

NLGJA

The Association of LGBTQ Journalists



Year in Review

ABOUT NLGJA

NLGJA – The Association of LGBTQ Journalists is the premier network of LGBTQ media professionals and those who support the highest journalistic standards in the coverage of LGBTQ issues.

NLGJA provides its members with skill-building, educational programming and professional development opportunities. As the association of LGBTQ media professionals, we offer members the space to engage with other professionals for both career advancement and the chance to expand their personal networks. Through our commitment to fair and accurate LGBTQ coverage, NLGJA creates tools for journalists by journalists on how to cover the community and issues.

NLGJA's Goals

- Enhance the professionalism, skills and career opportunities for LGBTQ journalists while equipping the LGBTQ community with tools and strategies for media access and accountability
- Strengthen the identity, respect and status of LGBTQ journalists in the newsroom and throughout the practice of journalism
- Advocate for the highest journalistic and ethical standards in the coverage of LGBTQ issues while holding news organizations accountable for their coverage
- Collaborate with other professional journalist associations and promote the principles of inclusion and diversity within our ranks
- Provide mentoring and leadership to future journalists and support LGBTQ and ally student journalists in order to develop the next generation of professional journalists committed to fair and accurate coverage

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** For more information about NLGJA, visit www.nlgja.org **

From the Desk of the President

Jen Christensen



For many in our industry and our community, 2017 was a year of challenges. The year saw continued attacks on the press and fervent attempts to destroy the credibility of reputable outlets and journalists. In the LGBTQ community, we've seen the rolling back of protections for transgender students, the administration's endorsement of candidates who do not believe LGBTQ people deserve equal rights or protections and backing by the United States Department of Justice of a baker who refused to sell a wedding cake to a same-sex couple. In many ways, 2017 was a "doozie" (AP is still determining the appropriate spelling for that word.)

Still, for NLGJA, 2017 was a year of growth and success, and our members and supporters showed a renewed commitment to our mission. Ever resilient in the face of challenges in both the news industry and the LGBTQ community, our members were galvanized to dig in their heels and throw themselves behind NLGJA's mission. As a result, our organization became stronger.

Not only did NLGJA see an increase in membership this year, nearly all of our national events drew larger crowds than in recent years past. Members long absent have come back into the fold with new enthusiasm, and I was thrilled to see many new faces among the cherished familiar at our convention at the beautiful Loews Philadelphia Hotel in September.

Each national event this year allowed us to hear from journalists who are on the frontlines every day elevating LGBTQ voices and leading by example. Our events saw representation from all of the major news outlets, as well as countless LGBTQ publications. It amazed me to hear so many speakers at our events credit NLGJA with having a significant impact on their career.

At Headlines & Headliners in April, Don Lemon told the audience that NLGJA was instrumental in giving him the courage to come out. At L.A. Exclusive in June, Lisa Ben Award winner Marc Malkin reminded us that he landed his first job after attending the Career & Community Expo at NLGJA's first National Convention. At Dateline:DC in November, Randy Shilts Award winner Scott Simon recounted lending a notebook to a warlord in Afghanistan. The notebook had imprinted on the cover NLGJA's slogan, "We're here, we're queer, we're on deadline."

NLGJA impacts the lives of journalists from all corners of the industry, from those who are in front of the camera, to those who publish from their own home computers. Much like the community's rainbow flag, NLGJA members represent a wide variety of distinct demographics and professional responsibilities. But under NLGJA, we are a whole, a united front dedicated to the mission of bettering the coverage of our community. Now, more than ever, it is essential that we come together under that mission.

When you return to your newsrooms and offices in the new year, I hope you will help us continue to grow the circle of NLGJA. Talk about the great people you've met through NLGJA and the professional programs you've experienced, and encourage your colleagues to join our ranks. We know there are still more LGBTQ journalists out there we can help, and they in turn can help us make our profession and our coverage so much better. From the bottom of my heart, I extend my sincerest gratitude for a terrific year and wish you a pleasant and prosperous 2018.

From the Desk of the Executive Director

Adam K. Pawlus



As I reflect on the successes of 2017, one word continues to come to mind: collaboration. I am floored by the level of unity and cooperation that I've seen in NLGJA this year. It was the hard work of dedicated people that made the successes possible, and have laid a foundation for future success. The instances of collaboration between individuals and organizations reach nearly all of NLGJA's programs.

Early this year, NLGJA worked with the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) and the National LGBTQ Task Force to publish a new Spanish-language version of the Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology. The resulting *El Manual de Estilo Sobre La Comunidad Lesbiana, Gay, Bisexual y Transgénero* seeks to expand NLGJA's reach in promoting fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues and people to Spanish-speaking journalists and publications.

