



NLGJA 2017

NLGJA: THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS
NATIONAL CONVENTION | SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

#NLGJA2017



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27th National Convention
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The Association of LGBTQ Journalists

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FROM THE TOOLBOX

OPEN LETTER: COVERING THE PENTAGON'S TRANSGENDER POLICY



NLGJA – The Association of LGBTQ Journalists encourages journalists writing about the change in policy on transgender service members to be fair and accurate in their coverage. If you or someone in your newsroom has questions about language use, NLGJA is available to provide peer-to-peer guidance.

Here are a few tips, as well as some information from our “Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology” that may be helpful in covering transgender individuals:

- Referring to “transgender woman” or “transgender man” is acceptable on first reference. Subsequent references should refer to a transgender woman as a “woman” or a transgender man as a “man.”
- When quoting sources, use the name and pronoun(s) that an individual uses. It’s not about a driver’s license, birth certificate or military ID.
- Unless it’s germane to the story, birth names and gender aren’t relevant when covering individuals without prior name recognition.
- Medical history is personal. If a person wants to talk about private medical history, hormones or surgery, it is OK to report it — provided it’s germane to the story. But gender identity doesn’t depend on surgery or hormones, nor are these necessarily public topics.
- Avoid playing into stereotypes. Not all trans people are seeking to become the archetype of the gender to which they are transitioning. At the same time, lots of people who don’t change gender aren’t necessarily the physical epitome of what one thinks of as a man or woman. Avoid subjective assessments of how someone presents him- or herself.
- Sex assigned at birth, gender and sexual orientation are three different, but related aspects of every individual. The military segregates by gender (male and female), therefore someone’s sex assigned at birth and surgery history is not relevant to the standards they must adhere to according to their gender identity.

One source for information on LGBTQ military service, including the impact of open transgender service, is The Palm Center, an independent research institute (palmcenter.org).

Please consider that words matter. Research has shown that LGBTQ teens and young adults have one of the highest rates of all suicide attempts. Transgender people are twice as likely to be unemployed — and four times as likely if they’re a trans woman of color. Lesbians and gays outnumber trans people six to one, yet transgender people are 50 percent more likely to be murdered. Bullying of LGBTQ youth has been shown to be a contributing factor in many suicides, even if not all of the attacks have been specifically addressing sexual orientation or gender.

NLGJA members in print, broadcast, online, international and national newsrooms will be covering this story as well. NLGJA is not an advocacy group, but a group of working journalism professionals dedicated to ensuring fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.

You can find more in NLGJA’s “Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology” (nlgja.org/stylebook). We also offer tipsheets on issues that affect our communities at nlgja.org/resources. NLGJA also has professional development available through our Newsroom Outreach Program. The project was designed to help newsrooms better understand the complexities of covering our diverse communities, while remaining unbiased. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance. We have members in local, national and international newsrooms who are experienced covering these types of issues.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
NLGJA – The Association of LGBTQ Journalists
June 30, 2016



JEN CHRISTENSEN

NLGJA President

As we pulled together this year's convention panels and plenaries, I marveled at how many talented and successful journalists NLGJA has to pick from for expert speakers. From Pulitzers and Peabodys, to Emmys and AP awards, our association members have a lot of hardware on their shelves. Their award collections keep growing, as does NLGJA.

Many more people have signed up to become members this year, even as the industry's professional ranks continue to shrink. What that tells me is that not only does NLGJA have the right volunteers and staff doing the right kind of outreach, but we've also got the right mission.

With our current political climate, I'm sure you are feeling it, too — there's a new sense of urgency in our work. There is also a new kind of pride in what we do. Often journalists can be too self-critical, but when powerful people call us names or question our integrity, we are not demoralized. We are galvanized to work even harder to fight this good fight.

As president of NLGJA, I've had the great opportunity to travel the country and see this renewed spirit among our members. In March at our Convening, we were pleased to provide talented journalists from LGBTQ media an extra day of professional development training. While in Orlando, we went as a group to visit Pulse and to witness first-hand the moving tributes left behind to honor those who were lost. There wasn't a dry eye on that property, and we all left that sacred space with added determination to make sure our community's stories are told, even as those in positions of power prefer we remain silent.

I was also deeply moved at this year's Headlines & Headliners when our emcee, CNN's Don Lemon, graciously told the crowd that NLGJA and the event's Host Sponsor, Mitchell Gold, were instrumental in helping him come out. As someone who has had the privilege of producing for Don, I remember quite well talking through the coming out process as we drove to our assignments. Hearing Don give us credit for helping him become his most authentic self was the highest form of praise. When Barry Manilow also stopped by that evening, posing for pictures and tweeting out his support, we couldn't have been happier that an even broader audience would hear about our important mission.

At our L.A. Exclusive event in June, the talented Marc Malkin — who won this year's Lisa Ben Award — shared how he got his first newspaper job after being recruited at an NLGJA job fair. Of course we had known about his great work for E!, but we had no idea of the role NLGJA played at the beginning of his professional journey.

Now at our Philadelphia Convention, we celebrate another NLGJA program that has turned out many successful additions to our profession. It's hard to believe it's been 20 years since we launched our student project program. Its highly-accomplished alumni are now successful reporters, producers, editors, professors, diplomats and PR professionals, and they all credit our student project with having a role in their success. Under the careful guidance of the great Caroline Que and her amazing team of mentors, this year's CONNECT class will soon become equally accomplished.

During our conference, I hope you will reach out to these student journalists to offer and check out their work. As they gather here with us, they are welcomed into a special group of enormously talented journalists who prove again and again that they are generous, thoughtful and willing to make our profession the best that it can be.

When you return to your newsrooms and offices, I hope you will help us continue to grow the circle of NLGJA. Talk about the great people you've met here and the professional programs you've experienced and encourage your colleagues to join us. We know there are still more LGBTQ journalists out there we can help, and they in turn can help us make our profession so much better. Now more than ever, we know how important this mission is.

I look forward to our work together in the year ahead.



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THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ
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ADAM PAWLUS

NLGJA Executive Director

On behalf of the staff of NLGJA – The Association of LGBTQ Journalists, I welcome you to the “City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection” and the Loews Philadelphia Hotel.

This year, we celebrate the 20th anniversary of NLGJA’s CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project, which, over the past two decades, has hosted over 200 budding journalists. The program offers students the opportunity to produce news under the direction of professional journalists in a newsroom atmosphere, and helps give them real-world experience as they prepare to enter the industry. We invite everyone to meet this year’s class of students and reconnect with alumni during the CONNECTIONS Welcome Reception on Thursday evening. The reception will also offer a great opportunity to meet others from your local chapter and make lasting connections.

The success of the 2017 National Convention is made possible by the tireless efforts of the co-chairs Jen Christensen, Ken Miguel, Eric Walter and members of the Convention Planning Committee. It is because of their efforts that we are proudly able to present this fantastic convention to you.

Please join me in extending our deepest thanks to our sponsors, donors, exhibitors, advertisers and presenters for their role in the presentation of this convention. Their support and contributions have made it possible for NLGJA to offer priceless programming and networking opportunities, while keeping registration costs affordable. Their contributions extend beyond this weekend and help to make NLGJA’s year-round work possible.

NLGJA’s success is also due to you, our dedicated members. By joining NLGJA and renewing your membership annually, you ensure that NLGJA’s reach and impact continues to grow.

For the rest of this week, I encourage you to take advantage of all that the convention has to offer. With over 30 workshops to choose from, five plenary sessions, several receptions, a Career & Community Expo, countless networking opportunities and many more things to do in Philadelphia outside of the convention walls, this weekend will be a busy, but outstanding time to grow. We are certain that every attendee, from our most seasoned to our first-timers, will find the opportunities afforded at our 2017 National Convention plentiful and invaluable.

As you enjoy all that this convention has to offer, we hope you’ll begin to look forward to our 2018 NLGJA National Convention which will be held, for the first time, in sunny Palm Springs, California, September 6 to 9.

Again, I offer you a warm welcome to Philadelphia. I eagerly anticipate meeting and visiting with as many of you as I can over the course of the next few days and look forward to seeing you once again in Palm Springs.

Engage and Enjoy!

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THE MORE VOICES WE HEAR, THE BETTER WE COMMUNICATE.

At Prudential, promoting diversity and inclusion has long been part of the way we do business. That's one reason we proudly support NLGJA's mission to advance fair and accurate news coverage of the LGBTQ community and issues.

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JEN CHRISTENSEN, KEN MIGUEL & ERIC WALTER

NLGJA 2017 National Convention Co-Chairs

WELCOME BACK TO PHILADELPHIA!

On behalf of NLGJA – The Association of LGBTQ Journalists, we want to welcome you to the largest gathering of LGBTQ journalists and media professionals in the nation. Before our last convention was over,, we had begun planning this year’s conference, and we are very excited that you are joining us this year. We hope that you enjoy what we have planned for you.

This year, we are trying something different. Rather than reserving a single day just for the LGBTQ Media Summit, we have spread that programming out over the entire conference, to reach more of our attendees.

We have put together programming to help you polish your reporting skills, expand your network, and help lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people advance to positions at the top of their newsrooms. No matter where you are in your career, we have something for you.

No one would have guessed that we’d be meeting this year in a country where journalists are under attack by the President of the United States. We’ve brought together some amazing journalists who are covering the White House, and daily drama unfolding in Washington, D.C., to offer their experiences first-hand.

The president’s “ban” on transgender service members will be explored at our Saturday morning plenary. Ask community leaders why words matter when covering this increasingly vulnerable community.

We’ll kick things off on a lighter note on Thursday night with our opening reception, “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia.” Meet some of the nation’s leading weather anchors, openly gay men who have come out and shared their lives with their public. Sam Champion will lead our talk about the challenges of being out in big and small markets, and address the obvious question, where are all the lesbian weatherwomen?

We are also excited to have the NPR’s “Fresh Air” host Terry Gross on hand. She’ll be chatting with her NPR colleague and the host of “All Things Considered,” Ari Shapiro. Come hear what they have to say about covering our community at what is sure to be a lively conversation, followed by an audience question-and-answer session.

If you’re here to hone your writing skills, we have one of the country’s best writers on hand to help you out. Spend some time with “CBS Sunday Morning” reporter Mo Rocca. He’s been correspondent for over a decade and his role on the show is akin to a columnist. In his workshop on Saturday, moderated by CBS Sunday Morning Executive Producer Rand Morrison, he will talk about bringing his perspective and voice to feature reporting on arts and culture.

Every event has been planned with you in mind. Take the time to make the connections and network with people at all levels of their careers. Celebrate those new connections, and show off your best red, white and blue at our closing reception on Saturday as we celebrate Philadelphia Freedom...and you!





It begins with a **promise.**

The Lilly family set a precedent for service in our company's earliest days by encouraging employees to devote time and resources to the communities in which they work and live. This commitment has been integral to our identity and a driving force behind our corporate priorities since. In recent years, we have transformed our corporate responsibility efforts, sharpening our focus on improving the health and well-being of people around the world.

To find out more about how we share our strength, visit www.lilly.com/responsibility.

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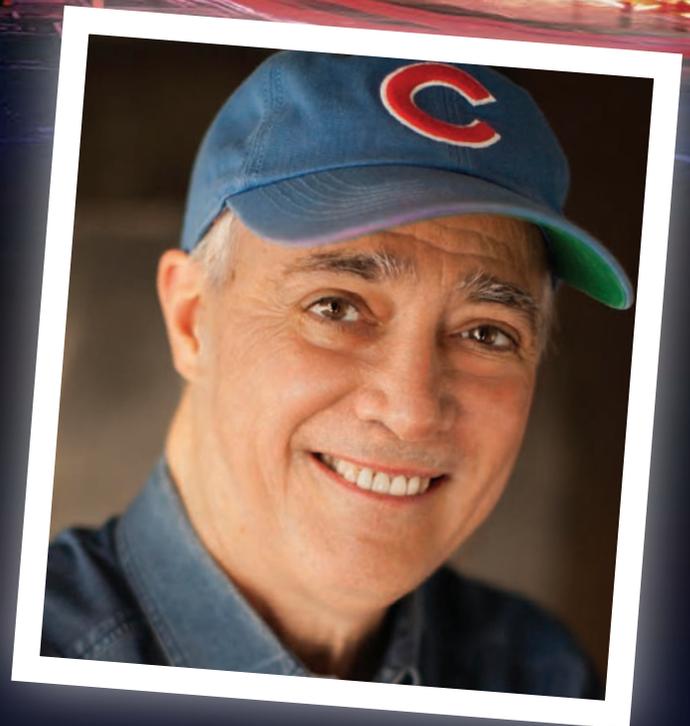
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DATELINE:DC

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

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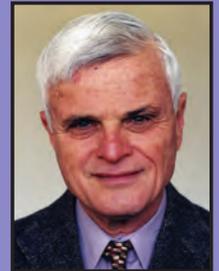
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In Memoriam
Leroy F. Aarons
 NLGJA Founder
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NLGJA CHAPTERS

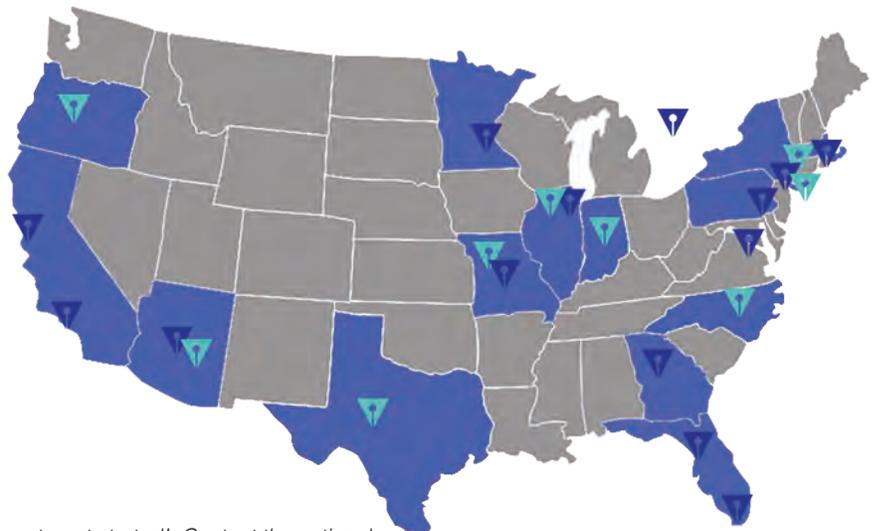


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Don't see a chapter in your area? It only takes one person to get started! Contact the national office today at (202) 588-9888 to see how you can get NLGJA going in your area!

JOIN NLGJA TODAY!



"In the beginning, I joined NLGJA because I thought it was important to show that I supported its central mission. I have remained a member because of all the wonderful people I have met — both incredible friends and professional connections."

David Steinberg

Former Copy Desk Chief
San Francisco Chronicle



"I stay an NLGJA member not only because I support fair and accurate coverage, but I also enjoy the camaraderie among my fellow LGBTQ journalists and media professionals."

Oriol Gutierrez

Editor in Chief, POZ Magazine

BENEFITS OF NLGJA MEMBERSHIP:

- Access to NLGJA's Members-Only website, which allows members to update their member profile, receive the latest NLGJA news and stay connected with upcoming events.
- Affiliation with a proven and internationally recognized professional organization that represents your interest within the media.
- Access to NLGJA's Mentorship Program, which matches members with those who can assist them in their industry.
- Access to NLGJA's online job board.
- Access to NLGJA's Resume Critique Service.
- Discounted registration to NLGJA's National Convention.
- Discounted admission to NLGJA regional events, training sessions and webinars.
- Members save 20% when using OutNewsWire or TravelOutNewsWire. Authors who are members save 66% on book announcements when using either wire service.
- NLGJA's weekly newsletter, NLGJA News, a professional development-focused digest of career training, member news, student activity and organizational information.
- An opportunity to seek recognition of your work with NLGJA's two awards programs: the annual Excellence in Journalism Awards and our NLGJA LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Basic (\$75)

People who derive income from the gathering, editing, or presentation of news or editorial content for broadcast, online or print. Includes the right to vote and run for office. (Members of our UNITY: Journalists for Diversity partners receive a \$25 discount.)

LGBTQ Media (\$45)

People who derive income from the gathering, editing or presentation of news or editorial content for broadcast, online or print in LGBTQ Media. Includes the right to vote and run for office.

Associate (\$75)

People who are former full or part-time journalists or who hold media-related jobs such as public relations, public or corporate information, directors of media organizations or are journalism educators. Includes the right to vote, but excludes the right to run for office. (Members of our UNITY: Journalists for Diversity partners receive a \$25 discount.)

Retired (\$25)

People who no longer work full-time but who, when working, qualified for a full membership. Includes the right to vote, but excludes the right to run for office.

International (\$25)

People living outside of the United States. Includes the right to vote, but excludes the right to run for office.

Student (\$25)

People engaged/enrolled in high school, college, or an educational institution of higher learning who are planning to pursue a career in journalism. Includes the right to vote, but excludes the right to run for office.

Under 25 (\$25)

People entering the field of journalism, out of school, but under the age of 25. Includes the right to vote, but excludes the right to run for office.

Ally (\$75)

People who are supporters of NLGJA's mission but are NOT former journalists nor qualified to be a member in any other category. Ally members have access to member rates for conferences, summits, conventions and events, where a member rate is offered. Does not include the right to vote, nor run for office.

Lifetime Membership (\$1,200)

Includes access to all NLGJA membership benefits and special recognition in the annual convention program.

JOIN ONLINE TODAY: [NLGJA.ORG/MEMBERSHIP](https://nlgja.org/membership)

NLGJA LIFETIME MEMBERS



NLGJA: THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS
NATIONAL CONVENTION | SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



Our Lifetime Membership program is designed to celebrate a dedication and commitment to fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues by allowing NLGJA members to pledge their talents and support not just for today, but for a lifetime. For more information, stop by Convention Registration in the Fourth Floor Foyer during the convention or visit the Membership Section of NLGJA's website at nlgja.org.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Randy Alfred, 1995 | Chad Findlay, 2005 | Eden Lane, 2008 | Steve Rosen, 1991 |
| Kenn Altine, 2002 | Calvin Fleming, 2007 | Don Lemon, 2011 | Steve Rothaus, 1991 |
| Karen Bailis, 1995 | Alan Flippen, 1996 | Sean Lewis, 2008 | Senta Scarborough, 2002 |
| David Barre, 1999 | Ina Fried, 2000 | Randy D. Lovely, 1999 | Gregory Schmidt, 1997 |
| Robert Bennett, 2013 | Mathew Friedman, 1995 | Mykel MacCarthy, 2000 | Mark Segal, 2004 |
| Matthew Berger, 2002 | Steve Friess, 1996 | Marc Malkin, 2017 | Kim Severson, 1996 |
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| Rod Blum, 2007 | Howard Goldberg, 1996 | Christopher Martin, 2000 | Chuck Small, 1990 |
| Sherry Boschert, 1995 | Trey Graham, 1995 | Ian McCann, 2001 | Samantha Snyder, 2008 |
| Ray Bradford, 2000 | LZ Granderson, 2003 | Reed McDowell, 2010 | Curtis Sparrer, 2012 |
| Gary Bramnick, 2004 | Jonathan Greenberger, 2015 | Margaret McElligott, 2002 | David Steinberg, 1998 |
| David Brousseau, 2001 | Oriol Gutierrez, 2002 | Marshall McPeck, 1995 | Douglas Stewart, 1995 |
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| William L. Canacci Jr., 1996 | Belinda Hernandez, 2013 | Ken Miguel, 2003 | Hassan Luis Sudler, 2001 |
| Michael Caprio, 2005 | Simon Hobbs, 2015 | Akilah Monifa, 2000 | Stacy Sullivan, 1998 |
| Sam Champion, 2015 | Bethany Howe, 2015 | Daniel Morales, 2003 | Curtis Tate, 2004 |
| Jen Christensen, 1996 | Kathleen Howley, 2003 | Javier Morgado, 2003 | Michael Tune, 2009 |
| Holly Crenshaw, 1998 | Mike Huckman, 1994 | Thomas Musbach, 1995 | Lisa Van Arsdale, 2015 |
| Luis Cruz, 2005 | April Hunt, 1996 | Bryan Norcross, 2014 | Kris Van Cleave, 2015 |
| Tim Curran, 1995 | Leonard P. Iaquina, 1996 | Donald Parsons, 1999 | Meredith Vieira, 2015 |
| Geoff Dankert, 1996 | Kathleen Howley, 2003 | Court Passant, 1996 | Eric Walter, 2003 |
| Jason DeRose, 2001 | Derrick Jones, 2013 | Steven Petrow, 1994 | Zach Wichter, 2010 |
| Scott Dill, 1997 | Wesley Juhl, 2013 | Robin Phillips, 1999 | Robert V. Witeck, 1995 |
| Randy Dottinga, 2000 | Christina Kahrl, 2011 | David Poller, 1996 | Judy Wolf, 1996 |
| Sharif J. Durhams, 2000 | Jason Knight, 2007 | Richard Quest, 2014 | Matt Wurster, 1996 |
| Dawn Ennis, 2014 | | Rick Reichmuth, 2015 | |



We proudly support diversity in journalism.



