracked, recorded, analyzed and interpreted complex data and produced insightful reports and commentaries for flagship Indian journals. In 2005, she moved to Washington to work on the news service's economy team. Also a board member of the Society for Advancing Business Editing and Writing, Chandra covered all aspects of the U.S. economy for Bloomberg, from jobs and consumer spending to manufacturing, trade, prices and housing.

"Our readers were smarter because of her dedication, knowledge and close attention to accuracy and fairness," John Micklethwait, editor-in-chief of Bloomberg News wrote in a staff note, according to Talking Biz News (via the Wire of the National Press Club, or NPC). "For those of us lucky enough to have known her as a colleague and friend, she was unfailingly gracious, funny and loyal. She took enormous pride in her work and frequently was a mentor to less experienced reporters and the countless interns who thrived under her tutelage. She will be greatly missed."

As co-director of the Medill Mentors program, Chandra offered valuable career advice to dozens of student journalists. A National Press Club member since 2005, Chandra also was one of eight editors of the Wire, the organization's electronic newsletter, as well as part of the Club's scholarship team. Every year since 2012, Chandra volunteered for several two-week shifts to edit copy and format the Wire.

“Sho was a fastidious, conscientious editor and absolutely dependable,” said Mark Schoeff Jr., co-chair of the NPC’s Publications Team, according to a story on the Wire. “...She always had a positive attitude and warm smile.”

Chandra loved earrings—as evidenced by her 2,000-pair collection—and had an taste in music ranging from Hindustani classical to metallic rock. She loved nurturing a spring and summer garden and was known for cooking late into the night, always ready to take a dish to a friend or family member in distress. Chandra is survived by two sisters, Vandana and Aradhana.

Source: “Sho Chandra, Bloomberg News reporter, National Press Club Volunteer, 53”, Feb. 22, 2019, *the Wire of the National Press Club*; and Tim Homan, Chandra’s friend.



**PATRICIA DEAN**, 72, of Santa Fe, N.M., former chair of broadcast news at Medill and a faculty member for 16 years, died Nov. 18, 2018.

“She was a masterful teacher and a caring mentor who launched many students on careers in broadcast news,” wrote George Harmon, friend and colleague.

Before joining Medill in 1987, Dean worked as a producer for the Chicago affiliates of ABC, NBC, and CBS and won awards for her investigative and consumer reporting.

After her time at Medill, Dean served as associate director and a professor of professional practice at the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern California from 2003 until her retirement in 2011. In 2006, she received the Schwartz Award for distinguished service to journalism and mass communication from her alma mater, Iowa State University.

After moving to Santa Fe in 2013, Dean spent her time attending opera, playing golf and singing in a gospel choir.

**EVELYN Y. DAVIS**, 89, of Washington, a longtime Medill donor and president of the Evelyn Y. Davis Foundation who was known for her flamboyant, witty outspokenness and for pushing corporate executives to be more frugal and transparent, died Nov. 4, 2018.

The New York Times noted in an obituary that she often showed up for annual shareholder meetings dressed in costumes that reflected her personal messaging, such as a Batman mask for an American Broadcasting Company Meeting, and in an aluminum dress for a meeting of U.S. Steel.

“For all her antics, Ms. Davis could be effective,” wrote Emily Flitter in The New York Times in November 2018. “Her relentless questions about why chief executives were paid as much as they were, whether companies had donated money to political groups overseas, and how board elections were carried out were credited with helping to advance stricter rules for corporate governance.”

Davis published a newsletter from 1965 to 2011 called “Highlights and Lowlights of Annual Meetings,” which The Times called “typically a slim booklet containing a jumble of her thoughts printed in italic font on thick, cream-colored paper, at \$600 a copy.” Some executives, the newspaper noted, would subscribe to it to curry favor with her.

Evelyn Yvonne (DeJong) Davis was born on Aug. 16, 1929, in Amsterdam, the daughter of Herman DeJong, a neurologist, and Marianna DeJong, a psychologist. According to The Times, Nazis targeted the family during World War II because of their Jewish roots. She and several other members of her family were arrested, and she was imprisoned in a concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. In 1942, she and her family immigrated to the United States, settling near Washington.

She attended Western Maryland University and George Washington University but did not graduate. According to The Times, Davis then moved to New York and began investing in companies and public bonds, using money she had inherited from her father when he died in 1956.