NLGJA celebrated the 20th anniversary of our CONNECT: Student Journalism Project, which has trained over 200 budding journalists. One of NLGJA's signature programs, CONNECT empowers students to produce news under the direction of professional journalists in a supportive newsroom. I'm astounded each year by the relationships forged in the newsroom between students and their mentors, who work together to produce fresh and high-quality content. In addition to the anniversary, we celebrated Caroline Que, who has been a dedicated mentor and project manager in the CONNECT newsroom for over a decade, and proudly presented her with the Michael Triplett Service Award this year.

For the very first time, the Arcus Foundation joined NLGJA and the Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund to expand the LGBT Media Journalists Convening, held in Orlando this year. The added support allowed the convening to host more participants, expand by an additional day and share parts of the event online. Participants visited the site of the Pulse Nightclub shooting and the agenda featured presentations on the journalists who covered the attack, the responses of the local communities and a first-hand account from a survivor of the attack.

NLGJA has also continued to partner with organizations to shed light on the HIV & AIDS epidemic. In June, NLGJA joined forces with the Elton John AIDS Foundation and the Knight Foundation, as well as HIV-focused magazines including POZ and PLUS to create the 'Bodies on the Line' HIV Memorial Project. Launched by HIV journalists and editors, the project seeks to honor the lives and legacy of their 200+ colleagues who died of AIDS, and those who made contributions to HIV coverage. The project included an HIV reporting scholarship, "The Kiki," designed to support working journalists in different media to report on frontline issues of the HIV epidemic that are under-reported. I'm also proud that NLGJA completed our second year as a partner of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS program. Our New Ways program, through trainings, fellowships and specially designed online resources enhanced strategies and skills in covering prevention, treatment and stigma reduction of HIV & AIDS.

All of these programs and successes have helped us to make good on our promise to foster and promote fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community. Still, none of this would have been possible without the financial backing of our members, sponsors and supporters. Thanks to increased support by sponsors and supporters, NLGJA is now in a more secure financial situation than we have been in several years. We look forward to using our increasing stability to improve our existing programs and explore new ways to better serve our members and expand our reach.

In the following pages, I invite you to learn more about our programming and accomplishments throughout the year and join us in celebrating our 27th year as an organization. NLGJA's success is your success. Thank you for your dedication to NLGJA's mission, and I look forward to working with you in 2018.

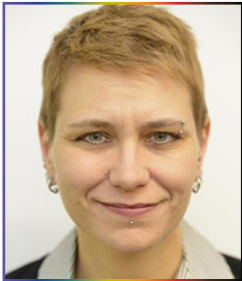
Board of Directors and National Office Staff

Nationally, NLGJA is led by a board of directors that reflects the association's geographic and professional diversity. Headquartered in Washington, DC, NLGJA's professional staff handles the day-to-day operations of the association.

NLGJA Executive Committee



Jen Christensen
President
CNN



Sarah Blazucki
VP, Print & Online
U.S. Dept. of Justice



Sharif Durhams
VP, Broadcast
CNN



Ken Miguel
Treasurer
KGO-TV



Rick Stuckey
Secretary
NBC Chicago

NLGJA National Board of Directors



Oriol Gutierrez
POZ



Eric Hegedus
New York Post



Belinda Hernandez
CNN



April Hunt
Emory University



Christina Kahrl
ESPN



Steve Rosen
Aloysius Butler & Clark



Senta Scarborough
Freelance



Lorraine Sembra
Turner Broadcasting



Kristina Torres
Atlanta Journal-Constitution



Jeff Truesdell
PEOPLE Magazine



Eric Walter
WHYY

National Office Staff:



Adam K. Pawlus
Executive Director



Maya Blackmun
Development and Project Director



Sachelle Brooks
Administrative Assistant



Dillon Lewis
Communications and Marketing Coordinator

* NLGJA thanks **Brett Larson** and **Robin Phillips**, whose terms expired in September 2017, for their service*

NLGJA Chapters

Arizona

Wyatt Buchanan, Chapter President
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Jeremy Fox, Chapter President
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Holly Crenshaw, Chapter President
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Peter Rosenstein, Chapter Contact
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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 start a chapter in your area!*

Student Chapters

Arizona State University

Alex Stevenson, Chapter President
ajsteve3@asu.edu

City University of New York

Columbia University

Indiana University

Tristan Fitzpatrick, Chapter President
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Northwestern University

University of Missouri

TJ Thomson, Chapter President
contact@cenevox.com

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of Oregon

Bethany Howe, Chapter Contact
bethany.grace.uoregon@gmail.com

University of Texas, Austin

Forrest Milburn, Chapter President
fmilburn@utexas.edu

Membership Overview

Membership Categories

Basic

People who derive income from the gathering, editing or presentation of news or editorial content for print, broadcast or online.