This is who we are.



HALL OF FAME

Photo: Wendy Averill



JINX BEERS

Jinx Beers is the founding publisher and first managing editor of America's longest running lesbian newspaper, The Lesbian News, launched in 1975. She is a pioneering journalist as well as a lifelong feminist and advocate for human rights. Born in Pasadena, California in 1933, Jinx Beers served proudly for four years in the U.S. Air Force including her assignment in post-war Germany. She served in the active reserves for more than a dozen years, during both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. In the 1970s, following the Stonewall uprising, Jinx became an early activist for many LGBTQ and feminist causes including "Take Back the Night," rallying for the Equal Rights Amendment, the Lesbian Rights Task Force of LA's National Organization for Women and leading Lesbian Experience courses at UCLA. While nurturing Lesbian News for its first thirteen and a half years, Jinx Beers also held a range of public service positions for state and local governments in California. Retiring at the age of 75, Jinx has earned countless honors and recognition including the Dick Michael's Media Award from the Christopher Street West Association, as well as the Rainbow Key Award, the Etheridge Award and a civic proclamation from the City of West Hollywood. To mark the first 75 years of her life, she penned her autobiography, "Memoirs of an Old Dyke."



DAN SAVAGE

Dan Savage is an award-winning journalist and author, TV personality, and activist best known for his political and social commentary, as well as his honest approach to sex, love and relationships. His sex advice column, "Savage Love," introduced over 25 years ago, is now syndicated throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia. He is the editorial director of The Stranger, and his byline has appeared in The New York Times Magazine, GQ, Rolling Stone, The Onion and on Salon.com. Savage's sex advice column, "Savage Love," introduced over 25 years ago, is now syndicated in newspapers and websites throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia. Savage is also the author of several books spurring Publishers' Weekly to name him, "America's most in-your-face sex columnist and gay rights activist." In September 2010, Savage created a YouTube video with his husband Terry Miller to inspire hope for LGBTQ young people facing harassment and especially to let LGBTQ youth know that "it gets better." Today, the It Gets Better Project (www.itgetsbetter.org) has become a global movement, inspiring more than 50,000 It Gets Better videos viewed over 50 million times.

Established in 2005, NLGJA's LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame honors individuals who have made exemplary contributions through their careers to NLGJA's mission of promoting fair and accurate coverage of issues affecting the LGBTQ community. The journalists honored here are true heroes. All of us hope that their stories will inspire you as they have inspired us.

<p>2005 (FOUNDING CLASS)</p> <p>Leroy F. Aarons Phyllis Lyon & Del Martin Thomas Morgan III Sarah Pettit Randy Shilts Don Slater</p>	<p>2007</p> <p>Jim Kepner Jack Nichols Barbara Gittings & Kay Tobin Lahusen</p> <p>2008</p> <p>Richard Goldstein Gail Shister</p> <p>2009</p> <p>Garrett Glaser Ronald Gold Deb Price</p>	<p>2010</p> <p>"Lisa Ben" Hank Plante Richard Rouillard</p> <p>2011</p> <p>Dorr Legg Don Michaels Michelangelo Signorile</p> <p>2012</p> <p>Jill Johnston Randolfe Hayden Wicker</p>	<p>2013</p> <p>Bob Ross Mark Segal</p> <p>2014</p> <p>Tracy Baim Donna Cartwright Lisa Keen</p> <p>2015</p> <p>Randy Alfred Alison Bechdel Alan Bell Lou Chibbaro Jr. Charles Kaiser Armistead Maupin</p>	<p>2016</p> <p>Ina Fried LZ Granderson</p> <p>2017</p> <p>Jinx Beers Dan Savage</p>
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Join us at 3:45, Saturday, Sept. 9 for the “Ask the Recruiters and the Career Specialists” panel or contact our SAG-AFTRA Chief Broadcast Officer at mary.cavallaro@sagaftra.org.

SAGAFTRA.org/news-broadcast    

NEW WAYS

REPORTING HIV & AIDS TODAY

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As part of an initiative funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS program, NLGJA – the Association of LGBTQ Journalists is presenting journalism training and offering resources to enhance strategies and skills in covering HIV & AIDS.

Since 2016, NLGJA has provided a series of in-person trainings in Atlanta, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Washington, D.C. and at this convention in Philadelphia. If you couldn't make it to the trainings, you can be a part of them when you have the time as NLGJA rolls them out as online learning modules at www.nlgja.org/newways. Be sure to join us next year with more trainings being planned for workshops across the country.

We also are offering fellowships for journalists to get a stipend to produce news stories on HIV & AIDS. Learn more at www.nlgja.org/newways/fellowships.

These resources are designed to equip journalists to cover issues and trends related to HIV & AIDS in new ways while reiterating the time-tested basics of talking, testing and treatment. Journalists can better serve their viewers, readers and listeners with important information, especially those in communities and geographic areas most impacted by HIV & AIDS.

Want to be alerted about upcoming New Ways trainings? Have a suggestion on a New Ways training topic?

Email us at NewWays@nlgja.org.



Excellence IN JOURNALISM Awards



**NLGJA
JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**
Katie Barnes

PRINT & ONLINE AWARDS

Excellence in Book Writing

David France for “**How to Survive a Plague: The Inside Story of How Citizens and Science Tamed AIDS**” A.A. Knopf

Excellence in Feature Writing Award

Erin Allday for “**Last Men Standing**” San Francisco Chronicle

Excellence in Feature Writing Award (Non-daily)

Jeff Chu for “**Spirituality in LGBTQ Uganda**” Medium

Excellence in News Writing Award

Lauren McGaughy for “**Coverage of LGBT Platform Issues (Republican National Convention)**” The Dallas Morning News

Excellence in News Writing Award (Non-daily)

Jay Michaelson for “**The GOP’s Anti-LGBT, Anti-Women ‘Religious Freedom’ Law on Steroids**” The Daily Beast

Excellence in Photojournalism Award

Michael Zamora for “**Trans in Iowa**” The Des Moines Register

Excellence in Profile Writing Award

Tim Teeman for “**‘Lou Gehrig’s Disease? I Don’t Even Like Baseball.’ Comic Bob Smith on Living With ALS**” The Daily Beast

Excellence in Sports Writing Award

Shannon Keating for “**BuzzFeed News: This Is What The World’s Biggest Gay Rugby Tournament Looks Like**” BuzzFeed

Excellence in Student Journalism Award

Louis Finley for “**PrEP Continues to Face Stigma and Uncertainty**” NLGJA CONNECT: Student Journalism Project

Excellence in Travel Writing Award

Christopher Muther for “**Raise a Glass to the Country’s Newest, Most Boisterous National Monument**” The Boston Globe

DIGITAL AWARDS

Excellence in Blogging

Tim Fitzsimons for “**SCRUFFtistics: 2016 Election Survey**” Scruff.com

Excellence in a Digital Edition Award

Manny Velasquez-Paredes, JJ Vega, Xioger Sandoval, David Duran and Ross Christianson for “**Travel Heels**” Connexions Magazine

Excellence in Digital Video Award

Julia Saenz, Geena Rocero, Allison Hoffman, Santiago Garcia Muñoz, Jordi Oliveres, Gerry Martinez and Fermin Gonzales for “**Willing and Able**” Fusion

Excellence in Multimedia Award

Peter Rowe, Howard Lipin, Luis Cruz and Lara Hochuli for “**How a Girl Born at 2 Pounds Became a Happy Boy**” The San Diego Union-Tribune

Excellence in Online Journalism Award

J. Bryan Lowder and June Thomas for “**The Lesbian Issue**” Slate – Outward

NLGJA has recognized the work of hundreds of journalists. You can be one of those journalists.

Applications open January 2018.

Do you want to be a part of the process? Become a judge.

Help us select the future Excellence in Journalism Award Winners.

For more information regarding Excellence in Journalism, please visit www.nlgja.org/awards



SARAH PETTIT MEMORIAL AWARD FOR THE LGBT JOURNALIST OF YEAR

Erik Hall

EDITORIAL AWARDS

Excellence in Column Writing

Derrick Clifton for “**Derrick Clifton on Identity, Culture, and Social Justice**” Chicago Reader

Excellence in Opinion/Editorial Writing Award

Steve Friess for “**As I Thanked My Dying Dad for Always Accepting Me, I Realized Everything Was Already Said**” The Washington Post

BROADCAST AWARDS

Excellence in Documentary Award

Lizzie Gottlieb, Carmen L. Vicencio, Justine Nagan, Christopher Hastings and Chris White for “**America ReFramed – Romeo Romeo**” WORLD Channel

Excellence in Local Television Award

Megan Mitchell and Cliff Naylor for “**Two Spirits**” KFYR-TV

Excellence in Network Television Award

ESPN/E:60 for “**E:60 Life as Matt**” ESPN

Excellence in Podcasts Award

Marlo Mack, Jim Gates and Whitney Henry-Lester for “**How to Be a Girl**” KUOW

Excellence in Radio Award

Jeff Tiberii, Jess Clark, Elizabeth Baier, Dave DeWitt and Brent Wolfe for “**HB2 Coverage**” North Carolina Public Radio WUNC

COVERAGE AWARDS

Excellence in Bisexual Coverage Award

Diane Anderson-Minshall for “**Freddie Mercury’s Life Is the Story of HIV, Bisexuality, and Queer Identity**” The Advocate

Excellence in Health or Fitness Coverage

Julia Saenz, Michelle Nash, Gene Rocero, Allie Hoffman, Lacey Uhlemeyer, Heidi Burkey, Danny Beard, Jimmy Kalman, Jackie Albano, Raul Avila, Angelica Bains and Alexa Ledesma for “**No League of Their Own: Transgender Athletes**” Fusion

Excellence in HIV/AIDS Coverage Award

Erin Allday for “**Last Men Standing**” San Francisco Chronicle

Excellence in Religion Coverage Award

Jason DeRose, Tom Gjelten, Marisa Peñaloza, Anna King, Andrea Smardon and Stina Sieg for “**God vs. Gay: Bridging the Divide**” NPR

Excellence in Transgender Coverage Award

Daniel Trotta, Letitia Stein, Jon Herskovitz, Colleen Jenkins and Daniel Wiessner for “**The Battle for Transgender Rights**” Reuters

THE AL NEUHARTH AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Meredith Talusan, with Mathew Rodriguez, Anna Swartz, Brianna Provenzano and Marie Solis for “**Unerased: Counting Transgender Lives**” Mic.com

The Al Neuharth Award is presented through the generosity of



NLGJA’s Excellence in Journalism Awards were established in 1993 to foster, recognize and reward excellence in journalism on issues related to the LGBTQ community. In addition to Journalist of the Year and the Sarah Pettit Memorial Award for the LGBT Journalist of the Year (named for the late Newsweek journalist and founding editor of Out magazine), awards are presented for excellence in wide variety of disciplines spanning traditional and digital outlets, radio, television, publishing, film and social media. The awards are presented throughout the convention.



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Palm Springs, California

NLGJA—THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS

NLGJA  **2018**

SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2018 | NATIONAL CONVENTION

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www.nlgja.org/2018

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OutFest
October 8, 2017

qFlix Philadelphia
March 2018

PrideDay LGBT Parade and Festival
June 2018

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WELCOME TO NLGJA 2017



NLGJA 2017

NLGJA: THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS
NATIONAL CONVENTION | SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

NLGJA 2017 CONVENTION TEAM

Adam K. Pawlus
Executive Director

Maya Blackmun
Development & Project Director

Sachelle Brooks
Administrative Assistant & Membership
Coordinator

Dillon Lewis
Communications & Marketing Coordinator

Derrick Jones
Designer & Events Director

Jen Christensen, Ken Miguel,
Eric Walter
National Convention Co-Chairs

April Hunt
Awards Committee Chair

David Steinberg
Elections Committee Chair

Bob Witeck
Hall of Fame Committee Chair

Reed McDowell
Auctions Chair

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

Convention Hotel

Loews Philadelphia Hotel
1200 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
(215) 627-1200

WiFi Access

WiFi access is available throughout the convention floor. Select Loews_Conference. Use the code **nlgja17**. Please note that connections will be reset nightly.

Refresh & Recharge Station

Need to quench your thirst? Need to charge your phone, laptop or tablet? We've got you covered with the Refresh & Recharge Station sponsored by The Coca-Cola Company. The Refresh & Recharge Station is located in the **Congress Hall Foyer** on the fourth floor of the Loews Philadelphia.

Coffee Break

Need a mid-afternoon boost? Visit the Toyota Coffee Break Cafe, located in the **Fourth Floor Foyer**. These complimentary coffee breaks are sponsored by Toyota.

Join the Conversation

Posting to social media from the convention? Be sure to use the official convention hashtag, **#nlgja2017**. Want to see who else is here? Follow our convention attendee list on Twitter: **twitter.com/nlgja/convention**.

SNAP us!

NLGJA is on Snapchat! Add @NLGJA to your friend list for convention updates and don't forget to use our special geofilter throughout the weekend!

Convention Information Office

The NLGJA 2017 Convention Information Office is located in **Parlor 417**. Please stop by if you have any questions or concerns.

Hours

Wednesday	8:00am - 9:00pm
Thursday	8:00am - 7:00pm
Friday	8:00am - 7:00pm
Saturday	8:00am - 10:00pm

Convention Registration

NLGJA 2017 Convention Registration is located on the **Fourth Floor Lobby** of the Loews Philadelphia.

Hours

Wednesday	2:00pm - 6:00pm
Thursday	8:00am - 5:30pm
Friday	8:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday	9:00am - 3:00pm

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Coffee Breaks sponsored by
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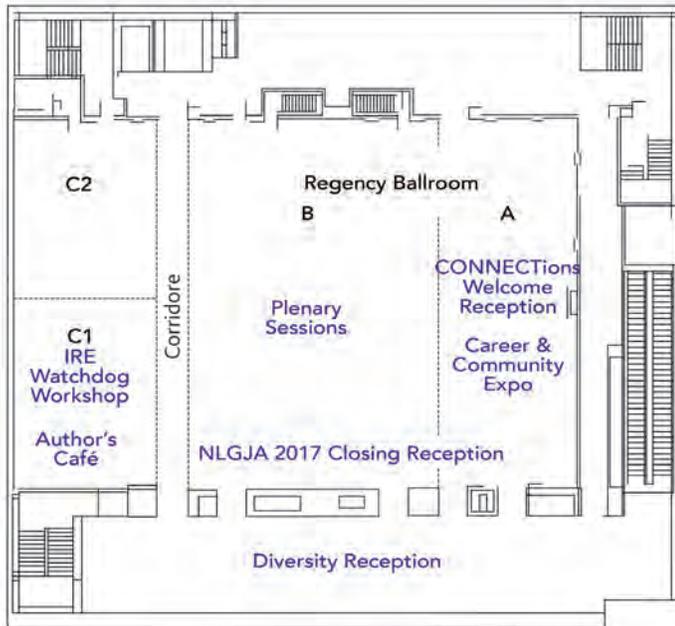
TEGNA

Our award-winning journalists are redefining journalism in the digital age through empowering stories, impactful investigations and trusted content delivered across platforms.

TEGNA FOUNDATION



LEVEL 2M (Second Mezzanine)



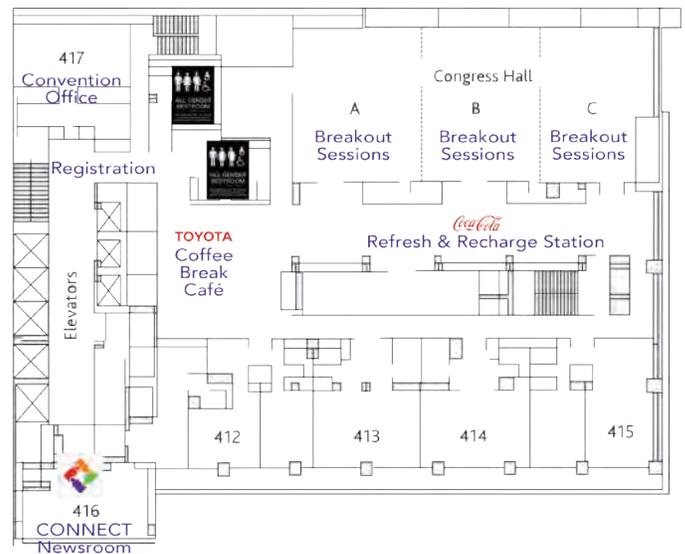
The Opening Reception will be held on the 33rd Floor (not pictured here).

Please consult the convention program for specific event and reception locations.

The restrooms on the Fourth Level have been designated All-Gender Restrooms for the duration of the convention.

The CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project Newsroom is located in Parlor 416 located on the Fourth Floor.

FOURTH LEVEL



Please note the floor number at the Loews can be somewhat confusing. The conference floors are in the following order:

- Lobby
- 2nd Floor
- 1M
- 2M**
- 3M
- 3
- 4**

NLGJA 2017 is centered on Levels 2M and 4. The only way to transfer between floors is to use any of the elevators located on both levels.

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Our commitment to diversity doesn't stop within Toyota. Across the Toyota family and in communities around the world, we admire and applaud the differences that make us unique and celebrate the love that drives us all.



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CAREER & COMMUNITY EXPO

Friday, September 8 | 9:00am - 4:30pm
Regency Ballroom A

NLGJA's Career & Community Expo is a prominent feature of the National Convention experience. Connect with professionals and leaders from a wide representation of broadcast, print, online, new media and independent communication outlets along with companies and organizations committed to fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community. For those seeking to hire, the expo is a prime opportunity to interview top-notch candidates for media, communications or public relations positions. For those looking for a new job, the expo is the best place to get your résumé in front of the right people. For everyone, the expo is a great way to learn about educational opportunities and story ideas from NLGJA's partners.

Join us at 9 am for coffee and pastries at the Expo Hall!

Don't forget our Critique Stations throughout the day for you to get help with your résumé, reel and social media profile. Our critics will help you put your best foot forward! Sign up for remaining time slots at registration!