The Times recounted the following: “Ms. Davis saw to it that she would be remembered after her death...A spokesman for her foundation said she had left instructions to distribute most of its millions to a list of universities, hospitals and arts centers.

She also directed that a portion of the money be used for something else: the maintenance of the plaques the charities would install in recognition of her donations. She asked that they remain intact and that they be polished in perpetuity.

“The executor of my estate will check on this every six months,’ she told The Washington Post in 1995, ‘to make sure I don’t get double-crossed.’”

Sources: Unless otherwise noted, obituaries are sourced from *Legacy.com*, from the obituaries distributed by funeral homes, notes submitted by families, news websites, or the *Medill website*.

CLASS NOTES, OBITUARIES AND KEEP READING EDITED BY ERIN CHAN DING (BSJ03)

ERIN CHAN DING (BSJ03) IS A FREELANCE JOURNALIST AND A COMMUNICATIONS EXECUTIVE WHO LIVES IN SUBURBAN CHICAGO. SHE AND HER HUSBAND LOVE TAKING THEIR KIDDOS TO WILDCAT FOOTBALL GAMES AND DOUSING THEM IN NORTHWESTERN PURPLE.



**GEORGIE ANNE “GEE GEE” GEYER (BSJ56)**, 84, renowned foreign correspondent, syndicated columnist and a member of the inaugural class of the Medill Hall of Achievement, died on May 15. She was 84.

As a columnist, lecturer and author, Geyer was known globally for her probing, sensitive, and innovative reporting as a foreign correspondent. Her interview list reads like a “Who’s Who” of international leaders: Cuban President Fidel Castro, Argentinean President Juan Peron, King Hussein of Jordan, Iran’s Ayatollah Khomeini and Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

After spending a year in Austria post-college as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Vienna, Geyer returned to Chicago and joined the Chicago Daily News. In 1964, she earned a six-month fellowship for travel in South America and she convinced her editor to let her write while she was there, becoming the Latin American correspondent for the Daily News for three years.

In 1975, Geyer became a Washington, D.C.-based columnist for The Los

Angeles Times Syndicate. Her column on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy was distributed by the Universal Press Syndicate. At its height, her column was carried by more than 120 newspapers in the United States and Latin America. According to her obituary in the Washington Post, Geyer had a special affinity for Latin America, where she traveled with guerrilla groups in Guatemala and held all-night conversations with Castro in Cuba. She also interviewed other controversial world figures such as Iraq’s Saddam Hussein, Iran’s Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Cambodia’s Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Libya’s Moammar Gaddafi, Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization and former Argentinian President Juan Perón. Geyer was a regular guest on PBS’s “Washington Week in Review” and on “Voice of America.”

In 2011, a Chicago Daily News advertisement from the mid-1960s that boasted “Our Man in Havana is a Girl” (about Geyer’s work) was on display at the Northwestern University Library as part of a larger exhibition that explored the past, present and future of journalism.

That exhibit, which featured books, rare library materials, artifacts from working journalists and videos of pop culture depictions of reporters was titled “Who is the Journalist: The Past, Present and Future of News,” and featured pieces of Geyer’s work.

The Northwestern University Archives secured the first major installment of Geyer’s papers in 2010 and has received several additions to her collection through 2018. Significantly more material is anticipated, according to University Archivist Kevin B. Leonard. Included in the Geyer collection are reporter’s notebooks, correspondence files, texts of her public addresses and publications, scrapbooks, photographs, audiovisual recordings, biographical material, textiles, and artifacts. “We even have the

portable typewriter Geyer carried while on assignment,” Leonard added.

“Gee Gee spoke to me often and well of her Northwestern experience, and honoring the place that Northwestern held in her heart, she graced the University by donating the records of her life and of her career to Northwestern University Archives,” Leonard said. “That collection is voluminous and important, documenting not only Gee Gee’s own work but also the people and subjects on which she reported. It is a fantastic privilege for Northwestern to hold the Geyer collection and to make it available for study. It also was my personal privilege to come to know Gee Gee and to call her a friend. She was both a leader in her profession and nothing less than wonderful as a person: intelligent, inquisitive, charming, generous, funny, and fun-loving. I miss her greatly but will remain ever grateful for having known her. She lives on in my own heart. Her collection at Northwestern will illuminate for future generations the world she reported on with such bravery and insight.”