Associate

People are former journalists, who hold media-related jobs, including public relations, or journalism educators.

Retired

People who no longer work full-time but who, when working, qualified for Basic membership.

Student

People just entering the field, engaged/enrolled in high school an educational institution of higher learning or under the age of 25 planning to pursue a career in journalism.

LGBTQ Media

People who derive income from the gathering, editing or presentation of news or editorial content for broadcast, online or print LGBTQ Media.

International

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

Ally

People who support NLGJA's mission, but are NOT former journalists or part-time journalists, do not hold media-related jobs, or are not qualified to be a member in any other category.

Lifetime

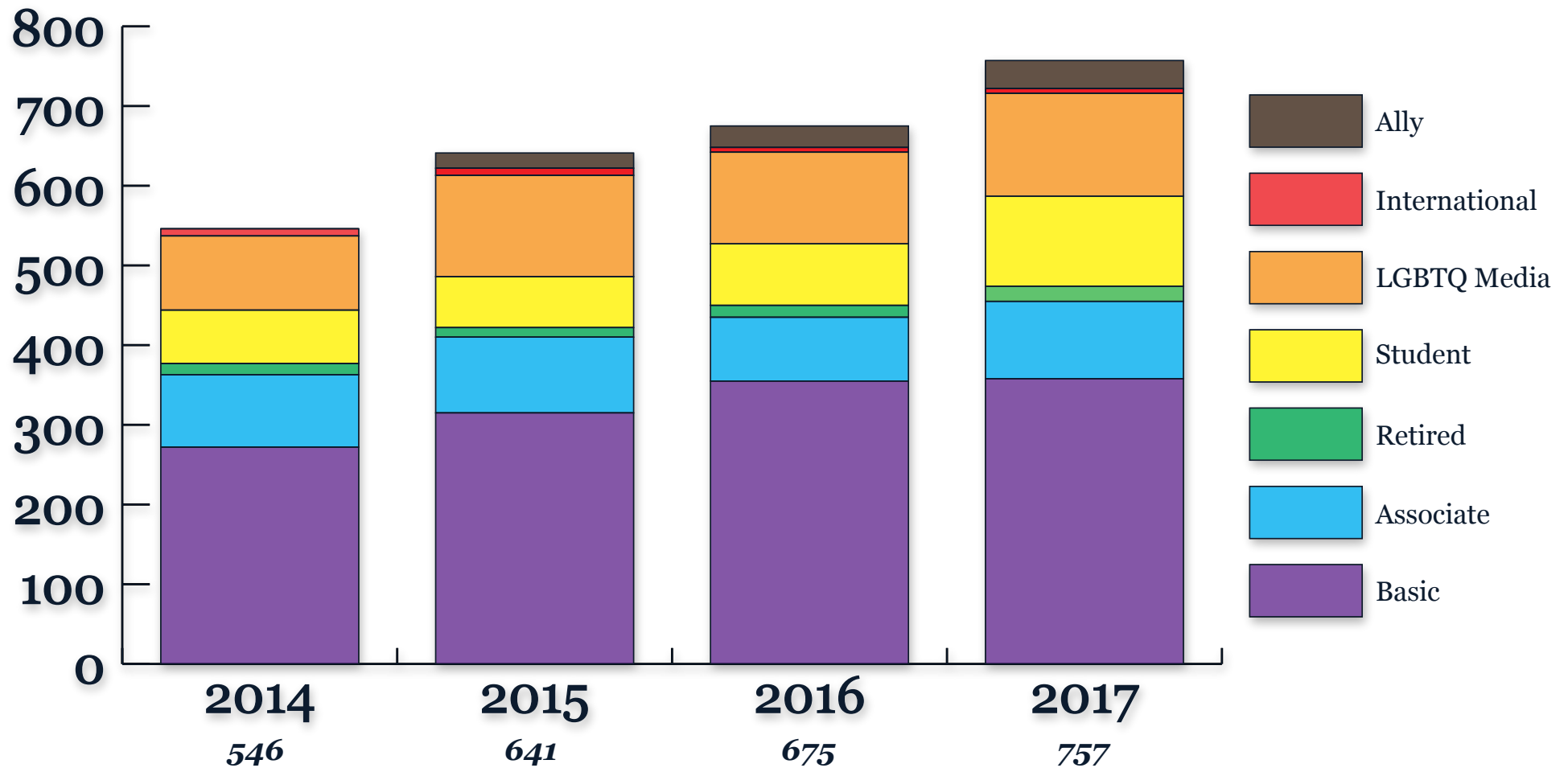
People who are classified as one of the other membership categories, but have devoted their extended interest and financial commitment to NLGJA and its mission.

NLGJA's strength lies in membership. More than 20 local and regional chapters expand the reach of NLGJA's mission and keep members connected through local coordinated events.