Confirmed Exhibitors

(as of August 18)

CBS News	Greater Palm Springs CVB
Comcast NBCUniversal	McClatchy
Cox Media Group	Nissan
CUNY Graduate School of Journalism	Oath: HuffPost
Eli Lilly	PACT-CDC
ESPN	Philadelphia Media Network
The Florida Keys & Key West	TEGNA
FOX News Channel	USC Annenberg School of Journalism
Gannett Co.	Visit Philadelphia
Gimlet Media	



AUTHOR'S CAFÉ

Friday, September 8 | 2:15pm
Regency C

The Author's Cafe is back with a twist! This year we are welcoming podcasters to the Author's Cafe. Come hear from LGBTQ authors and podcasters as they share their latest and greatest with the opportunity to engage in intimate conversation and the ability to ask questions.

The Author's Café will be presented in one stand-alone session Saturday afternoon at 2:15pm.

A complete list of participating authors will be posted at registration.

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NLGJA 2017

NLGJA: THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS
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SEE ALL OUR HEROES RAISING THE BAR AT www.HeroesRaisingtheBar.com

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NLGJA STUDENT PROJECT

CONNECT: NLGJA Student Journalism Project connects tomorrow's journalists and communication professionals with the training needed to ensure fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.



Welcome to **CONNECT: the 20th** **NLGJA Student Journalism Project!**

We are in the middle of rapid changes in our industry. The word “reinvention” is heard early and often. To that end, NLGJA will continue to emphasize its mission: to foster fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues. This year’s student media project consists of 11 students. Over the course of the convention week, they will have the opportunity to truly get a taste of what working in a converged media newsroom is really about. Under a team of mentors — a select team of journalists from across media — each student will get the chance to write, edit and produce stories in all distribution platforms: print, TV, video, radio, online and social networking. Students will live blog and live tweet from selected sessions at the conference.

2017 CONNECT PARTICIPANTS



*Lead
Project Manager*
Caroline Que
Editorial Director
The New York Times

CONNECT Mentors

Frances Fernandes, *Freelance Writer and Editor (retired)*
Karen Hawkins, *Rebelle in Chief, Rebellious Magazine for Women*
David McAlpine, *Producer, Channel 6 Action News, Philadelphia*
John-Michael Murphy, *Digital Learning & Innovation Fellow, Davidson College*
David Ok, *Senior Editor, The New York Times*
Megan Rossman, *Filmmaker and Adjunct Professor, Hunter College*
Brett Zongker, *Communications Manager and Storyteller,
The George Washington University*

CONNECT Student Participants

Samson Amore, *Emerson College*
Gianluca D’Elia, *Ridder University*
Harold Lopez, *Florida International University*
Anna-Marie Moran, *Hunter College*
Leydy Rangel, *Cal Poly Pomona*
Kiana Schmitt, *University of California, Berkeley*
Salvatore Serpe, *San Francisco State University*
Treavian (Tre) Simmons, *The Writing Center at Texas State*
Carmen Triola, *Eugene Lang College*
Salgu Wissmath, *Ohio University*
Crystal Wong Ching-Ying, *The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Follow CONNECT throughout the convention!

news.nlgjaconnect.org | @nlgjaCONNECT | twitter.com/nlgja/CONNECT

THANK YOU TO CONNECT 2017 SPONSORS!

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CONNECT @ 20: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Since its inception, over 200 students have come through the training provided by CONNECT: the NLGJA Student Journalism Project. As the program celebrates 20 years of training and preparing the next generation of journalists devoted to fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues, we wanted to take a look around and see where some of our graduates have landed!



MATT BLOOM

THEN: Indiana University/CONNECT Chicago 2014

NOW: General Assignment Reporter, KPCC-FM, Los Angeles

"[CONNECT] was really the first time I narrowed my broad interest in journalism to radio reporting. I made great connections that I still have today."



JAMIE GUIROLA

THEN: University of Missouri-Columbia/CONNECT Dallas-Fort Worth 2001

NOW: Reporter, WTVJ NBC6 Miami

"The student project was really instrumental in me growing comfortable in my own skin and sexuality...It was very powerful to see a lot of LGBTQ journalists in the same place doing what I aspired to do."



MATTHEW TRENT HARRIS

THEN: Virginia Commonwealth University/CONNECT Chicago 2005

NOW: Supervising Producer, The Now (E.W. Scripps)

"I couldn't believe how interested everyone was in our work and what we wanted to do once we graduated from college. It was definitely a warm welcome to the journalism industry, especially knowing there is a great network to...support you."



KEITH QUINONES

THEN: University of West Florida/CONNECT 2008

NOW: Flight Attendant, United Airlines

"My experience at NLGJA's convention truly provided a strong foundation that I'd eventually build a successful career upon in working beside industry legends like Barbara Walters and many more."



VARAD DIWATE

THEN: Iowa State University/CONNECT San Francisco 2015

NOW: Content Writer, CS Direkt, New Dehli

"NLGJA made for great learning with experienced mentors who guided us in every way possible. As a straight ally at the project, I got to know about peculiar issues LGBTQ media professionals have to face."



CAI THOMAS

THEN: Boston College/CONNECT Miami 2016

NOW: News Associate, CBS Sunday Morning

"As a Miami native participating in NLGJA 2016, it was a homecoming of sorts that allowed me to tell stories about my own community."



LARRY TUNG

THEN: Columbia University/CONNECT Unity Las Vegas 2012

NOW: Full-time Faculty, York College (City University of New York)

"I made connections with many journalists, but mostly I am inspired by my peers' creativity and dedication to journalism."



LOUIS FINLEY

THEN: Temple University Graduate/CONNECT Miami 2016

NOW: Reporter, KTVO, Kirksville, Missouri

"[CONNECT] was an opportunity for me to strengthen my skills as a multimedia journalist. I learned tips that create multidimensional, compelling stories which I use frequently in my day-to-day news production."



DERRIK J. LANG

THEN: University of West Florida/CONNECT Philadelphia 2002

NOW: Senior Editor, American Way (the in-flight magazine of American Airlines)

"As the only gay editor on my college newspaper staff, it was refreshing to be surrounded by other LGBT budding journalists."



NIKKI USHER, PH.D.

THEN: Harvard University/CONNECT Los Angeles 2003

NOW: Professor at The George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs

"I landed a great internship at the Chicago Tribune at the job fair for after graduation, which helped get me in the door at The Philadelphia Inquirer, where luminary NLGJA member Gail Shister and former NLGJA president Eric Hegedus provided kind mentorship."



MELINA KOLB

THEN: University of Chicago/CONNECT Miami 2006

NOW: Digital Producer and Writer, Peterson Institute for International Economics

"Skills learned from NLGJA and Medill set me on the path to multimedia journalism."



DAVID McALPINE

THEN: University of Southern California/
CONNECT Philadelphia 2011

NOW: Producer WPVI-TV, Philadelphia,
NLGJA Chapter Member, CONNECT Mentor
*"The Student CONNECT experience taught me
that it is best to put 100 percent effort into every
piece I do, because you never know who will be
reading what and how that may lead to another
really great opportunity."*



DIANA WILLIAMS

THEN: American University/CONNECT
Boston 2013

NOW: Digital Editor and Strategist for
Backstory
*"NLGJA allowed me to live as a reporter for a few
days and report on a community I am passionate
about supporting (proud ally right here!)."*



JES BURNS

THEN: University of Oregon/CONNECT
Chicago 2005

NOW: Multimedia Journalist, EarthFix
*"I wanted to participate because I was excited
to meet other LGBTQ professionals in the field.
Learning how many members of that community
were finding a place and being successful on the
public radio side of the industry really solidified
that as the career path I wanted to pursue."*



JADEN URBI

THEN: Iowa State University/CONNECT
San Francisco 2015

NOW: Production Assistant, CNBC Digital
*"My week with NLGJA truly gave me the
confidence to pursue working for organizations
like CNBC. Without the mentorship and guidance
from [CONNECT] I wouldn't be where I am today."*



SHARYN JACKSON

THEN: Columbia University Graduate School
of Journalism/CONNECT Philadelphia 2011

NOW: General Assignment Features
Reporter, Minneapolis Star-Tribune
*"It helped lead me later to the decision that I
wanted to be a daily newspaper reporter.
Because of the diversity of skills from the different
mentors, I had the opportunity to both write
traditional print stories and do audio reporting."*



WESLEY JUHL

THEN: University of Nevada-Las Vegas/
CONNECT Boston 2013

NOW: Reporter, Las Vegas Review-Journal
*"I made great friendships during CONNECT that
I still cherish today, and I always advise LGBTQ
students I encounter to apply for the program."*



NKONGHO BETECK

THEN: University of Maryland College
Park/CONNECT Chicago 2014

NOW: News and Information Associate,
American Association for the Advancement
of Science
*"Honestly, it was one of the best experiences in
networking and discipline that I've ever had...I
was able to meet very genuine people."*



NADIA GALINDO

THEN: University of North Texas/
CONNECT Philadelphia 2011

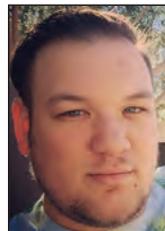
NOW: Multimedia Journalist, News 12,
Westchester, NY
*"The student project program is really a
community service to aspiring journalists. I can't
thank ya'll enough for the opportunity."*



BLAIR MISHLEAU

THEN: Columbia College Chicago/
CONNECT Montreal 2009

NOW: Director of Personalized Learning,
Western School of Science and Technology
*"My Student CONNECT experience was
life-changing. It 'pulled back the curtain' of
the industry, and dramatically increased my
confidence as a journalist."*



BRIAN ZAHN

THEN: University of Connecticut/
CONNECT Unity Las Vegas 2012

NOW: City Education Reporter, New
Haven Register
*"After putting in five days of hard work... I built a
strong foundation for my future career I wouldn't
have been able to without the NLGJA student
newsroom program."*

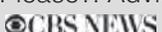
**Special thanks to NLGJA board member Jeff
Truesdell for compiling these stories.**

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

1:00pm - 6:30pm | **33rd Floor:** NLGJA Board of Directors Meeting
 2:00pm - 6:00pm | **Fourth Floor Lobby:** Convention Registration

Thursday, September 7, 2017

<p>8:00am - 5:30pm 9:30am - 10:30am 10:00am - 12:00pm 10:15am - 11:15am</p>	<p>Fourth Floor Lobby: Convention Registration Fourth Floor Foyer: Morning Coffee Klatch Parlor 413: Chapter Leadership Meeting Breakout Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress A: Creating a Breaking News Plan for Your Newsroom <i>sponsored by</i>  • Congress B: So You're a Freelancer?: Five Things No One Tells You But You Need to Know • Congress C: News to Docs <p>Regency C1: IRE Watchdog Workshop (<i>pre-registration required</i>) Lunch on your own Regency B: Plenary — Michael Triplett Series: Erased Breakout Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress A: How to Bring Solutions-Focused Journalism to Your Newsroom • Congress B: Getting Rid of Spiders: Applying Journalist Skills to Content Marketing • Congress C: "Impressions" Aren't Impact: Increasing the Influence of Our Digital Media
<p>10:30am - 5:00pm 11:15am - 12:00pm 12:00pm - 1:15pm 1:30pm - 2:30pm</p>	<p>Fourth Floor Foyer: Coffee Break Café <i>sponsored by</i> TOYOTA Breakout Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress A: Social Media Reporting <i>sponsored by</i>  • Congress B: May I Speak to a Manager, Please?: Advice from the Experts for Managing Your Newsroom <i>sponsored by</i>  • Congress C: The Art of Great Writing: Making Your Story Memorable
<p>2:15pm - 3:00pm 2:45pm - 3:45pm</p>	<p>Breakout Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress A: Increasing Your "It Factor" • Congress B: Finding and Owning Your Digital Niche <i>sponsored by</i>  • Congress C: Stepping Up Your QPOC Coverage
<p>4:00pm - 5:00pm</p>	<p>Regency A: CONNECTIONS Welcome Reception 33rd Floor: NLGJA 2017 Opening Reception <i>sponsored by</i>   Travel Writers Caucus Reception (<i>by invitation only</i>) <i>sponsored by</i>   Lifetime Member Reception (<i>by invitation only</i>)</p>
<p>5:30pm - 6:30pm 6:30pm - 8:30pm 8:30pm - 10:30pm 9:00pm - 11:00pm</p>	

Friday, September 8, 2017

<p>8:00am - 6:00pm 9:00am - 4:30pm 9:00am - 10:00am 10:00am - 4:00pm 9:30am - 10:45am 11:00am - 12:00pm</p>	<p>Fourth Floor Lobby: Convention Registration Regency A: Career & Community Expo Regency A: Expo Kickoff & Café Regency A: Résumé, Social Media and Reel Critique Sessions Regency B: Plenary — A View from the Top Breakout Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress A: Fundamentals of YouTube for Content Creators <i>sponsored by</i>  • Congress B: Personal Finance for Journalists • Congress C: New Ways Philadelphia <i>sponsored by</i>  <p>Lunch on your own Regency B: Plenary — Covering Trump Regency C: Authors Café 2017: Print, Podcast & Pastries</p>
<p>12:00pm - 1:00pm 1:00pm - 2:15pm 2:15pm - 3:45pm</p>	

Friday, September 8, 2017 continued

3:15pm - 4:00pm

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Fourth Floor Foyer: Coffee Break Café sponsored by **TOYOTA**

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** Now Trending 2017
- **Congress B:** Pathway to Podcasting
- **Congress C:** Newsroom to Classroom

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** From Journalist to Author
- **Congress B:** What Journalists and PR Can Learn from Each Other sponsored by 
- **Congress C:** Queering Podcastland — Lauren Ober in Conversation with Tobin Low and Kathy Tu of “Nancy”

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Regency Foyer: NLGJA 2017 Diversity Reception sponsored by 

7:30pm - 10:00pm

Women’s Networking Dinner (ticket required) sponsored by **NISSAN** 

9:30pm - 11:30pm

Night Out: Philadelphia sponsored by 

Saturday, September 9, 2017

9:00am - 3:00pm

Fourth Floor Lobby: Convention Registration

10:00am - 11:15am

Regency B: Plenary — Trans Military

11:30am - 12:30pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** Power Producing
- **Congress B:** Small Market Survival Guide
- **Congress C:** Silent Epidemics: How Media Can Shed Light on Health Disparities and Violence in the Transgender Community

12:45pm - 2:00pm

Regency B: Lunch Plenary — A Breath of Fresh Air with Terry Gross and Ari Shapiro

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** Ask Us Anything: What You Need to Know About Covering Transgender People
- **Congress B:** Changing Styles
- **Congress C:** Finding Your Voice with Mo Rocca

3:00pm - 3:45pm

Fourth Floor Foyer: Coffee Break Café sponsored by **TOYOTA**

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** Ask the Recruiters & Career Specialists sponsored by 
- **Congress B:** “In the Life” 30 Years Later: The Legacy of Joe Beam
- **Congress C:** Vamping and Improvising on the Air

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Congress A:** Media Management: Lead, Flourish and Succeed
- **Congress B:** Looking Good: How to Step Up Your Photo and Design Game
- **Congress C:** Thespian? I Thought You Said Lesbian!

7:00pm - 12:00am

Philadelphia Freedom - Find Your Oasis: NLGJA 2017 Closing Reception sponsored by 

Sunday, September 10, 2017

6:30am - 9:00am

Sunrise Hike at Historic Wissahickon Gorge (sign-up required)

9:30am - 10:30am

NLGJA Board of Directors Meeting

THURSDAY

September 7, 2017

9:30am - 10:30am

Kick-Off Morning Coffee Klatch

Fourth Floor Foyer

It's always sunny in Philadelphia! But you may still need a boost to help get you started. We'll have a little something to wake you up and get your day started right! No cheesecake, but we'll have breakfast pastries.

10:00am - 12:00pm

NLGJA Chapter Leadership Meeting

Parlor 413

10:15am - 11:15am

Creating a Breaking News Plan for Your Newsroom

Moderator: Doug Stewart

Panelists: Sharif Durhams,

Dawn Ennis, Kevin Rector

Congress A

How many times has breaking news caught you unprepared to properly cover it? We'll help you set up a comprehensive multimedia plan for your newsroom, whether it's a local station, paper or LGBTQ website. Everyone will leave with a document in hand, customized for their newsroom. So, on the day something blows up, even the intern who barely knows how to answer the phone can know what to do.

Sponsored by:



So You're A Freelancer?: Five Things No One Tells You But You Need to Know

Panelists: Andrew Bender, Evan Ross Katz, Kristina Marusic, Brooke Sopelsa

Congress B

Join a panel of freelancers and editors for a frank discussion about the nitty-gritty of freelance journalism. Learn what editors love (and hate) and gain insight about how to protect yourself from the very real dangers — like libel suits, contract hassles and non-payment — that can plague freelancers if they're not careful.

News to Docs

Speakers: David Pavlosky, Megan Rossman

Congress C

We've all seen stories — and subjects — get shortchanged by on-air time constraints or newsroom notions of audience attention spans. As journalists, how do we find a place for deeper visual stories? If you have ever spent months researching a great story, and thought it would make for an even more compelling documentary, this workshop is for you. We show you what it takes to make a broadcast-standard, independent film on a small budget, and how you can shoot, edit, package, market, distribute and sell your film yourself directly to the viewer.

BOOT CAMP

Regency C1

10:30am - 5:00pm

IRE Watchdog Workshop

(Pre-registration required.)

IRE will offer several of its core sessions, designed to improve your ability to find information on the Web quickly, and point you to key documents and data that will help you add depth to your daily work and produce quick-hit enterprise stories. In addition, this workshop will give you tips on building a watchdog culture, navigating FOI and open records laws, and digging deeper on the Web with social media, search engines and more. These sessions are designed for reporters, editors, and producers from small, midsize and large publications, TV, radio stations, Web-only news sites and news blogs. Freelancers, students and journalism educators are also encouraged to attend. Get the tools and the tricks of the trade that you need to be a better, faster, watchdog journalist. This program is made possible thanks to support from the Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation.

11:15am - 12:00pm

Lunch on your own

12:00pm - 1:15pm

**The Michael Triplett Series:
Erased**

How do stories break through in an age when the White House is seemingly silent on LGBTQ issues or rolling back LGBTQ policies (e.g., no Pride month proclamation, revoking federal protections for trans students, removing LGBTQ pages from the White House website)? In this year's Michael Triplett series, we will include an exploration of how religious elements affect what stories successfully break through and stick.

Panelists:
 Chris Allieri, Sue Fulton, Michelle Garcia,
 Mitchell Gold, Joe Solmonese,
 the Rev. Nathan Walker



Cathy Renna
Moderator

Regency B

1:30pm - 2:30pm

How to Bring Solutions-Focused Journalism to Your Newsroom

Moderator: Jean Friedman-Rudovsky **Panelists:** Tony Abraham, Beth Boyle,
 Emma Eisenberg, Vince Lattanzio

Are you tired of journalism that concentrates on problems but doesn't dig into any solutions? The Solutions Journalism Network supports and connects journalists who want to do rigorous reporting on how people are responding to problems. This panel will discuss local and national examples of what has worked well, how to shift a newsroom's thinking toward solutions, strategies for developing stories, methods of collaboration with other news organizations and available resources.

Congress A

Getting Rid of Spiders: Applying Journalist Skills to Content Marketing

Speaker: Barbara Dozetos

Journalists are trained to tell stories about other people and subjects they are not necessarily experts in — until they start the reporting. This valuable skill pays off in content marketing. Whether you need to market your current employer, ramp up your freelance career, start a completely new business, or fundraise for a non-profit, the habits and skills you have developed in your news career are exactly what you need.

Congress B

"Impressions" Aren't Impact: Increasing the Influence of Our Digital Media

Speakers: JD Davids, Terry Parris, Jr.