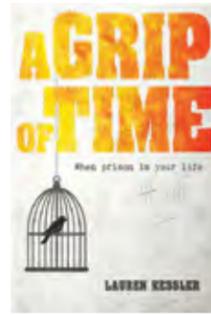
Geyer is also the author of 10 books including “Buying the Night Flight: The Autobiography of a Woman Foreign Correspondent” and “Guerrilla Prince: The Untold Story of Fidel Castro,” a biography of Castro that was made into a Showtime TV mini-series in January 2001.

Geyer received 21 honorary degrees, including one from Northwestern in 1993, as well as many journalism awards. She recently lent her name to a program at Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., to foster future foreign correspondents. Known as the Georgie Anne Geyer Initiative, the annual lecture honors Geyer’s “fierce” work as a foreign correspondent. Lecturers to date for the Georgie Anne Geyer Initiative are: Marvin Kalb, Hedrick Smith, David Jones and Rukmini Callimachi.



**CHAIRMAN MAO DIDN'T BRUSH AND OTHER POEMS**  
MICHAEL CHACKO DANIELS (MSJ68)

This collection of poems with the bright red cover and gold-leaf lettering traverses a range of worlds. In the foreword, Naomi Rose describes the book like this: “Michael Chacko Daniels has a gift for bringing worlds together. Whether it is India and America, or the discontinuities of being an Indian in America (or, sometimes, in India, for that matter), the author presents a distinctly unique view. In this book, you will find three categories of poems, like baskets of peaches straight from the farmer by way of the circuitous history that includes China, Persia, Rome and California: poems in verse (fourteen in all); *haiku* and *senryu* (forty-eight); and *haibun*, or prose plus poetry (one)... For Daniels lives in many worlds—not only India and America, as he weaves the nourishments and endearments, discontinuities and aggravations of these cultures into the poems—but also the many worlds within a single place that he observes and seeks to unify, if possible; at least observe uniquely.”



**A GRIP OF TIME: WHEN PRISON IS YOUR LIFE**  
LAUREN KESSLER (BSJ71)

“A Grip of Time” is prison slang for a very long sentence behind bars. It’s also the name of Lauren Kessler’s (BSJ71), book, which takes readers inside a maximum-security prison—and inside the minds and hearts of men who live there. The men, serving life sentences for aggravated murder, join a fledgling writing group for “lifers” started by Kessler. The group takes hold over three years, meeting two times a month. As they meet, the men reveal more and more about themselves, their pasts and the alternating drama and tedium of their incarcerated lives. As they struggle with the weight of their guilt and wonder if they should hope for a future outside these walls, Kessler struggles with the fiercely competing ideas of rehabilitation and punishment, forgiveness and blame that are at the heart of the American penal system.



**THE UNFORGIVEN: THE UNTOLD STORY OF ONE WOMAN'S SEARCH FOR LOVE AND JUSTICE**  
EDITH BRADY-LUNNY AND STEVE VOGEL (MSJ71)

Steve Vogel (MSJ71) teams with veteran courts reporter Edith Brady-Lunny for a compelling book about a 2003 incident in which three children drowned when their mother’s car (driven by her boyfriend) entered a lake; their mother and boyfriend survived and were accused of murder. Vogel’s “Reasonable Doubt”—another true crime book updated last year—was a New York Times best-seller.



**COVERT COWS AND CHICK-FIL-A: HOW FAITH, COWS, AND CHICKEN BUILT AN ICONIC BRAND**  
STEVE ROBINSON (MSJ73)

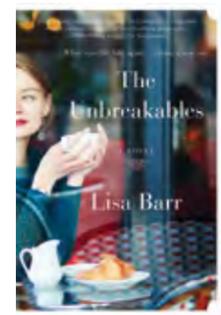
“Covert Cows and Chick-fil-A: How Faith, Cows, and Chicken Built an Iconic Brand” is the story of how a company turned prevailing theories of fast-food marketing upside down and built one of the most successful brands in America. Steve Robinson (MSJ73), Chick-fil-A’s longtime marketing officer, has been integrally involved in the company’s steady then explosive growth from 184 stores and \$100 million in annual sales in 1981 to more than 2,100 stores and more than \$6.8 billion in annual sales in 2015. He’s been both a witness and participant in the company’s remarkable development.