In a time of social, political and economic challenges, journalism plays a vital role. But measuring the impact of journalism can be difficult, and perhaps even more so in a crowded digital field marked by data overload and a paucity of metrics for reaching non-traffic-related goals. Panelists and participants will share and discuss strategies for documenting and increasing our influence.

Congress C

Coffee Break Café

2:15pm - 3:00pm

Sponsored by: **TOYOTA**

Fourth Floor Foyer

Take a break and grab some coffee to keep you energized for the rest of the day!



Tweeting? Don't forget to use #nlgja2017!

THURSDAY

September 7, 2017

2:45pm - 3:45pm

Social Media Reporting

Speaker: Dawn Ennis, Ernest Owens

This session will showcase how journalists can utilize the 21st century tools of the trade in their newsgathering, both of information and of sources, and how to share the results with their readers/viewers/listeners. The session looks at successes and shares secrets, such as avoiding legal, ethical and journalistic traps. Special focus is on using livestreaming tools to bring the news to your audience, what not to do and how to use these tools to their full potential.

Congress A

Sponsored by:
 **Knight Foundation**
Informed & Engaged Communities

May I Speak to a Manager Please?: Advice from the Experts for Managing Your Newsroom

Moderator: Jen Christensen

Panelists: Karen Hawkins, Ryan Kadro, Craig Nakano, Ryan Ruggiero

Are you an aspiring leader, hoping to move up the management ladder at your network? Are you an established manager struggling with generational divides and different work styles? Newsroom success depends on a lot more than the stories that get told, and the road to success starts at the top. This session will offer advice from expert managers on how to better lead your newsroom toward success and innovation. From managing millennials to guiding your outlet and older staff through the digital age, get answers to your questions from the best in the business.

Congress B

Sponsored by:


The Art of Great Writing: Making Your Story Memorable

Moderator: Senta Scarborough

Panelists: Jerry Cipriano, Michelle Garcia, Sharyn Jackson, Choire Sicha

Whether you're on a tight deadline or have months to craft your story, great writing and a well-developed narrative are crucial to your storytelling. Learn how to make your story memorable, compelling and enjoyable to your reader. It doesn't matter if you're developing a Sunday feature, writing a breaking news story, crafting an important press release or scripting an intro for your new podcast, everybody can use some tips for improving their skills.

Congress C

4:00pm - 5:00pm

Increasing Your "It Factor"

Speakers: David Begnaud, Laurie Orlando, Kris Van Cleave

This session covers how to keep your scripts tight, how to find memorable moments in interviews and how to avoid flowery language and clichés. We also explore creative standups and live shots. To cap it off, we talk about how broadcast journalists can polish their presentations.

Congress A

Finding and Owning Your Digital Niche

Moderator: Akilah Monifa

Panelist: Christopher Wink

As legacy media organizations continue to diminish in size and power, a new ecosystem of operations is growing. This session centers on how to find and serve a highly specific audience, how to collaborate with other publications on larger projects, how the media scene is changing as journalistic influence decentralizes, the future of crowd-sourced content, emerging technologies, evolving newsrooms and the controversies that sometimes ensue.

Congress B

Sponsored by:
 **Knight Foundation**
Informed & Engaged Communities

Stepping Up Your QPOC Coverage

Moderator: Daniel Villareal

Panelists: Henry Mauldin, Janet Quezada, Brooke Sopelsa, Errin Haines Whack

While mainstream media outlets value diversity, many still fall into the trap of covering queer people of color only in stories about HIV or violence or homophobia — or excluding their stories altogether. This panel will offer concrete steps that any newsroom can take to achieve meaningful inclusivity — from telling better stories of QPOC, to identifying great sources, to finding excellent job candidates of color. We'll look at what strengths and responsibilities we have as media professionals to resist and overcome racism ourselves and to expose it in LGBTQ communities and highlight solutions through our work.

Congress C

5:30pm - 6:30pm

CONNECTIONS Welcome Reception

For 20 years NLGJA's CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project has been training the next generation of journalists in covering the LGBTQ community. In celebration, come together with CONNECT alumni and the current class of students at the CONNECTIONS Welcome Reception to reconnect and make new friends. Hosted by CBS News President David Rhodes, the reception will also include a chapter caucus, giving attendees an opportunity visit with other members of their local chapter.

Regency A

6:30pm - 8:30pm

It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia! NLGJA 2017 Opening Reception

33rd Floor
 Hors d'ouerves & hosted bar available

Welcome to Philadelphia! Kick off the opening day of NLGJA 2017 with a special performance by the Philadelphia Mummers Miss Fancy Brigade, a special welcome from Visit Philadelphia President and CEO Meryl Levitz, and, as you look out on the weather over the Philadelphia skyline, join Sam Champion in conversation with meteorologists Adam Joseph, Steve Sosna, Sven Sundgaard and Drew Tuma!



Eden Lane



Sean Lewis

Your NLGJA 2017 Hosts



Sam
 Champion



Special Welcome
 by **Meryl Levitz**,
 president and
 CEO of Visit
 Philadelphia



Special performance by the
**Miss Fancy Brigade - The Only
 LGBTQ Mummers Brigade**

Sponsored by:



8:30pm - 10:30pm

by invitation only

Travel Writers Caucus Reception

It's always been the convention's worst-kept secret. It's time to roll out the red carpet and party in style. But you need an invitation to get in!

Sponsored by:



Lifetime Members Reception

9:00pm - 11:00pm

by invitation only

Our Lifetime Membership program celebrates a dedication and commitment to fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues by NLGJA members who have devoted their talents and support, not just for today, but for a lifetime. For more information, stop by the Registration Desk at the convention or visit the Membership Section of NLGJA's website at nlgja.org. Become a Lifetime Member during the convention and join us at this invitation-only reception!



ANDY NEWMAN

The 25th anniversary of Gilbert Baker's creation of the rainbow flag was celebrated in Key West with a "sea-to-sea" version of the banner.

Gilbert Baker helps support his lengthy rainbow flag in Key West.

ROB O'NEAL

The Florida Keys Remember Rainbow Flag Creator Baker

KEY WEST, Florida Keys — The Florida Keys & Key West remembers Gilbert Baker, the creator of the iconic LGBT rainbow flag, who passed earlier this year in New York City.

On June 15, 2003, at that year's Key West PrideFest, a special 25th anniversary edition of the banner was unfurled on Duval Street. A mile and a quarter in length, it was dubbed the "Sea-to-Sea Rainbow Flag," because it was stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico.

Florida Keys county commissioner Heather Carruthers was one of two Key Westers who motivated Baker to choose the island city for the huge flag.

"Gregg McGrady and I met him (Baker) at InterPride earlier that year," Carruthers remembered. "He told us about the upcoming 25th anniversary of the flag and was looking for some way and a place to

commemorate it.

"He thought it would be great to have a rainbow flag span from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico," she said.

Baker came to Key West and, assisted by others, spent several months sewing the lengthy flag. The massive banner encompassed almost 18,000 linear yards of nylon in the original eight colors.

From his Key West workshop in April 2003, Baker revealed why he chose the island for the 25th anniversary project.

"The thing that sold it for me, in terms of committing to do it, was when I found that the city's motto was 'One Human Family,'" Baker said, referring to the motto adopted by the Key West City Commission in 2000 and later by the Florida Keys county commission, to express an accepting attitude toward all people.

Several months later, his multi-ton flag was unfurled down the entire length of Duval Street from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean — carried by some 3,000 volunteers from every walk of life: lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender and straight.

"My dream is a reality today," Baker said following the flag's deployment in 2003.

"We've made a great moment in gay history. The rainbow flag represents an idea of equality and justice for everyone," he added.

Carruthers vividly recalls June 15, 2003, as a special day for many in Key West. The bright sunlight saturated the flag's eight colors.

"That day that we marched the flag down Duval Street is remembered by every one of the 3,000 who helped," Carruthers said. "I consider my involvement as one of the primary achievements of my life."

Carruthers said she would always remember Baker as warm, interesting and an all-welcoming person.

"And obviously, a very creative person," Carruthers said.

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FRIDAY

September 8, 2017

9:00am - 4:30pm

Career & Community Expo

Regency A

Stop by and visit our exhibitors! Make sure to bring your résumé because your next job may be waiting!

Join us this year:

9:00am - 10:00am: Expo Kickoff & Café Start the morning with a cup of coffee and visit the exhibitors early!

10:00am - 4:00pm: Résumé, Reel & Social Media Profile Critique Stations You'll get instant feedback from professionals in the field to help you put your best foot forward!

9:30am - 10:45am

A View from the Top

Fewer than half of newspaper jobs that existed 15 years ago still exist today, and the Bureau of Labor predicts that television will lose 9% of its workforce by 2024. PR workers now outnumber journalists 5 to 1, but the work journalists do now may be more important than ever, as the technology that is available to us grows better every day. As you try to navigate your role in the business and plan for your future, you won't want to miss this discussion, among some of the most important leaders in our ever-changing industry, about what's working for media companies, what's not, and how they are planning for the future of our profession.



Regency B



Steven Petrow
Moderator

Panelists:

Stephen Adler, Rick Berke, Karen Hawkins, Randy Lovely, Ed O'Keefe, Phillip Picardi, Lydia Polgreen

11:00am - 12:00pm

Google News Lab: Fundamentals of YouTube for Content Creators

Speaker: Victoria Reitano

YouTube is a powerful tool for journalists and news organizations: It allows you to build a multilayered audience and engage with them in a new way. From 360 video to YouTube Live, the possibilities on this platform are truly endless. You will learn how to cultivate and maintain a YouTube audience, how to access and choose lessons on Google News Lab that help strengthen your presence and how to shape stories and playlists for sequential viewing, understand the Google tools that provide a more visual, robust experience for your audience and how to leverage new technologies like 360 video, VR, YouTube Live and more.

Congress A

Sponsored by:



Personal Finance for Journalists

Speaker: Jill Schlesinger

Journalists are notoriously bad at math, but you don't have to be — especially in your personal life. Jill Schlesinger offers tips on how to make the most of your earnings and how to prepare yourself during these insecure times in the industry.

Congress B

New Ways Philadelphia

Moderator: Cherri Gregg

Panelists: Chip Alfred, Hilary Beard, Linda Villarosa

Special Welcome: Kwame Chery, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Find out what news stories you're missing. Learn how to better serve your viewers, listeners and readers by telling the stories going untold — especially those of people of color and trans women — and how you can beat your competition. This interactive session will focus on the practical in finding HIV & AIDS news in Philadelphia and beyond plus the best strategies for data analysis, insightful context and compelling storytelling.

Congress C

Sponsored by:



12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch on your own

1:00pm - 2:15pm

Covering Trump

When the November election results were in and the country learned that we would be led by one of the most controversial presidents in history, the media also learned that it was going to have to shift the way in which it covers the White House. From accusations of "fake news" to the White House kicking cameras out of the pressroom, we as journalists have to ask ourselves, what have we learned in this new Trumpian era? What have we done well? What can we do better? And what in the world will we be covering next? Hear answers from some of the top reporters who have been covering the President from the front lines, and ask your own questions about what to do next

Panelists:

Marilyn Geewax, Patrick Healy, Jeff Mason
 Ellen Ratner, John Yang



Regency B



Joshua Johnson
 Moderator

Authors Café 2017: Print, Podcast & Pastries

2:15pm - 3:45pm

Regency C

The Author's Cafe is back with a twist! This year we are welcoming podcasters to the Author's Cafe. Come hear from LGBTQ authors and podcasters as they share their latest and greatest with the opportunity to engage in intimate conversation and the ability to ask questions.

Coffee Break Café

3:15pm - 4:00pm

Fourth Floor Foyer

Sponsored by: **TOYOTA**

Take a break and grab some coffee to keep you energized for the rest of the day!

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Now Trending

Moderator: Bob Bennett

Panelist: Brandon Launerts

Congress A

It's a vital tool to journalists, and it's changing faster than anything else on the internet. There's something new every year with social media and, for the fifth year in a row, our expert panel is ready to help find the right platform for you and your news organization. We share what's new with Facebook, Twitter and the many social media platforms we have grown to know and love over the years.

Pathway to Podcasting

Moderator: Jason DeRose

Panelists: Matt Baume, Tobin Low, Eric Marcus,
 Kathy Tu, June Thomas

Congress B

Podcasting presents unique opportunities for journalists, from reaching new audiences to connecting with valuable sources and strengthening relationships with followers. But establishing a foothold remains challenging. How do producers develop compelling audio content, maximize engagement and establish a sustainable ongoing workflow? This session is for anyone interested in podcasting, from newcomers interested in creating new shows to experienced producers seeking to improve their programming. We cover the technical elements of recording and editing high-quality audio, distribution methods and revenue models and the creative elements that make shows stand out in a crowded marketplace.

Newsroom to Classroom

Moderator: Gail Shister

Panelists: Dawn Fallick, Douglas Foster, Paul Gluck

Congress C

How does one navigate the transition from daily journalism to academia, particularly when teaching non-journalism courses? Are journalism and scholarly writing natural enemies, or is there a way for them to coexist as complementary disciplines? NLGJA Hall of Fame member Gail Shister leads a discussion of people who have successfully transitioned into academia and offers tips and tricks for adapting your writing and your style.

FRIDAY

September 8, 2017

5:00pm - 6:00pm

From Journalists to Author
Moderator: Ed Salvato

Panelists: Sue Green, Jeff Guaracino,
Mark Segal, Linda Villarosa, Don Weise

Congress A

Do you have a book in you? Find out how to turn the stories you're covering into published books that can enhance your reputation and set you up for more prestigious jobs. Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, Ernest Hemingway, Joan Didion, Carl Hiaasen and Susan Sontag are all great examples of journalists-turned-authors. This panel gives you a road map to publishing, from how to come up with book ideas to getting an agent and landing a deal. We also show you what kinds of books publishers look for from journalists, what sells, what doesn't and how to decide if you should self-publish.

What Journalists and PR Can Learn from Each Other

Moderator: Curtis Sparrer

Panelists: Steph Bottoms, Clint Henderson,
David Steinberg, Dustin Stephens

Congress B

Whether you're a pitcher or you're the pitchee (of a media story), there's something you wish the other side knew. Journalists want public relations people to know their process, their availability and what they can and can't do, while publicists want media to know where they're coming from to ensure they can deliver the best results to their clients and fight another day. This panel of journalists and PR people aims to debunk the myths of media on both sides for mutual success.

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Queering Podcastland — Lauren Ober in Conversation with Tobin Low and
Kathy Tu of "Nancy"

Moderator: Lauren Ober

Panelists: Tobin Low, Kathy Tu

Congress C

In recent years, podcasting has exploded. But until recently, there was one glaring void — the LGBTQ podcast. Enter "Nancy" from WNYC Studios. With their podcast, Tobin Low and Kathy Tu created a space for all people to engage with ideas and issues affecting the queer community, from the Orlando shooting and the trans military ban, to gay wizards and LGTBQ summer camp. In a conversation with Lauren Ober, host of NPR's "The Big Listen," Low and Tu talk about their "Nancy" journey and touch on questions of intersectionality in podcasting, whether we even still need to tell queer stories and how LGBTQ people can carve out space in the crowded podcast marketplace.

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Diversity Reception

Regency Foyer

Join us as NLGJA and Prudential Financial salute the value of diversity in newsrooms and America as a whole. We honor our UNITY: Journalists for Diversity partners and other partners who share in the dedication to fair and accurate coverage of our communities and that bring us together.
Hors d'oeuvres & bar available.

Sponsored by:



7:30pm - 10:00pm

Women's Networking Dinner

Field House Philly

1150 Filbert Street

Ticket required

Join us for an evening of fellowship in a classic Philly Beer Hall above the historic Jefferson Train Station and just steps from the world famous Reading Terminal. Fantastic food. Fantastic friends. Fantastic fun.

A \$50 ticket is required to attend. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will be on sale at registration in the Fourth Floor Lobby through 5:00pm or until they are sold out.

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NISSAN



9:30pm - 11:30pm

Night Out Philadelphia



Get your night started out right in the gayborhood at Boxers PHL. Join Stoli's North American LGBTQ Ambassador Patrik Gallineaux for a fun evening

and special cocktails. Be sure to wear your NLGJA convention badge for some free and special cocktails. It's a great way to spend time together and meet some locals.

Don't forget to bring your convention badge for drink specials!



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SATURDAY

September 9, 2017

10:00am - 11:15am

Trans Military

The repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT)" allowed lesbian, gay and bisexual people to serve, but transgender Americans were still banned until June 30, 2016. Then, on July 26, 2017 President Trump unexpectedly announced via Twitter that he would be reinstating the ban, thereby thrusting transgender service members back into the media spotlight and creating uncertainty amongst the ranks. Today, despite no official policy directive (at time of print), while trans service members can remain on active duty, their futures are undetermined. This panel features media and advocacy experts who will explore the ways in which journalists can uncover the truth around the reality of transgender troops. Given transgender people are twice as likely to serve than their cisgender counterparts, and no other organization in America employs more transgender people than the U.S. military, panelists will highlight distinctions between covering service members and transgender civilians.

Panelists:

Dave Cullen, Blake Dremann, Sue Fulton



Regency B



Fiona Dawson
Moderator

11:30am - 12:30pm

Power Producing
Moderator: Ken Miguel

Panelists: Jim DeBreuil, Nancy Kramer,
Cheryl Mettendorf

Congress A

Whether it's memorable newscasts, punchy packages, delightful digital productions or social media videos, there's a wizard behind the curtain making sure the shows and videos you watch are spectacular. Though the on-air talent will most like get credit for it, there's probably a top-notch producer behind the camera putting all the pieces together. If you're a novice hoping to become a big-time producer, or even a current producer who's just hoping to become better at your job, stop by to learn how you can make the video you need to produce for digital, television or PR purposes so much better. Hear from top producers about how they do what they do, and why they do it.

Small Market Survival Guide
Moderator: Troy Diggs

Panelists: Gina Johnson, Evan Millward, Michael Oder,
Shawn Reynolds, Blaine Stewart

Congress B

Small towns can seem like a foreign country — especially when it's your job to cover them! In this session, we talk about working in a market where city council meetings are the top story, and where people say, "I've seen you on TV," in the Walmart checkout line. We also talk about breaking into the big leagues — and how to keep your sanity while working your way up the ladder.

Silent Epidemics: How Media Can Shed Light on Health Disparities and Violence
in the Transgender Community

Panelists: Dawn Ennis, Frances Fernandes, Bethany Grace Howe, Carlos Molina

Congress C

This session explores the most significant health issues facing transgender individuals, including social factors and the impact of stigma and discrimination, and how to prepare to report on them. The discussion will cover access to culturally competent health services and gender-affirming care; the HIV/AIDS epidemic; the importance of mental health care; high rates of attempted suicide, violence against and murder of transgender individuals; social factors such as trauma, unstable housing and unemployment that impact the health of the transgender community; the role of community-based organizations that offer supportive services; and how to fairly and accurately report on these issues. Learning more about the silent epidemics that disproportionately affect transgender individuals will shed light on how to bring visibility to this marginalized and vulnerable community.



**Don't forget to Snapchat @nlgja...and use
the NLGJA 2017 geofilter!**

12:45pm - 2:00pm

A Breath of Fresh Air with Terry Gross and Ari Shaprio

(Lunch is provided for registered attendees)

Two NPR greats in one room for a great conversation. Join Ari Shapiro, host of NPR's "All Things Considered," as he interviews WHYY's Terry Gross about her long career as host of "Fresh Air." The interview will be followed by an audience question-and-answer session.



Regency B

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Ask Us Anything: What You Need to Know About Covering Transgender People

Congress A

As the movement for transgender rights continues, new questions emerge each day about how to cover the community with respect and dignity. Sometimes the resources available to us aren't enough, and our questions about the transgender experience may go unanswered. NLGJA is offering a Transgender AMA to help answer some of those unanswered questions. This is the time to ask the experts in a safe, non-judgmental space. You may even learn things you weren't expecting to learn that will help you better cover the transgender community.

Changing Styles

Moderator: Jeff McMillan

Panelists: Sharif Durhams, Oskar Garcia, Deborah Woodell

Congress B

Do I call this drug an opioid or an opiate? Is it gender reassignment or sex reassignment? How literally should I take the AP Stylebook? It can be tough for writers, editors and producers to keep up with changing language in an ever-more dynamic news landscape. In this session, some of the field's top experts discuss topical issues of terminology and style and take your questions. Be prepared for an AP style quiz.

Finding Your Voice with Mo Rocca

Moderator: Rand Morrison

Panelist: Mo Rocca

Congress C

Mo Rocca has been a contributor and correspondent for "CBS Sunday Morning" for over a decade. On the show, his role is akin to a columnist. In this panel, he talks about bringing his perspective and voice to feature reporting on arts and culture — and how to make a profile of someone into more than just a Wikipedia entry. "CBS Sunday Morning" executive producer Rand Morrison moderates.

Coffee Break Café

3:00pm - 3:45pm

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Take a break and grab some coffee to keep you energized for the rest of the day!

Start Making Plans!

Palm Springs, California

NLGJA—THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS

NLGJA 2018

SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2018 | NATIONAL CONVENTION

SATURDAY

September 9, 2017

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Ask the Recruiters and Career Specialists

Congress A

Moderator: Sarah Blazucki

Panelists: Katie Curcio, Vittoria Woodill

Special Welcome: Mary Cavallaro, SAG-AFTRA

Applying for a job? Moving to a different market? Wondering about getting an agent? Have questions about your personal service contract? Bring your questions for this candid conversation with recruiters and career navigation experts, no matter what market you're in or what stage of career you find yourself. Here's everything you need to know about finding the next job, getting the next promotion or standing out in a sea of résumés. Who knows, you might even come away with your next job.



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"In the Life" 30 Years Later: The Legacy of Joe Beam

Congress B

Moderator: Cei Bell

Panelists: Samuel Delany, Sheena Howard, Sandy Smith

Last year marked the 30th anniversary of the publication of "In the Life," the historic, groundbreaking black gay male anthology that Philadelphia author, journalist and activist Joe Beam compiled and edited. The volume contained work that voiced the concerns and aspirations of an often-silent minority and reflected the power of coming together to build a strong black gay community. We widen the lens beyond gay men by looking at the continuing influence of the book, with discussion centering on the ongoing contributions of LGBTQ African Americans to literary, journalistic and social progress; and the successes and failures of LGBTQ communities to include African-American perspectives.

Vamping and Improvising on the Air

Congress C

Moderator: Brett Larson

Panelists: Kenneth Craig, Simon Hobbs, Jana Shortal

Things don't always go as planned when you're on the air. From breaking news and broken teleprompters, to last-minute script changes and interviews-gone-wrong, things can quickly take a turn. Whether you're in front of the camera on location or behind the microphone in the studio, being able to think fast is essential for any on-air talent. This workshop brings together some of the best in the business to offer best practice advice on how to save the show and survive on the air.

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Media Management: Lead, Flourish and Succeed

Congress A

Speaker: Ebony Reed

Identify your management style, learn how a company's culture impacts it and dig into the difference between leadership and management. You'll also examine your career trajectory and how to stay successful in management in a changing media landscape. This workshop is for you whether you are new to management or want to brush up your management and leadership skills.

Looking Good: Stepping Up Your Photo, Video and Design Game

Congress B

Moderator: Eric Hegedus

Panelists: Candace Feit, Joe'l Ludovich, Cody McCloy, Suzanne Poli

Sometimes photos and visuals are able to tell stories in ways that words just can't (even with unlimited column inches). In an age where visual journalism is more important than ever, being able to tell your story in an instant before the user scrolls past or the audience turns away from the screen is crucial. This panel features expert visual storytellers who will show you their work which ranges from the first photographs of Stonewall to transgender lives in India, to visually stunning documentaries, and well-designed pages for some of the world's leading news outlets. The panelists will offer practical tips to help you become better at photo, video and design.

Thespian? I Thought You Said "Lesbian!"

Congress C

Panelists: David Fox, Naveen Kumar, Erik Piepenburg, Tim Teeman

Journalism and theatre seemingly couldn't be less alike, but both industries share the fact that they've have seen significant changes in the last 20 years. How have theatre critics, who exist at the intersection of journalism and theatre, coped with these changes? What does it take to become a theatre critic? In an age where the top ticket price on Broadway is over \$800, do theatre critics hold responsibility as keepers and advisers of the art form, or are they simply consumer advocates? Does the role of out-of-town critics differ from their Broadway counterparts? An expert panel of both local and national theatre critics will discuss their role in the industry, their thoughts on the current state of theatre in the United States and you might even leave with the inside scoop on the next hot ticket.

7:00pm - 12:00am

**Philadelphia Freedom - Find Your Oasis
 NLGJA 2017 Closing Reception**

Regency Ballroom

Visit with friends and colleagues. Have a beverage from the bar. Bid on some fabulous auction items. Relax and unwind after a full weekend of activities and learning. And dance the night away while making plans for next year. The Philadelphia Freedom - Find Your Oasis Party will cap off with the annual Auction and Awards Reception, where we will honor the best in the business, including NLGJA's Journalist of the Year and the Sarah Pettit LGBTQ Journalist of the Year and inductees into the LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame. We will look forward to another great convention next September in Palm Springs.

Your Evening's Hosts:



Eden Lane



Sean Lewis

Sponsored by:



SUNDAY
 September 10, 2017

6:30am - 9:00am

Sunrise Hike in Wissahickon Gorge

Meet in Lobby

Join Philadelphia chapter member Jeff McMillan for a sunrise hike in the city's isolated and historic Wissahickon Gorge. Be prepared for a moderately strenuous 1.5-hour hike, and bring your boots! Rain or shine. Transportation is provided for a limited number of people.

9:30am - 10:30am

NLGJA Board of Directors Meeting

Howe / 33rd Floor

###

Daniel H. Renberg Chair

*This is, as far as we know, the first time a **top journalism school in a major university** has established an **endowed chair** focused on best practices in **media coverage of LGBTQ communities**.*

Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications seeks to hire a full-time faculty member (open rank) with expertise in media coverage of sexual and gender minorities for the **Daniel H. Renberg Chair**. The search is open to academics and journalists.

Candidates who are journalists will be expected to produce exemplary coverage of sexual and gender minorities (in any medium) and provide thought leadership surrounding media treatment of these communities. No advanced degree is required for candidates who have distinguished themselves through the quality of their journalism. Preferred candidates will have ten years or more of experience producing high impact journalism or analysis and several years of teaching at the university level.

Academic candidates will be expected to conduct and publish innovative research and also engage in thought leadership on gender minorities, sexuality, and media. Medill is a professional school, and thus the successful candidate will be able to integrate theory and professional practice, making research actionable for professionals. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in a relevant field, a record of high impact research in the core areas, and a strong teaching record.

Candidates will be expected to teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, to continue producing first-rate journalism or research, and to perform professional service within the school, university, and community.

Those eligible for appointment on clinical, tenure-track, or tenured basis will be considered. Appointment will begin either on June 1, 2018 or September 1, 2018. Candidates should submit a letter of application, a full CV, and key pieces of professional work/academic research.

These materials should be submitted online no later than September 30, 2017 at the following address:

Jenna Braunstein
Northwestern University
1845 Sheridan Road
Fisk Hall, 204
Evanston, IL 60208
jenna-braunstein@northwestern.edu

Northwestern University is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Hiring is contingent on eligibility to work in the United States.

2017 CONVENTION SPEAKERS



NLGJA: THE ASSOCIATION OF LGBTQ JOURNALISTS
NATIONAL CONVENTION | SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



TONY ABRAHAM is Technically Media's special projects reporter, where he currently edits Technical.ly's Grow PA series. He reports for both tech news site Technical.ly and social enterprise news site Generocity, and was a Philly News Award winner for Community Reporting of the Year in 2016. He is a contributor to The Reentry Project, a solutions-focused collaborative of 15 Philadelphia-area journalism organizations.

STEPHEN J. ADLER is president and editor-in-chief of Reuters where he is responsible for the team that produces the news — text, photographs, video, insight and commentary — that powers the world's markets and media, reaching over 1 billion users a day. Adler joined Thomson Reuters in 2010 as senior vice president and editorial director of the company's Professional Division. He was named editor-in-chief of Reuters News in 2011. Under Adler's leadership, Reuters has received scores of top journalism awards around the world, including Reuters' first-ever Pulitzer Prize for text reporting in 2014 and a 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography. Before joining Thomson Reuters, Adler was editor-in-chief of BusinessWeek, where, during his five-year tenure, the magazine and its website won more than 100 major journalism awards. Earlier, he spent 16 years at The Wall Street Journal, managing reporting teams that won three Pulitzer Prizes.



CHIP ALFRED is the director of development and communications at Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers, a comprehensive health services organization providing primary care, consumer education, research, and advocacy for people living with HIV/AIDS and those at high risk. Alfred has been a Philadelphia resident since 2008, where he first worked as the communications director at Equality Forum and served as the creative director for LGBT History Month. He is the former Philadelphia chapter president of NLGJA. He has written for South Florida Gay News, G3 Magazine in Louisville, Philadelphia Weekly, Out in Jersey, and is a contributing Editor at Large for A&U: America's AIDS Magazine. Prior to moving to Philly, Alfred worked as a promotion director for television stations in Kentucky, North Carolina, Florida, and California. He has received 10 regional Addy Awards for his creative work from the American Advertising Federation. In 2016, he was named one of Philly's Top LGBT Advocates by the Philadelphia Business Journal

CHRIS ALLIERI is founder and principal of Mulberry & Astor, a New York-based consultancy focused on delivering high-impact, integrated marketing, public affairs and communications programs for early-stage companies, leading international brands, individuals and nonprofit organizations. Allieri is a frequent media and industry commentator and is regularly quoted in the Financial Times, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Business Insider and Mashable. Allieri has 20 years of diverse marketing and communications experience across multiple sectors. Prior to launching his own firm, Allieri served as the chief communications and marketing executive at Edelman. Allieri serves on several boards of directors, including the University of Colorado Alumni Foundation, Farm Sanctuary and The Trevor Project, where he is currently vice chair.



MATT BAUME is a writer, podcaster and video-maker based in Seattle whose work focuses on LGBTQ culture, geeks and anything that is strange and wonderful. He's the author of the book "Defining Marriage," creator of the popular queer podcast "The Sewers of Paris" and covers LGBTQ issues in weekly YouTube videos. His bylines include Rolling Stone, NPR, Vice, Slate, The Advocate and The Stranger.

HILARY BEARD is an award-winning writer, editor and book collaborator, specializing in education, health and wellness, self-help, parenting, psychology and transformational memoir. She is also certified professional coach, specializing in career coaching.



DAVID BEGNAUD is a CBS News correspondent based in Dallas. He joined CBS News in August 2015 as a Miami-based correspondent and was relocated to the Network's Dallas bureau in January 2017. His reporting has been featured across CBS News broadcasts and platforms including "CBS This Morning," the "CBS Evening News," "48 Hours," CBS Sunday Morning" and CBSN, CBS News' 24/7 streaming news service.

CEI BELL has been a writer for over 40 years and has often used her writing for activism and social change. She co-founded (with Tommi Avicoli Mecca) RadicalQueens, one of the first transgender feminist groups, in 1972. In 1973, the collective published The Radical Queen magazine. She worked on the first gay newspaper in Philadelphia, The Gayzette. Joe Beam edited her article "A TV Documentary" for BlackOut magazine. She helped Beam proofread the galleys for "In The Life." She wrote "The Radical Queens Trans-formation" for the anthology "Smash the Church, Smash the State" about the early Gay Liberation Movement. Over the years, Ms. Bell has written for The Philadelphia Inquirer, the Philadelphia Daily News, The Philadelphia Tribune, Philadelphia Gay News, Philadelphia City Paper and other publications. She was a staff writer at Au Courant newsmagazine. She is a frequent contributor to WHYY's NewsWorks. Bell is the winner of the 2015 Leeway Foundation Transformation Award for Literature.



Award-winning travel and food writer **ANDREW BENDER** writes the Seat 1A travel site for Forbes and articles and guidebooks for dozens of other publications from the Los Angeles Times to Lonely Planet. His annual Seat 1A "Top 10 Food Trends" and "Gift Guide for Travelers" articles have become required reading, and in 2017 he received the prestigious Eureka! Travel Writing Award from Visit California. Yet another travel writer with an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, he gave up the business world nearly 20 years ago, though he continues to supplement his writing income as a cross-cultural consultant and as a tour leader and tour planner for cultural and culinary visits to Japan (and has appeared in Japanese TV commercials). A native New Englander, he now lives in the Los Angeles area, where he looks for the best new food trends and is a proud member of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles.

2017 CONVENTION SPEAKERS



BOB BENNETT is senior producer for WAVY-TV/ WVBT-TV in Norfolk, Virginia. Bennett has 24 years of television experience, and has won numerous Emmys, AP awards and an Edward R. Murrow Award for news coverage. Bennett also worked at WJLA-TV, where he produced the 6 o'clock newscast, as well as worked with the web team to increase the station's Facebook fan base by more than 100,000 users in less than a year. Bennett also specializes in severe weather coverage and breaking news. Outside of work, Bennett mentors young producers and reporters, critiquing their work and preparing them for a future in television news. Bennett is also a lifetime member of NLGJA.

RICHARD L. BERKE is the executive editor of STAT. He was hired in February 2015 to create an independent national news organization that covers health, medicine and science. He quickly built an enterprise of more than 50 people that launched in November of that year. Berke got his start at the Baltimore Evening Sun, where he was a reporter and Washington correspondent for more than five years. After that, for 28 years, he was a reporter and editor at The New York Times, where he the longest-serving chief political correspondent (for more than a decade) White House correspondent, congressional correspondent, Washington editor, national editor, assistant managing editor for news, assistant managing editor for features and senior editor for video content. More recently, Berke was executive editor at Politico, where, among other accomplishments, he raised the journalistic ambitions across the board and created an annual two-week, intensive student journalism institute aimed at bringing diversity to political coverage.



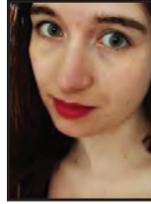
SARAH BLAZUCKI is a communications coordinator for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. Prior to this, she was agency editor at the Peace Corps from 2012-16, where she was co-president of the agency's LGBTQA employee resource group, Spectrum. Blazucki is the former editor of Philadelphia Gay News, the oldest LGBT newsweekly in the U.S., where she led the staff to win numerous awards.

Since 2013, she has been on the board of UNITY: Journalists for Diversity. In addition, Blazucki is a freelance résumé writer and has served as a contributor, editor and proofreader for several résumé writing books. She received her B.A. from Towson State University in mass communications, with a concentration in journalism and a minor in women's studies. An NGJA Lifetime Member, Blazucki is currently vice president for print and online for NLGJA, and was previously president of the Philadelphia chapter.

STEPH BOTTOMS works as a director at Golin, a leading global marketing communications and PR agency headquartered in Chicago, where she leads the LGBTQ communications segment of the larger practice, focusing on connecting with diverse audiences. Bottoms provides strategic counsel and project management expertise to clients and account teams across several marketing practices, including consumer, corporate and healthcare on global, national and local scales. As a leader in the space, she has engrained herself in effective marketing and issues management and is an established and trusted counselor to clients and agency colleagues who are looking for deeper



insight into diverse needs. Bottoms is also a member of the Golin Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging team, which evaluates attitudes, beliefs and behaviors of employees, hosts trainings, drives local efforts and shares best practices.



BETH BOYLE was born and raised in Philadelphia. She studied journalism at Temple University and writes for a number of publications, including Philadelphia Gay News, Comcast and NewsWorks.

MARY E. CAVALLARO, ESQ. serves as the chief broadcast officer for the News & Broadcast Department of Screen Actors Guild - American Federation of Television & Radio Artists (SAG- AFTRA). Cavallaro is responsible for overseeing the negotiation and administration of over 250 labor agreements with network and local broadcast employers nationwide. She chairs national negotiations for the Network News Agreements as well as negotiations with employers with station and broadcast operations in multiple markets. An adjunct professor at Drexel University's Westphal School of Media Arts and Design, Cavallaro teaches a graduate course in Media Law for Television Management and an undergraduate course in Media Law & Ethics. Cavallaro received her Juris Doctor from Villanova University School of Law where she was a founding editor of the Villanova Law Sports and Entertainment Law Journal. She received her Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of Southern California.





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PTHC proudly offers a space for trans people and our allies, families, and providers to come together to re-envision what health means for trans people.

September 7-9, 2017
Pennsylvania Convention Center; Broad and Arch Streets



SAM CHAMPION is a Peabody Award and four-time Emmy Award-winning weather anchor and climate and environmental journalist. Most recently, Champion anchored “AMHQ” at The Weather Channel headquarters in Atlanta. Champion and also held managing editor responsibilities at the network. Previously, Champion was the weather anchor of ABC’s “Good Morning America” and weather editor for ABC News. In addition to covering the national forecast for “GMA” and The Weather Channel, Champion frequently traveled to cover weather-related stories around the country. His coverage included Superstorm Sandy: Under Champion’s editorial guidance, ABC News won a coveted Peabody Award for its coverage of the storm. Before joining ABC News in 2006, Champion spent 18 years at WABC-TV in New York where he was the most watched weatherman in the tri-state area. Champion regularly interviewed authors, newsmakers and celebrities during the morning program.

KWAME CHERY is a health communications specialist in the Prevention Communication Branch of CDC’s Division of HIV AIDS Prevention. He works to develop and maintain relationships with a broad range of organizations, with a focus on engaging faith-based organizations and historically black colleges and universities. Chery is also instrumental in advancing his team’s communication activities. Prior to joining the Prevention Communication Branch, Chery served in CDC’s Office of the Associate Director for Communication as the communications specialist for CDC’s Public Health Grand Rounds. Chery’s prior roles have also included managing the CDC Speakers Bureau and co-managing the CDC Ambassador Program.



As a producer and editor for CNN’s medical unit, **JEN CHRISTENSEN** produces investigative stories and documentaries for Dr. Sanjay Gupta and does data analysis for CNN.com. Christensen has earned the highest awards in broadcasting — the Peabody and DuPont — producing Christiane Amanpour’s “God’s (Jewish) Warriors.” She produced several other award-winning documentaries, including “MLK’s Words That Changed a Nation”; “Black in America” and “Obama Revealed.” Prior to CNN, Christensen ran WSOC-TV and WTVQ-TV’s investigative units and managed WXIN-TV’s weekend newsroom. Prior to journalism, Christensen was a public policy analyst at Chicago’s Board of Elections and at NATO (London) working on nuclear non-proliferation. She co-authored two books, “Women Public Speakers” and “Women Confronting Retirement.” Since 2013, she has served as president of NLGJA, having previously served as vice president for broadcast. She was president of the Georgia and Carolinas chapters, and was the founding president of the Kentucky chapter. Christensen graduated from Butler University and studied at London School of Economics.