In his book, Robinson shares the story of Chick-fil-A’s evolution, from the creation of the Eat More Chikin’ campaign, to the decision to stay closed on Sundays, to the creation of the company’s corporate purpose. He provides a front-row seat to the innovative marketing, brand strategies and programs that created a culture customers describe as “where good meets gracious.” Robinson also draws on personal interactions with the gifted team of company leaders, restaurant operators, and Chick-fil-A Founder Truett Cathy, explaining the traits that built the company’s culture and have sustained it through recession and many other challenges. Robinson, through disarming candor and revealing storytelling, shows how every aspect of the company’s approach reflects an unwavering dedication to Christian values and to the individual customer experience.



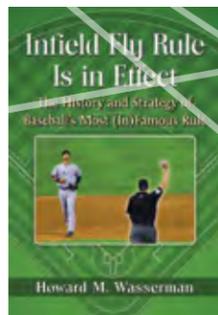
**“VIOLET FIRE,” “VIOLET ASH” AND “VIOLET ICE”**  
LAURA P. GUILFOYLE (BSJ80)

In her trilogy, Laura P. Guilfoyle (BSJ80) weaves together the stories of three seemingly disparate people tied together by their shared violet eyes. In “Violet Fire,” set in the ancient land of Lemuria (a hypothetical lost land), 17-year-old Alea’s visions have become nightmares. She must convince a young Atlantean scientist, whom she’s never even met, to help her stop dangerous experiments before it’s too late. In “Violet Ash,” when Leah loses her mother at 13 during the birth of her sister, Eliana, she thinks she’s survived the worst tragedy of her life. Hitler has other plans. In “Violet Ice,” Lea’s marriage has devolved into divorce. Her young daughter, Eleana, has bad dreams that are coming true. How can Lea help her daughter when she feels so lost herself?



**THE UNBREAKABLES**  
LISA BARR (MSJ89)

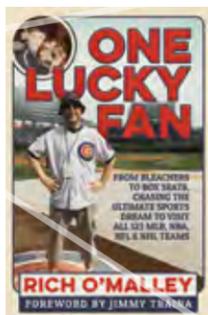
In “The Unbreakables,” Chicagoan Sophie Bloom jets off to France after her “perfect” marriage collapses, putting the broken pieces of herself back together while reclaiming her *joie de vivre*—a lust for life, art and steamy sex. After a brief visit to Paris, Sophie heads out to the artist enclave of Saint Paul de Vence. There, she rediscovers her essence with painful honesty and humor, reawakening both her sensuality and ambitions as a sculptor. As she sheds her past and travels the obstacle-filled, off-beaten path, Sophie is determined to blossom. Allowing her true self to emerge in the postcard beauty of Provence, she must decide what is broken forever...and what it means to be truly unbreakable.



**INFIELD FLY RULE IS IN EFFECT: THE HISTORY AND STRATEGY OF BASEBALL'S MOST (IN)FAMOUS RULE**  
**HOWARD WASSERMAN (BSJ90, JD97)**

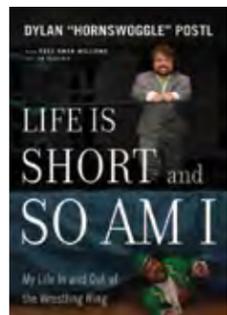
In “Infield Fly Rule Is in Effect: The History and Strategy of Baseball’s Most (In)Famous Rule,” Howard Wasserman (BSJ90, JD97) turns a legal eye on baseball’s Infield Fly Rule, a somewhat complex rule in baseball in which under certain circumstances—fewer than two outs and a force play at third—an umpire can call an out even before the ball is caught.

Wasserman traces the rule’s history, developing a legal and policy justification for this well-known, often-misunderstood, and occasionally controversial rule. Drawing on interviews with experts, legal arguments and an empirical study of every infield-fly play in eight Major League Baseball seasons, Wasserman tells the rule’s complete story. He covers its history and evolution from the 19th century to the modern game, argues in support of its underlying logic and policies, responds to recent criticisms and calls for repeal, and examines the rule’s effect on how baseball is played.



**ONE LUCKY FAN: FROM BLEACHERS TO BOX SEATS, CHASING THE ULTIMATE SPORTS DREAM TO VISIT ALL 123 MLB, NBA, NFL & NHL TEAMS**  
**RICH O'MALLEY (MSJ98)**

For Rich O’Malley (MSJ98), the desire to be at professional sports games turned into a quest. “One Lucky Fan” is the story of O’Malley’s successful pursuit of seeing a home game for all 123 teams in the four major U.S. professional sports leagues—Major League Baseball, the National Basketball League, the National Hockey League and the National Football League. It begins with Rich’s foundations as a fan and culminates in his 25,000-mile, two-month whirlwind tour he undertook to fulfill his dream. Throughout his story, O’Malley contemplates what unites fans—even rivals—and seeks to inspire readers to undertake their own adventures.