JERRY CIPRIANO is the senior news editor for the CBS Evening News. He is responsible for the writing and editing of all anchor copy for that broadcast and for all CBS News Special Events broadcasts. He has written for CBS Evening News anchors Dan Rather, Connie Chung, Bob Schieffer, Katie Couric, Scott Pelley and Anthony Mason. His assignments have included every national political convention, presidential and vice presidential debate, election, inauguration and State of the Union address

since 1988. He wrote the anchor narration for a number of CBS News DVDs, including “What We Saw,” a compilation of the best CBS News reporting from 9/11. He began his journalism career at The Associated Press, serving as a news writer, editor and day supervisor for the AP National Broadcast wire. He joined CBS News in 1984 as a news writer, writing radio news hourlies for such CBS legends as Douglas Edwards, Richard C. Hottelet and Charles Osgood. Cipriano is a graduate of Fordham University. He has been honored with four Emmy Awards, 15 Writers Guild of America Awards and two Associated Press Broadcasters Awards.

KENNETH CRAIG joined CBS News as a correspondent in June 2015 and is based in New York City. He reports for CBS Newspath, the Network’s 24-hour television newsgathering service for CBS stations and broadcasters around the world. Since joining CBS News, Craig has reported from the frontlines of some of the biggest breaking news stories in the United States and abroad, including the terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels, the Pulse nightclub massacre and the 2015 New York prison escape. Craig also has spent more than two years in regions across the country bringing national attention to the nation’s opioid crisis. Prior to joining CBS News, Craig served as a reporter for WFTV Channel 9 Eyewitness News in Orlando, Florida. Previously, Craig was a reporter at NECN in Boston. He began his career at Charter TV3 in Worcester, Massachusetts and graduated from Emerson College in Boston.



DAVE CULLEN is the author of the New York Times bestseller, “Columbine,” a haunting portrait of two disparate killers and the survivors. It spent thirteen weeks on the Times’ bestseller list, made two dozen Best of 2009 lists and won several major awards, including the Edgar and the Goodreads Choice Award for best nonfiction of the year. It appears on several all-time True Crime Top 10 lists. Cullen is writing a book about gay soldiers, through the eyes of two army buddies. He is a former infantry grunt and has been following this pair for seventeen years.

KATIE CURCIO is the director of news associates and internships at CBS News. She recruits, hires and places entry-level candidates and college students in various positions. Starting as an intern herself in May 2000, Curcio held various positions at CBS News, including production assistant in the Advertising and Promotion department and page at the “CBS Evening News” with Dan Rather. She started working in her current department 15 years ago as an administrative assistant. Curcio received a Bachelor of Science degree in communication studies from New York University in 2000 and earned a Master of Science degree from The Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in 2006, where she specialized in broadcast.



JD DAVIDS is the director of partnerships and a senior editor of TheBody.com and TheBodyPRO.com, which offer news, analysis and support for people living with HIV, communities affected by HIV, the HIV workforce and those who seek HIV information. He is a longtime HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ-focused activist, journalist and communication strategist.

2017 CONVENTION SPEAKERS



FIONA DAWSON is an Emmy-nominated multimedia director/producer, IFP Documentary Lab Fellow and LGBTQ advocate. Following the success of her 2015 short New York Times opinion documentary “Transgender, at War an in Love,” Fiona was honored by The White House as an LGBT Artist Champion of Change. She has served on the National Board of Directors of the Human Rights Campaign and the Board of Directors for the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association. Fiona started the TransMilitary film project in 2012 to advocate for change through media.

JASON DeROSE is western bureau chief and senior editor at NPR News. He edits stories from Colorado to Hawaii and all points in between. Additionally, he oversees coverage of religion and stories about LGBTQ issues from across the U.S. Prior to his current position, DeRose edited economics coverage at NPR during the height of the financial crisis from 2008-10. Before joining NPR, he was a senior editor and correspondent at WBEZ - Chicago Public Radio. He came to his first NLGJA conference when he was 19 years old.



TROY DIGGS is nearly 20-year veteran of television news. His adventure started in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and has taken him to Wichita, Kansas, Seattle and his current hometown of Kansas City. Diggs has won an Emmy Award on the way and is proud to represent the #amnewsers shift.

BARBARADOZETOS owns Above the Fold Marketing based in Burlington, Vermont. Her specialty is online marketing — helping her clients get found by their ideal customer. She is an adjunct professor in the communications department at Community College of Vermont and a recovering journalist. She spent the height of the battle for civil unions as editor of the state’s LGBTQ paper, Out in the Mountains. She has an English degree, which fed her love of the well-turned phrase, and an MBA taught her all the business rules. She spends much of her time rewriting them. She is a lifetime member of NLGJA and has served on the national board in several capacities, including a stint as secretary.

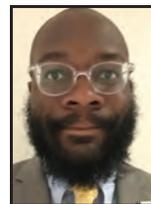


BLAKE DREMANN is an active duty Navy Lieutenant Commander. He is currently assigned as a supply chain management coordinator for the Navy nuclear enterprise in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He is also the president of SPART*A, a national LGBT advocacy organization that is focused on transgender military service. It was the leading organization that helped change the Department of Defence policy barring open transgender service members.

JIM DuBREUIL is an Peabody, DuPont, Edward R. Murrow and Emmy award-winning journalist who has worked in broadcast news for the past 27 years. He joined ABC News in August 2000 as a producer for the weekly television newsmagazine “20/20.” DuBreuil has covered the presidential inaugurations of George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump, but is most proud of producing Madonna’s infamous sit-down interview with Cynthia McFadden where the Queen of Pop called Lady Gaga’s music “reductive.”



He is currently nominated for two Emmy Awards for “20/20”’s coverage of the Pulse nightclub massacre and for an Obama town hall on race relations entitled “The President and the People: A National Conversation.” DuBreuil graduated from the College of Journalism at the University of Florida in 1992. At UF, he worked as a reporter at WUFT-FM and TV where he earned awards from the Associated Press for Best News Coverage and PRNDA’s Best Breaking News for reports on the Gainesville student murders in 1991.



SHARIF DURHAMS is a senior editor for CNN digital, where oversees daily planning decisions for CNN’s desktop homepage and mobile alerts. He was a homepage editor at The Washington Post and worked at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and the Charlotte Observer. He also serves as NLGJA’s treasurer and has been a member of the organization since 2000. He is a member of the Online News Association and the National Association of Black Journalists.

EMMA COPLEY EISENBERG’s essays and reportage have appeared in Vice, Catapult, Fusion, The New Republic, Salon, Slate, The Marshall Project, Hyperallergic, The Rumpus, 100 Days in Appalachia, The Philadelphia Citizen, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Philly Weekly and others. She has received honors, residencies and scholarships from the Tin House Writers Conference, Aspen Summer Words, Narrative, Buzzfeed, Lambda Literary and the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation. She lives in West Philadelphia.



DAWN ENNIS is host of “RiseUP,” a talk show on YouTube, as well as a blogger, freelance writer for NBC Out, Advocate.com, NewNowNext, GO and Outsports. A journalism veteran of 30-plus years, Ennis worked and managed newsrooms at local television stations in New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Florida and Hartford, as well as for CNN, CBS, NBC, Politico and ABC. She was the first to transition in a TV network newsroom four years ago. She is also a widow who does the job of mom for three children who call her “Dad.” Ennis and her family reside in Connecticut with their cat, Faith.



DAWN FALLIK is an assistant professor and former director of the journalism program at the University of Delaware. She was a staff writer for The Philadelphia Inquirer and Associated Press and has a master’s degree in database analysis. Fallik teaches all reporting skill level classes as well as medical reporting. She continues to write for The Wall Street Journal, The Philadelphia Inquirer and Neurology Today. Fallik is currently working on a book called “The Poverty of Loneliness,” about the medical ramifications of social isolation.



CANDACE FEIT is a documentary photographer and artist who focuses on creating deep narratives about people and their relationships. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, The Globe and Mail, Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, National Geographic Magazine, U.S. News and World Report, Time Magazine and dozens of other publications. After spending the last decade living and working in West Africa and South Asia, Feit is now based in New York.





FRANCES FERNANDES is a lifelong journalist who worked at regional and metro dailies in the Los Angeles area. She spent that last decade of her career at U.C. Riverside writing for the chancellor and the U.C. Institute for Mexico and the United States. She is currently retired from full-time employment but writes and edits miscellaneous projects online.

DOUGLAS FOSTER is an associate professor at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, as well as head of Medill's Journalism Residency Program in South Africa. After beginning his career as a reporter at the Salinas Californian, Foster served as senior editor at the Center for Investigative Reporting and editor-in-chief of Mother Jones Magazine. He previously taught at Stanford (his alma mater) and at U.C. Berkeley. He is author of "After Mandela: The Struggle for Freedom in Post-Apartheid South Africa" and writes frequently for The Atlantic and The Nation.



DAVID FOX is currently a theater critic and culture writer for Philadelphia Magazine; previously he was theater critic for Philadelphia City Paper from 1999 to its closing in 2015. He has also written for Time Out, the New York Times, Kurt Weill Quarterly, Opera Quarterly and others. He teaches topics in modern American theater and musical theater at the University of Pennsylvania, and has frequently lectured for the Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, and others.



JEAN FRIEDMAN-RUDOVSKY is a freelance investigative journalist based in Philadelphia. She is the Philadelphia coordinator for the Solutions Journalism Network. From 2006-13, she lived in La Paz, Bolivia, where she reported for Time Magazine. She is a contributing editor to Vice Magazine, and her writing has been published in The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, Science, VICE, Foreign Policy, Village Voice Media, Marie Claire and The Telegraph Saturday Magazine. She has aired segments for Radio Netherlands and WBEZ Chicago Public Radio and has worked on TV and documentary projects with the ABC, BBC, CNN, CNBC, Al Jazeera English and more.

BRENDA S. "SUE" FULTON is a 1980 West Point graduate, part of the first class to admit women. She was commissioned in the Army, served as a platoon leader and company commander in Germany, and was honorably discharged at the rank of Captain. In 2009, she co-founded Knights Out, the organization of LGBTQ West Point alumni and allies, and a year later became a founding board member of OutServe. In both roles, she was an active advocate for the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell." As president of SPART*A, she played a leading role in lifting the military's ban on transgender service in 2013. In July 2011, she was appointed by President Obama as the first openly gay member of the West Point Board of Visitors, and became the first female USMA graduate to chair the board in 2015. In 2017, she was appointed to the Board of Visitors for the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. In December 2012, after 17 years together, Fulton and her partner Penny Gnesin became the first same-sex couple to marry in the West Point Cadet Chapel.



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2017 CONVENTION SPEAKERS



PATRIK GALLINEAUX has worked with LGBT Stoli since 2010 and is currently the North American LGBT manager and ambassador for Stoli Group USA. Patrik has over 25 years' experience in the spirits, nightlife, and hospitality industries and has enjoyed careers also as a musical theatre stage performer, actor and professional ballroom dancer and instructor. He was featured in the 2003 documentary "24 Hours on Craigslist". Gallineaux has served as a columnist for GLOSS Magazine, a member of the GLAAD leadership council, and is a proud board member of the Richmond-Ermet AID Foundation of Northern California. He is producer and host of the world's largest annual charity and community-based LGBTQ bartending competition, the 18-city Stoli Key West Cocktail Classic. He also acts as host of the brand-new "Heroes of Diversity" video series at www.HeroesRasingtheBar.com. In 2017 Gallineaux received the first-ever "Rainbow Key" to the city of San Diego and is passionate about making a difference for those less fortunate and consistently strives to turn lemons into lemonade-naturally, with a good shot of Stoli Blueberi included.

MICHELLE GARCIA is the senior editor for Race and Identities at Vox.com. Before that, she was the identities editor at Mic.com and the managing editor of Advocate.com. In addition to covering the fall of "don't ask, don't tell," the fight for marriage equality and employment discrimination against LGBTQ workers, Michelle also used her love of sports in her NLGJA Award-winning 2013 piece, "The State of Pride in Sports." She lives in Brooklyn with her spouse and dog.



OSKAR GARCIA is a member of the Associated Press Stylebook team, which considers hundreds of suggestions each year for additions and modifications to the guidebook. He helped write AP's first social media guidelines for the Stylebook and led a significant revision of the sports section in 2015. His day job is assistant sports editor for the U.S. east region, responsible for leading journalists in 10 northeastern states, as well as coverage of college basketball and standards for the global sports department. He has been with the Associated Press for 10 years, starting as an intern in Los Angeles.

MARILYN GEEWAX is a senior editor for NPR. Since the election of President Trump, she has been focused on NPR's coverage of the Trump family's businesses and conflicts of interest. She assigns and edits radio stories, and often writes for the NPR website. She regularly discusses Trump's business dealings, as well as broader economic issues, on NPR's mid-day show "Here & Now" and its weekend edition of "All Things Considered." Before joining NPR in 2008, Geewax served as the national economics correspondent for Cox Newspapers' Washington Bureau. Before that, she worked at Cox's flagship paper, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, first as a business reporter and then as a columnist and editorial board member. She got her start in Ohio as a business reporter for the Akron Beacon Journal. A long-time member of NLGJA, she also is a board member of the Society of American Business Editors and Writers and the former vice chair of the Board of Governors of the National Press Club.



PAUL GLUCK is an associate professor of practice at Temple University's Klein College of Media and Communication in Philadelphia. He also manages Temple cable channel TUTV. Gluck previously served as news director at WCAU-TV and KYW-TV, and as vice president/station manager at public station WHYY, all in Philadelphia.

MITCHELL GOLD, co-founder and Chair-man of Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, is a different kind of man running a very different kind of business. In every aspect of his personal and business life, he strives to make a difference. In addition to running a multimillion-dollar company, he is co-founder of Faith in America, a nonprofit that educates people about the harm religious intolerance causes LGBT Americans, especially vulnerable teens. He also served on the board of the Human Rights Campaign for seven years. Everyone who knows Gold knows he wears his personal beliefs on his sleeve. They also know he runs his business with the same passion and commitment he brings to his work on behalf of LGBT equality. Out magazine named him to 2007's "Top 50 Most Powerful Gay People in America" and The Advocate gave him a 2006 People of the Year Award. He is also editor of "CRISIS: 40 Stories Revealing the Personal, Social and Religious Pain and Trauma of Growing Up Gay in America." In 2011, the book was published in paperback under the new title "Youth in Crisis: What Everyone Should Know About Growing Up Gay."



SUE GREEN began her career in Phoenix as a television producer, working her way up to executive producer and managing editor at stations in Phoenix, Los Angeles, Washington D.C. and New York City. In 2006, she launched Cronkite News Service at Arizona State University and before recently retiring, she also found time to write a textbook, "News Now: Visual Storytelling in the Digital Age," produced her second documentary and worked for the Department of State teaching diversity to journalists. She has a new book due out in the fall called "Marriage Battle: A Family Tradition."

CHERRI GREGG is the community affairs reporter for KYW Newsradio, the most listened to radio station in Philadelphia. She reports on a variety grassroots issues and events. At KYW, Gregg puts her law degree to work, providing legal analysis on decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, as well on critical civil rights issues like stop and frisk, immigration rights, and voting. She also stays active in the community by moderating town halls and by providing coverage of everyday heroes who are changing lives of those in need. An award winning journalist, Gregg is a graduate of Boston University, Howard University School of Law and Temple University School of Media and Communication. She is the immediate past president of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists.



Born and raised in Brooklyn, **TERRY GROSS** began her radio career in 1973 at public radio station WBFO in Buffalo, where she hosted and produced several arts, women's and public affairs programs, including "This Is Radio," a live, three-hour magazine program that aired daily. Two years later, she joined the staff of WHYY-FM in Philadelphia as producer and host of "Fresh Air,"

then a local, daily interview and music program. In 1985, WHYY-FM launched a weekly half-hour edition of "Fresh Air with Terry Gross," which was distributed nationally by NPR. Since 1987, a daily, one-hour national edition of "Fresh Air" has been produced by WHYY-FM. The program is broadcast on nearly 600 stations and became the first non-drivetime show in public radio history to reach more than 5 million listeners a week. "Fresh Air with Terry Gross" has received a number of awards, including the prestigious Peabody Award in 1994. Gross has been honored with a Gracie Award, Edward R. Murrow Award, National Book Foundation Literarian Award and a National Humanities Medal.



JEFF GUARACINO, along with Ed Salvato, is co-author of the "Handbook of LGBT Tourism & Hospitality Marketing: A Guide for Business Practice." Guaracino's first book, "Gay and Lesbian Tourism: The Essential Guide for Marketing," is often considered the must-have, go-to resource on LGBTQ tourism marketing. He writes a syndicated travel column and speaks around the world.

ISRAEL GUTIERREZ is a sports reporter for ESPN. Before joining the staff at ESPN, he worked for The Miami Herald as well as The Palm Beach Post.



KAREN HAWKINS is the founder and rebelle in chief of Rebellious Magazine. She is a recovering mainstream media reporter and editor who wants to thank her former boss for naming the online magazine she's always wanted to start when he called her "rebellious" for taking too many weekends off. When she isn't instigating a media rebellion, she's thanking her lucky starlets she gets to do whatever she wants on weekends.

PATRICK HEALY is the New York Times deputy Culture editor. As a political correspondent, he covered the Trump campaign during the 2016 Presidential Election.



ERIC HEGEDUS has been a journalist for the New York Post since 2005, and previously worked for The Philadelphia Inquirer. He is an NLGJA Lifetime Member, and currently serves on NLGJA's board of directors. He served as NLGJA President from 2004 to 2008, and was a member of the board of directors prior to his presidency.

CLINT HENDERSON is the executive producer of the two-hour news show "Happening Now" on Fox. He has also worked at ABC News, MSNBC, Fox-5 (WNYW), ON24 and started his career at KRON-TV/Bay TV in San Francisco (when it was still the NBC affiliate). He has worked on air and behind the scenes. He graduated from San Francisco State University with a degree in journalism. He has been active in NLGJA since the 1990s.



SIMON HOBBS is an anchor based at the CNBC's global headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, N.J. He currently co-anchors 10 a.m. CNBC's "Squawk on the Street" live from the New York Stock Exchange. He joined CNBC in 1998. Previously, Hobbs was



based at CNBC in London where he had anchored "European Closing Bell" and "Europe Tonight." Hobbs also globe-trotted to host "The Leaders," a series of in-depth one-on-one interviews with the world's business and political elite. In 2006, Hobbs was named Television Personality of the Year by the Association of International Broadcasters and has hosted high-level, international meetings for the European Union, the United Nations, the World Bank and environmental nongovernmental organizations.

DR. SHEENA C. HOWARD is the author of "Black Queer Identity Matrix: Towards An Integrated Queer of Color Framework" and "Critical Articulations of Race, Gender and Sexual Orientation." She is the author of "Black Comics: Politics of Race and Representation" and the "Encyclopedia of Black Comics." Howard is also the director, producer and writer of the documentary "Remixing Colorblind." The film examines the ways in which higher education shapes our perception of race. She holds a doctorate in intercultural and rhetorical communication from Howard University in Washington, D.C. Howard has appeared in national media outlets as an expert on the intersections of race, gender, sexual orientation and politics.



Following graduation from the University of Colorado in 1992, **BETHANY GRACE HOWE** pursued a variety of interests: high school teacher, hotel manager, performer and media manager for Disney on Ice, and Major League Baseball mascot. In 2002, Howe returned to school at the University of Missouri. There she also served as an adjunct professor as well as a newspaper editor. She also won several awards for narrative and feature writing. Following graduation, Howe went into small-town journalism where she worked as a reporter and then humor columnist in Lincoln County, Oregon. Currently, Howe freelances for local publications as well as blogs on LGBTQ issues for the Huffington Post.



Livingston Award finalist and AltWeekly Award winner **SHARYN JACKSON** is an enterprise journalist based in Minneapolis. A features reporter at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, she was previously a news reporter writing for USA Today and the Des Moines Register in Iowa, and an editor at the Village Voice in New York City. She earned a Master of Science with honors Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. She currently serves on the leadership team of the Minnesota chapter of NLGJA.



GINA JOHNSON is the executive producer of "69 News at Sunrise" at WFMZ-TV in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Johnson has been working at the station for seven years, starting out as a weekend producer, then working her way up to the morning show managing role. She also serves as the station's social media personality for its high school football show, "The Big Ticket." Prior to WFMZ, she worked at WNEP-TV in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and WYLN-TV in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. She serves on the Board of Governors for the National Broadcasting Society, an organization that helps college students learn more about the electronic media industry. She also serves on the board for the Mid-Atlantic Region of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.



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JOSHUA JOHNSON is the host of “1A,” which is produced by NPR member station WAMU 88.5 and distributed nationally by NPR. Johnson is a breakout public media star, most recently creator and host of the provocative nationwide public radio series, “Truth Be Told,” which explored race in America. Johnson began his career helping to launch a unique partnership between Miami’s NPR station, WLRN, and The Miami Herald. He served for over five years as morning news host for KQED in San Francisco, where he became one of the station’s stars. Johnson was born and raised in West Palm Beach and has a passion for lifelong learning. The son of a public school teacher (mother) and a Vietnam veteran (father), he says that his parents instilled in him the values of love, learning and service. Johnson has a natural affinity for working across media platforms. He teaches podcasting at the University of California, Berkeley School of Journalism and frequently moderates public discussions, including a recent series on equity in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is also an active member of the National Association of Black Journalists.

ADAM JOSEPH joined the ABC6 Philadelphia Action News weather team in April 2005, and is currently the weekday meteorologist. Joseph started his career at WBOY-TV as the chief meteorologist in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Shortly after, he landed a job with WSAZ-TV in Charleston-Huntington, West Virginia. It was there he received the prestigious AMS Seal of Approval for Television, as well as several awards for meteorology excellence. Joseph fills in on ABC’s “Good Morning America” when needed.



RYAN KADRO is executive producer of “CBS This Morning,” overseeing all aspects of America’s fastest growing morning news broadcast. Kadro has been with the broadcast since its development in 2011 and launch in 2012. He was named co-executive producer of “CBS This Morning” in December 2015.



EVAN ROSS KATZ is the style editor for Mic.com and a contributor to Men’s Health, Refinery29, Out, Men’s Fitness, Schön, F*cking Young, Maxim, The Advocate and The Manual. He previously served as managing editor for Logo’s NewNowNext.



NAVEEN KUMAR is a writer and editor living in New York City. He is a theatre critic for Towleroad. He contributes to Refined29, GQ and Entertainment Tonight. He is a proud alumnus of Vassar College and recently earned his masters degree in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University. Naveen contributes reviews, artist interviews, and other theatre related news and features.



EDEN LANE is a freelance MMJ/reporter/producer. Her work is most often seen in Denver on KBDI-PBS, KMGH-TV and KUSA-TV. Now in its 10th season, “In Focus with Eden Lane” is a weekly series with over 300 episodes. After covering the 2008 Democratic National Convention and being outed as a “Transgender TV Reporter” by the National Review while covering Colorado politics, Lane was widely cited as America’s first on-air transgender television reporter.



Emmy Award-winning **BRETT LARSON** is weekday morning anchor on Fox News Headlines 24/7 on SiriusXM 115, covering the latest news from the campaign trail, global events, sports, entertainment and everything in between. Larson also appears regularly on the Fox News Channel and Fox Business Network covering the latest news in the world of technology and science.

VINCE LATTANZIO is a digital and television journalist for NBC10.com and NBC10 News. He worked six months with the digital team investigating the issue of opioid addiction in the Philadelphia region and beyond. They discovered a generation of addicted people and a public health and law enforcement system ill-equipped to save them. Lattanzio’s work has been celebrated with several journalism awards, including national and regional Edward R. Murrow Awards and regional Emmy Awards.



BRANDON LAUNERTS is a social media associate producer at CBS News. He began his career at NBC’s WTVJ in Miami at age 18 and had the honor of receiving an Emmy before he could legally drink alcohol. He quickly advanced to become the station’s first social media producer before moving on to the market’s Fox affiliate, WSVN. In October 2016, Launerts packed his bags for New York City where he’s currently operating the social media accounts for “CBS This Morning.”



In her role as president and CEO of VISIT PHILADELPHIA®, **MERYL LEVITZ** is responsible for building the region’s image and growing its tourism industry, worth \$10.7 billion in economic impact. Her job is to get people to visit Philadelphia. Levitz has spent more than 30 years working to get Philadelphia’s hospitality industry recognized as a vibrant one and to get Philadelphia and The Countryside® recognized as a premier destination. In 2016 alone, the region welcomed a record 42 million domestic visitors. Levitz works with VISIT PHILADELPHIA’s board and staff to build Greater Philadelphia’s image, drive visitation and boost the economy. The region’s official tourism marketing agency employs advertising, public relations, web and social media tactics, hotel marketing and research. After receiving bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Illinois, Levitz began her career as an educator but soon began promoting her adopted town of Philadelphia, first as co-founder of the Center City Proprietors Association in 1978 and later at the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.



SEAN LEWIS, an Emmy Award-winning journalist, has covered thousands of stories in his 10 years at WGN-TV in Chicago. He currently serves as weekend morning anchor and general assignment reporter. One of his first assignments was reporting on the 1997 floods in Fargo, Dakota. In 2001, reporting for CBS affiliate WISC-TV in Madison, he covered the tearful resignation of longtime Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, as Thompson was tapped to become Secretary of Health and Human Services. Lewis also served as morning anchor in Rockford and Weekend Anchor at NBC affiliate WWBT-TV in Richmond, Virginia.





RANDY LOVELY was named vice president of community news for the USA TODAY Network in March 2016. Lovely is responsible for guiding the network's local newsrooms. From February 2011, Lovely was senior vice president, news and audience development at The Arizona Republic in Phoenix. He was responsible for the strategic content and audience development for all Republic Media properties, including The Arizona Republic, KPNX and azcentral.com. He came to The Arizona Republic in 2002 as managing editor and became executive editor in 2005.

TOBIN LOW is the co-host of "Nancy," WNYC Studios' LGBTQ-themed podcast about how we define ourselves and the journey we take to get there. Prior to "Nancy," Low was a producer on WNYC Studios' "More Perfect," the Radiolab spinoff about the Supreme Court. His work has also appeared on "Marketplace," "Studio 360" and the "Codebreaker" podcast. He is the recipient of a 2015 STEM-story grant from PRX, and was a New Voices Scholar at the 2014 Third Coast Festival Conference. Tobin was once a professional cellist, and attended circus camp as a child.



JOE'L LUDOVICH is a three-time Emmy nominated producer and winner of several Telly and Communicator awards for "Philly LIVE," a nightly live call-in talk program on WYBE Public Television, in which she was one of the original producers who launched the show. Philly LIVE also received a Pennsylvania Broadcaster's award as well as a Mid-Atlantic Emmy nomination in 2001 for "Best Talk Show Series."

ERIC MARCUS is the creator and host of the "Making Gay History" podcast, which brings to life the voices of champions, heroes and witnesses to LGBTQ history. He is the author of a dozen books, including the award-winning "Making Gay History: The Half-Century Fight for Lesbian & Gay Equal Rights," "Why Suicide?" and "Is It A Choice?" He is also co-author of "Breaking the Surface," the No. 1 New York Times best-selling autobiography of Olympic diving champion Greg Louganis. Marcus is a former associate producer for ABC television's "Good Morning America" and "CBS Morning News." He also served as associate producer for "Stonewall Uprising," a PBS "American Experience" documentary.



KRISTINA MARUSIC is a full-time freelance journalist based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She writes stories related to LGBTQ equality, feminism, bisexuality and politics for outlets like the Washington Post, Slate, Vice, Women's Health, Fusion, MTV News, The Advocate and Logo TV's NewNowNext, among others.

JEFF MASON is a White House correspondent for Reuters and the 2016-2017 president of the White House Correspondents' Association. He was the lead Reuters correspondent for President Barack Obama's 2012 campaign and interviewed the president at the White House in 2015. Jeff has been based in Washington since 2008, when he covered the historic race between Obama, Hillary Clinton and John McCain. He is a Colorado native, proud graduate of Northwestern University and former Fulbright scholar.



HENRY MAULDIN is currently a manager of talent and producer of film, television and digital content based in Los Angeles. He is producer of "Beyond the Butch Mystique," a feature documentary that revisits the butch-identified black lesbians who appeared in the 2003 award-winning short film "Butch Mystique." This new film will explore the changes in their lives over the years, particularly within the context of the growing gender identity movement. Previously, Mauldin was the director of talent development for CNN Worldwide.

CODY McCLOY is a photo editor at CNN.com. He writes for CNN.com's award-winning photo blog (CNN.com/photos), which features new and unseen photography from photographers all over the world.



JEFF McMILLAN is the Eastern U.S. enterprise editor for The Associated Press, overseeing efforts to cultivate and execute high-end enterprise, investigative journalism and cross-format storytelling for 10 states from Ohio to Maine. He is also a member of the AP Stylebook team and helped lead the creation of sections on gender and addiction. He previously was a supervisor on the AP's former national desk, a copy and graphics editor at Newsday and a copy editor at the Star Tribune of Minneapolis. He is a past officer of NLGJA chapters in Philadelphia and Minnesota, as well as a past member of the national board. He lives in Philadelphia.

CHERYL METTENDORF is a special projects producer who works with the investigative team at Action News in Philadelphia. For the past 10 years, Mettendorf has helped hundreds of Action News viewers, doing everything from working with consumers to get their hard-earned money back to holding legislators and unscrupulous business owners accountable. Through all her work, Mettendorf says she is guided by the belief in the power of producing memorable moments, with targeted content featuring unforgettable interviews and impactful video.



KEN MIGUEL is a multiple Emmy Award-winning special projects producer at KGO-TV in San Francisco. In his over two decades at the station, he has done just about every job in the newsroom. He currently shoots, writes and edits the stories he produces and runs the station's drone program. Miguel is a former NLGJA chapter president for the Northern California Chapter, served as a national board member, and is currently the vice president of broadcast. He also runs NLGJA's Rapid Response Task Force, addressing unfair and inaccurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.

EVAN MILLWARD is a reporter and anchor at WCPO-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio. He joined the station in July 2014, after nearly three years as an anchor, reporter and producer at KMIZ/KQFX in Columbia, Missouri. He knows the small market newsroom well. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Millward is a proud Ohio University alumnus (go Bobcats!) and has had his work recognized by the Cincinnati and Central Ohio chapters of SPJ, the Kansas City Press Club and both the Ohio and Missouri Broadcasters Association.



2017 CONVENTION SPEAKERS



CARLOS N. MOLINA is an activist, community educator, and artist with over 25 years of experience working for the HIV/AIDS, Latino/a people of color, and LGBTQ communities. He is currently the creative director and editor in chief at Amida Care, a not-for-profit Medicaid health plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New

Yorkers with chronic conditions, including HIV and behavioral health disorders. Prior to joining Amida Care, Molina was the editor of SIDAahora, the first national HIV/AIDS magazine in the United States, and he was a leadership trainer for the D.C.-based LLEGO, The National Latino/a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Organization. He has a degree in mathematics and computer science from the University of Puerto Rico and studied fashion design in Paris.

AKILAH "KIKI" MONIFA is an author, writer, blogger, storyteller, microblogger, vlogger and an African-American lesbian mother of two teens living and loving in Oakland, California. She is the author of "Bedazzled and Bamboozled" and "Republishing Huff Post" both collections of her writings and available for free download in iBooks. She also writes for "The Progressive Media Project" and DivorcedMoms.com. She is the editor-in-chief/co-founder/co-publisher of Arise 2.0, a global digital publication by LGBTQ folks of color and our allies and for everyone. A.K.A. Akilah Bolden-Monifa and Elizabeth Ann Thompson.



RAND MORRISON is the executive producer of "CBS Sunday Morning." He is the winner of 10 Emmy Awards, two George Foster Peabody Awards and two Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards. Under Morrison's leadership, "CBS Sunday Morning" has earned two Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Morning Program.

CRAIG NAKANO is the Los Angeles Times arts and culture editor. He started as assistant travel editor at the Los Angeles Times in 2009. Prior to that, he worked as a section editor for the San Francisco Chronicle and as copy editor, assistant features editor, and Sunday features editor at The Desert Sun in Palm Springs, California.



ED O'KEEFE is a senior vice president, overseeing CNN Digital's premium digital businesses including CNNMoney, CNN Politics, CNN Style and more. Before joining CNN, O'Keefe served as editor in chief of NowThisNews. Prior to NowThis, he spent twelve years at ABC News.

LAUREN OBER is the host of WAMU and NPR'S "The Big Listen." Before taking the helm, she was an award-winning radio producer. Her stories have been heard on public radio shows like NPR's "All Things Considered" and "Morning Edition," "Here and Now" and "Latino USA," as well as podcasts such as "Criminal," "99% Invisible" and "Gravy." Currently, Ober is a board member of the Association of Independents in Radio. She is a graduate of the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, American University and the Transom Story Workshop. A proud Pittsburgh native, Ober has a deep and abiding love for pierogi.



MICHAEL ODER's desire to tell stories started at family events and holidays. Recruiting his younger brother as a cameraman, Oder interviewed nearly anyone including friends and teachers. Oder got his start in television at KBTX-TV in Bryan, Texas. While there, he went from photographer to reporter to producer. In 2011, he took over the co-anchor seat on "Brazos Valley This Morning." In 2014,

Oder left Texas to work in Birmingham, Alabama. For two years, he explored the Deep South as a reporter and fill-in anchor. In 2016, he returned to KBTX as assistant news director.

LAURIE ORLANDO is the senior vice president of Talent Strategy for CBS News, where she oversees new talent recruitment and development, and strategic planning for the news division. Before joining CBS in January 2016, Orlando served as senior vice president, talent development and planning at ESPN, a position she had held since 2008. During her career, Orlando has held significant production and programming positions, having played a key role on startup teams that launched five networks, including The Comedy Channel (1989), Classic Sports Network (1994), Oxygen Media (1999), CSTV (2003) and The Mtn (2006). She began her career in television in 1980 as a news intern with WRGB-TV in Albany, New York. Orlando graduated from Syracuse with a Bachelor of Science degree in international relations from The Maxwell School of Citizenship, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in television and film writing from the Newhouse School of Public Communications.



Originally from Chicago, Illinois, **ERNEST OWENS** is an award-winning multimedia journalist and editor for Philadelphia Magazine's G Philly. A graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, he launched a career in media as a talk radio show host for WQHS Radio and as a video producer and op-ed columnist for The Daily Pennsylvanian. He is currently producing and starring in his own television talk show "Ernestly Speaking!" at Philadelphia Community Access Media where he is the youngest TV talk show host in Philadelphia. His work has been featured on The Huffington Post, USA Today, Al Jazeera English, The Advocate, The Root and other media outlets.

TERRY PARRIS JR. is ProPublica's engagement editor. Prior to joining ProPublica, he led digital production and engagement at WDET 101.9 FM, NPR's affiliate in Detroit.



DAVID PAVLOSKY is a documentary filmmaker and educator based in New York City. His recently completed works include "PUZZLES: When Hate Came to Town," which explores the correlation between American economic desperation, homophobia, intolerance and, ultimately, violence; "Passionate Politics: The Life and Work of Charlotte Bunch," about a pioneering strategist, lesbian activist and organizer; "Don't Bring Scott," a lyrical documentary about the underlying desire for family and community told through the voice of the filmmaker. Pavlosky received his MFA in integrated media arts and bachelor's in media from Hunter College and is the coordinator for the Department of Film and Media Studies at Hunter College.



ADAM K. PAWLUS is executive director of NLGJA—The Association of LGBTQ Journalists. Prior to joining NLGJA, Pawlus served the Physicians for Social Responsibility as its director of operations and at the Voluntary Protections Programs Participants' Association as the deputy executive director and director of communications and outreach. Pawlus serves on the NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia Board of Directors and is an active member of many nonprofit organizations in the Washington, D.C. area. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science and speech communications from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master of Arts in journalism and mass communications from the University of Georgia at Athens.

STEVEN PETROW is a respected journalist and the go-to source for modern manners, as cited by The New York Times, People, Time and NPR. His usually gentle, often humorous, but always insightful advice has made him a nationally recognized expert. In addition to his five etiquette books, Petrow writes the "Civilities" column for The Washington Post, as well as "Manners Hero" for Parade and "Medical Manners" for Everyday Health. Previously, he penned The New York Times's "Civil Behavior" column. He is a former president of NLGJA.



PHILLIP PICARDI is the digital editorial director at Teen Vogue and Allure. He manages onsite content, video, and social media. He launched Teen Vogue's wellness and political coverage, pushing the brand from 2 million to 12 million unique monthly visitors in under two years, while gaining major press momentum, two Webby Awards, an ASME and GLAAD Award nomination, and more.

ERIK PIEPENBURG is a senior editor on the Culture desk of The New York Times and the theater editor of NYTimes.com. He has been at the Times since 2003. Previously he was a digital producer at NBC 5 in Chicago, and a former president of the Chicago chapter of NLGJA.



LYDIA POLGREEN is editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post. She was named to that post in December 2016 after spending nearly 15 years at The New York Times, where she led an initiative to expand its audience outside the United States, with an initial focus on Latin America. Previously, Polgreen was deputy international editor, the South Africa bureau chief, a correspondent for the New Delhi bureau and chief of the West Africa bureau. Before joining The Times, Polgreen was a reporter in Florida and New York state. She began her career as assistant editor and business manager for The Washington (D.C.) Monthly. Polgreen was a 2006 recipient of the George Polk Award for foreign reporting, in recognition of her travels deep into the war-torn western regions of Sudan to report on the carnage in Darfur. She received the 2008 Livingston Award for international reporting for her series "The Spoils," an account of how mineral wealth has brought misery and exploitation to much of Africa. In 2007, she was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.



SUZANNE POLI's social activism photography career began with the Stonewall Riots on the night of June 27, 1969. Her images follow the New York City Pride March and Parade from its post-Stonewall origin as the Christopher Street Liberation Day March to the present, constituting a visual history and complete social, political and artistic documentation of the event's evolution and of the progress of the LGBTQ movement in New York City.

JANET QUEZADA is a senior strategist in Spanish-language and Latino media at GLAAD. She pitches stories about LGBTQ issues to the Spanish-language media, works to amplify the voices of Latino LGBTQ people in both Spanish- and English-language LGBTQ media, conducts media training and blogs about coverage of Latino LGBTQ issues.



ELLEN RATNER is the bureau chief and White House correspondent for Talk Media News, covering the White House and providing exclusive reports to talk radio stations from the Congress and government agencies. In addition, she is a credentialed reporter at the United Nations in New York. Ratner is a news analyst on Fox News Channel where she has a segment called, "The Long and Short of It" with Jim Pinkerton. She is heard on more than 400 stations across the U.S. representing individual stations as well as syndicated shows. She is also the only talk show host granted two in-person interviews with President Bill Clinton. Ratner also served as the political editor and Washington bureau chief for Talkers Magazine, the "bible" of the talk industry. In her capacity as political editor, she developed the concept of combining radio rows with immediate Internet access.

KEVIN RECTOR covers the Baltimore Police Department and city crime. Kevin joined The Baltimore Sun as a breaking news reporter in 2012, is an Ellicott City native and a Terp, and has never been on a road trip he didn't love.