**LIFE IS SHORT & SO AM I: MY LIFE IN AND OUT OF THE WRESTLING RING**  
**IAN DOUGLASS (MSJ06)**

Born with achondroplasia, a condition that causes disproportionate dwarfism, Dylan Postl had endured multiple surgeries by the age of 12. And yet, he held on to the dream that he would one day become a professional wrestler. In “Life Is Short & So Am I,” Ian Douglass (MSJ06) tells the story of a boy who fell in love with wrestling before he was able to walk. Ignoring the naysayers and against doctors’ recommendations, Dylan began training in his teens, and he soon began appearing on local independent shows. Before he turned 20, he was signed by the world leader in sports-entertainment, WWE, to play the role of Irish grappler Finlay’s feisty sidekick, Hornswoggle. Dylan would go on to spend a decade with the WWE.

While most of Dylan’s adult life has been spent in the wild world of the wrestling industry, Douglass’s book is more than the story of a little person’s journey through a world of giants; it’s a memoir of elation and anguish, triumph and disappointment, and of how an endlessly positive outlook combined with the unwavering support of family and friends helped someone become a success in his industry—and a loving, responsible father. It’s a story about a man who still loves wrestling but loves his family above all else.

BOOKSHELF ENTRIES ARE DRAWN FROM PUBLISHER’S NOTES OR FROM DESCRIPTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE AUTHORS.

# Senior Sentiments

The Medill Class of 2019 shares parting thoughts about the Medill experience.

“ Medill means being constantly challenged to be a better journalist and person. It means a level of one-on-one attention that you can’t get anywhere else at Northwestern, like having my reporting and writing class that Medill organized to make NU and Medill transfers feel at home.

**KARLI GOLDENBERG (BSJ19)**

“ Some of the best experiences I had were outside of the classroom. From San Francisco to Cape Town, South Africa, Medill gave me unforgettable moments, long-lasting connections and the opportunity to learn more about this chaotic world we live in.

**ANNIE CEBULSKI (BSJ19)**

“ When I came to Medill, I had absolutely zero journalism experience. I was terrified, but the amazing faculty at Medill taught me the ropes and helped me gain the skills needed to report from places like Panama and Puerto Rico, interview White House officials without batting an eye, and investigate corrupt government practices. Medill gave me the room to grow as a reporter and as a human—I’m so grateful for these past four years!

**ASHELY HACKETT (BSJ19, MSJ20)**

“ Attending Medill means joining an amazing community of friendly alumni who want to help you achieve your dreams. I wrote stories I’m proud of—but most importantly, I met amazing people.

**ERICA SNOW (BSJ19)**

“ I’ve always been in awe of the many global connections Medill has, and will always be grateful for the multiple opportunities I’ve had to go abroad and pursue my interests in journalism-related fields.

**PRIVANKA GODBOLE (BSJ19)**

“ I would be nothing without the guidance and support of the professors at Medill, whether it was a second set of eyes on a draft or a phone call during my summer internship for advice. They pushed me to do what I love as I embark on my career as a news reporter!

**MORGAN SMITH (BSJ19)**

“ Medill grew me as a person and refined me as a journalist by introducing me to new cultures and corners of the world.

**ANNMARIE HILTON (BSJ19, MSJ20)**

“ At Medill, and in the countries that Medill has taken me to for reporting, I have learned to respectfully and ethically communicate with and report in communities of all backgrounds, a skill that I will cherish for the rest of my career and life.

**COLIN BOYLE (BSJ20)**

“ A lot of people think that a Medill education confines them to learning about journalism and journalism only. My Medill experience was much more than that. I learned about people, I became a jack of all trades and I began to see the world around me through a different, more refined lens.

**TALA SALEM (BSJ19)**

“ After going on an environmental reporting trip to Panama with Medill Global, I was hooked on experiential storytelling. I teamed up with my professor from that trip, Abigail Foerstner, and wrote a grant proposal to spend part of my senior year in Southeast Asia to report on climate change and agriculture. It was one of the most educational and fantastic trips of my life—and it only happened because of Medill.

**DARBY HOPPER (BSJ19)**

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**KENNETH EDWARD PINER (MSJ93)**, right, directs a live show for The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) where he is Director: Broadcast & Digital Media.