EBONY REED, director of innovation and the Futures Lab at the Reynolds Journalism Institute, is an associate professor at the Missouri School of Journalism. She previously was executive advertising director at the Boston Business Journal and director business development (U.S.) Local Markets at the Associated Press. Reed was named as one of the top 40 business leaders in Boston under 40 in 2015.

VICTORIA "VIX" REITANO is an international speaker and trainer, social media and content strategy expert and a writer. She is also the CEO and founder of CreatiVix Media, where she manages content and digital strategy for brands like This Old House, Christine Hassler, Link AKC and Susan Verde. Her byline has been featured in the Huffington Post, BuzzFeed, USA Today, ThisOldHouse.com, Levo League, Thrive Global, AOL's Patch.com and Muckrack.com.



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CATHY RENNA is managing partner at Target Cue, an LGBTQ and HIV focused public interest communications firm. Prior to that, she was a founder of Renna Communications. As a consultant for over a decade, she has partnered with scores of diverse organizations and projects. In addition, Renna worked with GLAAD for 14 years and is nationally recognized as a media and communications expert and leader within the LGBT community.

DAVID RHODES is president of CBS News, where he oversees the news division and all news content for the CBS Television Network, CBS digital platforms and CBS News Radio. Rhodes is responsible for the “CBS Evening News,” “CBS This Morning,” “CBS Sunday Morning,” “Face The Nation,” “48 Hours” and America’s most-watched news program “60 Minutes,” online as well as CBSNews.com and CBSN — the first-of-its-kind digital streaming news network available online and on all connected devices. He was named president of CBS News in February 2011 and assumed the sole leadership of the news division in 2015.



MO ROCCA has been a correspondent for “CBS Sunday Morning” since 2011. He joined the broadcast as a contributor in 2006. Rocca is also the host of “The Henry Ford’s Innovation Nation,” part of CBS’s Saturday morning lineup of educational/informational programming. He is the creator and host of “My Grandmother’s Ravioli” on Cooking Channel. Rocca is a panelist on NPR’s

hit weekly quiz show, “Wait, Wait ... Don’t Tell Me!” Rocca got his start in television as a writer and producer for the PBS children’s series “Wishbone.” He went on to write for The Jim Henson Company’s “Wubbulous World of Dr. Seuss” on Nickelodeon and ABC’s animated series “Pepper Ann.”



MEGAN ROSSMAN is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and professor. She is working toward her MFA and teaching at Hunter College. Previously, she was the director of video for Teach For America and a multimedia journalist at The Washington Post. She has been a mentor for NLGJA’s student training program since 2010.

RYAN RUGGIERO has been a part of the CNBC family since March 2006. He currently serves as the senior assignment desk manager for CNBC. Ruggiero is responsible for helping oversee all of CNBC’s global newsgathering coverage and managing its award-winning internship program. In addition to helping run the assignment desk, Ruggiero was one of the key architects of starting CNBC’s social media strategy, which has now become a leader among business news outlets. Ruggiero currently serves as the editor of CNBC’s travel-related social media pages.



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ED SALVATO is co-author, along with Jeff Guaracino, of the “Handbook of LGBT Tourism & Hospitality Marketing: A Guide for Business Practice.” He is currently editor in chief of ManAboutWorld gay travel magazine and previously held that title at Out Traveler and Out & About.

SENTA S. SCARBOROUGH lives in Los Angeles, where she is pursuing an MFA in creative writing and writing for the performing arts at the University of California Riverside Palm Desert. She focuses on screenwriting and creative non-fiction projects. She is an award-winning journalist and Emmy-nominated producer. She currently serves on the board of directors for NLGJA.



JILL SCHLESINGER CFP®, is the Emmy-nominated business analyst for CBS News. She covers the economy, markets, investing and anything else with a dollar sign on TV, on the “Better Off” podcast, radio (including her nationally syndicated show), the web and her blog, “Jill on Money.” Schlesinger also serves as the Senior CFP Board Ambassador for the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. Prior to her second career at CBS, Schlesinger spent 14 years as the co-owner and chief investment officer for an independent investment advisory firm. She began her career as a self-employed options trader on the Commodities Exchange of New York, following her graduation from Brown University.

Walter Cronkite called published author **MARK SEGAL** a friend, Hillary Clinton told him he was more tenacious than she and Barack Obama just felt that they needed to sit down and talk, and they did. But most in the LGBTQ refer to Segal, founder and publisher of the Philadelphia Gay News, as the dean of American gay journalism. Respected by his peers for pioneering the idea of local LGBTQ newspapers, he is one of the founders and former president of both The National Gay Press Association and the National Gay Newspaper Guild.



ARI SHAPIRO has reported from above the Arctic Circle and aboard Air Force One. He has covered wars in Iraq, Ukraine and Israel, and he has filed stories from five continents. (Sorry, Australia.) In 2015, Shapiro joined Kelly McEvers, Audie Cornish and Robert Siegel as a weekday co-host of “All Things Considered,” NPR’s award-winning afternoon newsmagazine. Shapiro was previously NPR’s international correspondent based in London, from where he traveled the world covering a wide range of topics for NPR’s national news programs. Shapiro is a frequent guest analyst on television news programs, and his reporting has been consistently recognized by his peers. The Columbia Journalism Review honored him with a laurel for his investigation into disability benefits for injured American veterans. An occasional singer, Shapiro makes guest appearances with the “little orchestra” Pink Martini, whose recent albums feature several of his contributions. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Yale. He began his journalism career as an intern for NPR Legal Affairs Correspondent Nina Totenberg, who has also occasionally been known to sing in public.



GAIL SHISTER, a senior writing fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, was inducted into the NLGJA Hall of Fame in 2008. One of the first “out” mainstream journalists in the United States, she began her career in 1974 at The Buffalo Evening News as its first woman sportswriter, a barrier she also broke in New Orleans in '75 and Philadelphia in '79. After 30 years at The Philadelphia Inquirer — including 25 as television columnist — Shister joined University of Pennsylvania as a critical writing instructor.

A full baker’s dozen. That’s how many years **JANA SHORTAL** has worked as a journalist for KARE 11 news in Minneapolis. It is also the same amount of time she has spent wondering if she could ever really be that much-needed addition to the now defunct Destiny’s Child. But she’s for sure gonna name her first child, Destiny, just to get remotely close to that brand. Other tidbits. She is from a town you’ve never heard of but it’s a 40-minute drive from St. Louis. She once sold her 10-year anniversary gift from KARE 11 to an ex so she could buy a pair of Air Jordans. And her dog is named Vivian Ward. And yes, that Vivian Ward. She and Vivian heart Minneapolis so hard they sometimes cry about it when they take their morning poop walk.



CHOIRE SICHA is the editor of the Styles section at The New York Times. Prior to that, he managed publishing partnerships across Vox Media (publishers of Vox.com, The Verge, SB Nation, Eater, Curbed, Racked, Polygon and Recode), helping those brands succeed with Facebook, Google, Snapchat, Apple and Twitter. He is a co-founder of The Awl and worked previously as an editor at Gawker.

SANDY SMITH is the home and real estate editor at Philadelphia magazine, whose staff he joined in fall 2015. A native of Kansas City, Missouri, he got hooked on journalism at his high school newspaper and has been scribbling away ever since. His start in Philadelphia was as a reporter for the Philadelphia Gay News from 1983-87. Since then, he has launched award-winning staff and alumni periodicals at the University of Pennsylvania and Widener University and written for several local and regional publications, including The Philadelphia Inquirer. His involvement in Philadelphia’s LGBTQ community has included singing in the Philadelphia Gay Men’s Chorus and serving on the coalition that produced a groundbreaking report on discrimination in the city’s gay bars in 1985.



JOE SOLMONESE is currently the managing director and founding partner of Gavin/Solmonese. He most recently sat on the board of Priorities USA. He sits on the national boards for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and Athlete Ally, an organization that engages with professional and amateur athletes to speak out against bullying. He served for seven years as the president of the Human Rights Campaign. Under his leadership, HRC was instrumental in passing the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, the repeal of “don’t ask, don’t tell” and marriage equality victories in seven states. Solmonese also served as one of 35 national co-chairs of the Obama 2012 campaign.

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BROOKE SOPELSA is the managing editor of NBCOut.com, NBC News' LGBTQ digital destination, which showcases enterprise reporting, original video and other unique content about and of interest to the community. Previously, Sopelsa was a producer at the Huffington Post, a producer at MSNBC.com and a writer and producer at CNBC.com.

Meteorologist **STEVE SOSNA** joined NBC 4 New York's "Storm Team 4" in October 2011 as the senior weather producer for weekday "Today in New York." Sosna is the digital and social media meteorologist for NBCNewYork.com and has appeared as an on-air meteorologist for MSNBC during severe weather events. Sosna joined NBC 4 from KAAL-TV in Rochester, Minnesota, where he was a weekday morning meteorologist and on occasion appeared on KSTP-TV in Minneapolis-St. Paul. Sosna started his career at NBC 4 New York recording local weather updates for NBC Weather Plus and was a freelance meteorologist for News 12 Connecticut and News 12 Weather and Traffic. Storm Team 4, as part of NBC 4 New York's outstanding coverage of Hurricane Sandy, won a New York Emmy, a National Emmy and Edward R. Murrow Award and rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange. Sosna graduated from Kean University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in earth science with a concentration in atmospheric science. Sosna is a proud member of OUT @ NBC Universal, NBC Universal's LGBT & Straight Alliance. A native of Philadelphia, Sosna, his partner, and rescue dog Joey live in Manhattan.



CURTIS SPARRER is one of the principals of Bospar, a boutique PR firm that in 2017 was named a "Best Place to Work" and "PR Agency Campaign of the Year" by the Business Intelligence Group. Sparrer was previously an Emmy Award-winning executive producer of KRON-TV. His writing has appeared in a variety of outlets, including the Dallas Morning News. He pivoted to PR in 2008, using his media experience to be named one of Business Insider's "50 Best Public Relations People In The Tech Industry." Sparrer's PR strategies have been covered in Forbes: "Which PR Coverage Produces The Highest Results? This New Poll May Surprise You." Adweek has also published his articles "Why Tech Companies Need a Broad Media Strategy," "How to Make the Client-Agency Relationship Work" and "PR Lessons Learned From Donald Trump" among others.



DAVID STEINBERG worked as a journalist for nearly 30 years, including more than 20 years at The San Francisco Chronicle, where his most recent position was copy desk chief and Sunday metro editor. In July 2017, he became executive assistant to the director of the San Francisco Department of Public Works and has responsibility for all public records requests, scheduling public hearings and investigating whistleblower complaints. He served for 11 years on the NLGJA board of directors, including four years as national president. During his tenure, NLGJA joined UNITY: Journalists for Diversity. He represented NLGJA on the UNITY board from 2011-14 and served as president of the minority journalism coalition in 2013 and 2014. Now that he is no longer an NLGJA officer, you're most likely to spot him at a conference wearing an Aloha shirt.



DUSTIN STEPHENS is an Emmy Award-winning producer for "CBS Sunday Morning." His work for the number-one rated morning news program has been recognized with two National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards, a Wilbur Award for religion reporting, the Lowell Thomas Award from the Society of American Travel Writers and two Daytime Emmys. Prior to joining CBS News, Stephens was a producer for NBC News. He began his journalism career with the documentary unit at Fox News. He graduated with honors from Rice University.

BLAINE STEWART is a 20-year veteran of television and radio newsrooms, which obviously means he started working at the age of 10. For the past decade, Stewart has anchored the morning and midday newscasts at WTKR-TV, the CBS affiliate in Norfolk/Virginia Beach, Virginia. He's also spent time at stations in Georgia, Mississippi and his hometown of New Orleans. He's also a radio personality in his spare time. When Stewart is away from work, he enjoys frequent naps, judging people from afar and exercising poor portion control at meals. In short, Blaine Stewart is a cat.



DOUG STEWART, a lifetime member of NLGJA, has worked for FOX61 in Hartford, Connecticut, since 1995 as a videographer, operations manager and as a web producer. He teaches video production at Manchester Community College. He taught journalism at Boston University and Quinnipiac University, where he received his master's in interactive communications. His is a past NLGJA chapter president, board member and vice president of broadcast.



When **SVEN SUNDGAARD** joined KARE 11's weather team in March 2006, he already knew his way around the office. Sundgaard had interned at KARE 11 in 2002 while he was pursuing his meteorology degree at St. Cloud State University. Sundgaard recently earned his American Meteorological Society's Seal of Approval.



TIM TEEMAN is a senior editor and writer at The Daily Beast and the author of "In Bed With Gore Vidal: Hustlers, Hollywood and the Private World of an American Master." Before joining The Daily Beast, Teeman was US correspondent at The Times of London. He was honored at the 2016 NLGJA Excellence in Journalism awards, in the Journalist of the Year category, and in the Interviewer of the Year category for his Daily Beast interview with Jane Clementi, mother of Tyler Clementi.



JUNE THOMAS has been podcasting at Slate since 2005. She has worked at the magazine since 1997, with stints as copy chief, foreign editor, culture critic and founding editor of Outward, the magazine's LGBTQ section. She is now managing producer of Slate podcasts. She has also written for Advocate, Bloomberg Businessweek, Bloomberg Pursuits, Marie Claire, Newsday, the New York Times' T Magazine, Pacific Standard, Tennis and other publications. A native of Manchester, England, she now lives in Brooklyn.





KATHY TU is the co-host of “Nancy,” WNYC Studios’ LGBTQ-themed podcast about how we define ourselves and the journey we take to get there. She is the head of “Nancy” West Coast operations (read: she sometimes works in Los Angeles). Prior to “Nancy,” Tu worked on “The Memory Palace,” “The Mortified Podcast,” “Masterpiece Studio” and others. And she wants it noted that this whole hosting thing makes her very uncomfortable, but she’s leaning the eff in.



THE REV. NATHAN C. WALKER is executive director of the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute in Washington, D.C. As a religious liberty educator, he specializes in issues of religion in public life as it relates to civil and human rights. He is the co-editor “Whose God Rules?” and “The Oxford Handbook on Religion and American Education.” Walker is an openly gay Unitarian Universalist minister and graduate of Union Theological Seminary. He studied law and religion as a fellow at Harvard and as a doctoral student at Columbia University.

DREW TUMA is a meteorologist at ABC7 KGO-TV San Francisco. He graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science in meteorology. He started his career at WHSV TV3 Winchester in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia as the chief meteorologist where he received the prestigious AMS Certified Broadcast Meteorology seal. Shortly after, he landed a job at WTTG-TV in Washington, D.C. He covered all different types of weather events while working in the Mid-Atlantic, including Hurricane Sandy and the devastating Tornado Outbreak in 2011.



JOCELYN “JOZ” WANG oversees Nissan North America Inc.’s engagement with LGBTQ and Asian influencers as part of its multicultural PR outreach team at The Allen Lewis Agency. A digital entrepreneur creating spaces for under-represented voices, she is editor in chief and CEO of the popular collaborative online publication 8Asians.com, which features original, diverse commentary by Asians from around the world. She is also a contributor to blogging.LA, flagship site of the Metblogs Network. In 2011, she acquired Metblogs and now runs the entire international network—consisting of over 50 sites worldwide—as its publisher and CEO. She is the creator, executive producer, and host of “Post Show and Tell,” the postvshow for the hit sitcom Dr. Ken, starring Ken Jeong on ABC. Joz was nominated in 2013 for the Women’s Media Center Social Media Award and is a member of NLGJA.



KRIS VAN CLEAVE was appointed CBS News transportation correspondent in September 2015 and is based in Washington, D.C. He previously served as a correspondent for CBS Newspath, the Network’s 24-hour television newsgathering service for CBS stations and broadcasters around the world. Since joining CBS News in 2014, Van Cleave has covered a number of breaking news stories including the deadly derailment of Amtrak train 188, the Boston Marathon bombing trial and the crash of Germanwings 9525.



ERRIN HAINES WHACK is an award-winning journalist focused on the intersection of race, politics and culture, including civil and voting rights, the black electorate and issues of inequality and injustice. Originally from Atlanta, she is currently based in Philadelphia as an urban affairs writer for The Associated Press. She has previously worked at The Washington Post, The Orlando Sentinel and The Los Angeles Times.



DANIEL VILLAREAL is a Texican atheist, cultural activist, lover of illicit substances and poop jokes and longtime queer journalist who lives in Dallas. (Don’t pity him. He loves it.) Villarreal turned whimsical tales from his dysfunctional family into a creative writing MFA from Columbia University. He has worked as day editor for Queerty.com, regular contributor to Towleroad.com and media manager for Here Media Inc., and he currently serves as senior editor for Hornet Networks and UnicornBooty.com. He is also a founder of QueerBomb Dallas, a non-corporate alternative pride event, and CinéWilde at the Texas Theatre, the nation’s only monthly LGBTQ film series. He’s also a Libra, if you believe in that crap.



DON WEISE has more than 20 years’ publishing experience, the majority of which has been devoted to LGBTQ literature. Weise was named by Publishers Weekly as an industry “Change Maker” and listed among Out Magazine’s “100 Most Intriguing Gay Men and Lesbians” of the year. Weise is currently the founder/publisher of the LGBTQ press Querelle Books.



LINDA VILLAROSA is the director of the journalism program at the City College of New York in Harlem and teaches writing and media studies courses. A former executive editor at Essence Magazine, she was also the health editor of The New York Times, where she wrote dozens of stories on medical, social justice and LGBTQ issues. In June 2017, her article “America’s Hidden HIV Epidemic” appeared on the cover of the New York Times Magazine. As an author, Villarosa has written a number of books, including the Lambda-Literary award nominated novel, “Passing for Black.” Along with her mother and sister, she runs Villarosa Media, a boutique publishing company.



CHRISTOPHER WINK is a community journalist and entrepreneur. He is the cofounder and editorial director of Technically Media, which publishes local tech news and events network Technical.ly and social impact site Generocity.org. In that capacity, he is a lead organizer of Philly Tech Week and Baltimore Innovation Week, among other events that bring smart people together. Previously, he worked for a homeless advocacy nonprofit and was a freelance reporter.



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DEBORAH WOODELL is a multiplatform editor for sports and opinion at Philadelphia Media Network, where she has worked for 28 years. She is a senior adjunct professor of copy editing at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey, where she has taught for 18 years. She also has taught Rural Issues in the News for Rowan's honors program. Woodell also has won awards for her writing, as well as, in the "private sector," her painting.



JOHN YANG is a general assignment correspondent for the nightly news broadcast. Yang most recently served as a Chicago-based correspondent for NBC News, reporting for "NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt," "Today" and MSNBC. Yang was part of an NBC team that reported on "In Plain Sight: Poverty in America," a 2013 George Foster Peabody Award recipient, and his reporting in April 2011 on tornado devastation in Alabama was included in an "NBC Nightly News" broadcast that received an Edward R. Murrow Award for "Best Newscast."

The versatile **VITTORIA WOODILL** appears on "Eyewitness News" as feature reporter on a variety of segments including "Taste with Tori," a tour of the region's great eats and the people behind them, and "CBS 3 down the Shore." She has rappelled down a 31-story building, driven a monster truck and eaten her way through numerous food festivals. But she lists her coverage of Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia as the highlight of her career so far. Her live reports from her iPhone in the midst of the faithful gathered to see the Pope were some of the most memorable and spontaneous moments of CBS 3's continuous coverage of the event. Vittoria started her on-air career with the CBS family as a member of The CW Philly Crew in 2008. She had also worked for CBS Radio in Philadelphia. In 2013, she rejoined the station as a traffic reporter directly from cable's Tango Traffic where she had worked since 2010.



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