Chapter events in 2017 included:

- **Philadelphia Chapter:** *Before the official kickoff of NLGJA's National Convention, the chapter hosted a happy hour with the Philadelphia chapter of the Online News Association. At this reception, members of ONA and NLGJA were able to meet and network.*
- **Washington, DC Chapter:** *The chapter hosted a journalism job fair. It was a joint effort by the Georgetown University Master's of Professional Studies in Journalism program and the Washington, D.C., chapters of NLGJA, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and the Asian American Journalists Association. It brought together a diverse pool of local and national candidates of all experience levels.*
- **South Florida Chapter:** *The chapter took part in an open discussion on how journalists can better serve the community through reporting. NLGJA's South Florida chapter, Society of Professional Journalists of Florida and the Stonewall National Museum & Archives hosted this event.*

Membership Data



**Lifetime members are included in the membership totals above*

NLGJA Lifetime Members

Randy Alfred, 1995	Scott Dill, 1997	Kathleen Howley, 2003	Ken Miguel, 2003	Randy Slovacek, 2015
Kenn Altine, 2002	Randy Dotinga, 2000	Mike Huckman, 1994	Akilah Monifa, 2000	Chuck Small, 1990
Karen Bailis, 1995	Barbara Dozetos, 1999	April Hunt, 1996	Daniel Morales, 2003	Sandy Smith, 2011
David Barre, 1999	Sharif J. Durhams, 2000	Leonard P. Iaquina, 1996	Javier Morgado, 2003	Samantha Snyder, 2008
Robert Bennett, 2013	Dawn Ennis, 2014	Derrick Jones, 2013	Thomas Musbach, 1995	Curtis Sparrer, 2012
Matthew Berger, 2002	Chad Findlay, 2005	Wesley Juhl, 2013	Donald Parsons, 1999	David Steinberg, 1998
Sarah Blazucki, 2007	Calvin Fleming, 2007	Christina Kahrl, 2011	Court Passant, 1996	Douglas Stewart, 1995
Ron Blum, 2007	Alan Flippen, 1996	Jason Knight, 2007	Steven Petrow, 1994	Rick Stuckey, 2005
Sherry Boschert, 1995	Ina Fried, 2000	Eden Lane, 2008	Robin Phillips, 1999	Hassan Luis Sudler, 2001
Ray Bradford, 2000	Steve Friess, 1996	Don Lemon, 2011	Catherine Plato, 2009	Stacy Sullivan, 1998
Gary Bramnick, 2004	Mathew Friedman, 1995	Sean Lewis, 2008	David Plazas, 2002	Curtis Tate, 2004
David Brousseau, 2001	Stephen Gendel, 1994	Randy D. Lovely, 1999	David Poller, 1996	Michael Tune, 2009
Dave Brown, 2000	Howard Goldberg, 1996	Mykel MacCarthy, 2000	Kevin Poortinga, 2017	Kris Van Cleave, 2015
William L Canacci Jr, 1996	Sue Green, 2006	Marc Malkin, 2017	Richard Quest, 2014	Meredith Vieira, 2015
Michael Caprio, 2005	Trey Graham, 1995	John Marble, 2007	Rick Reichmuth, 2015	Zach Wichter, 2010
Sam Champion, 2015	LZ Granderson, 2003	Christopher Martin, 2000	Cathy Renna, 1998	Robert V. Witeck, 1995
Jen Christensen, 1996	Jonathan Greenberger, 2015	David McAlpine, 2010	Steve Rosen, 1991	Judy Wolf, 1996
Holly Crenshaw, 1998	Oriol Gutierrez, 2002	Ian McCann, 2001	Steve Rothaus, 1991	Matt Wurster, 1996
Tim Curran, 1995	Eric Hegedus, 1993	Reed McDowell, 2010	Senta Scarborough, 2002	
Luis Cruz, 2005	Belinda Hernandez, 2013	Margaret McElligott, 2002	Gregory Schmidt, 1997	
Geoff Dankert, 1996	Simon Hobbs, 2015	Marshall McPeck, 1995	Mark Segal, 2004	
Jason DeRose, 2001	Bethany Howe, 2015	Jim Michalowski, 2003	Kim Severson, 1996	

Rapid Response Task Force

The Rapid Response Task Force is a panel of working journalists from mainstream and LGBTQ media that answers complaints about reporting seen as unfair or inaccurate by readers, viewers, listeners and peer journalists. Since its inception, the RRTF has not only informed countless newsrooms about appropriate terminology and the appearance of bias, but has also used these contacts to spread awareness about issues facing the LGBTQ community. The RRTF responded to several news incidents over the past year, including:

In March, NLGJA released a statement condemning the firing of WUTC-FM journalist Jacqui Helbert, who was ousted from her job after covering two Tennessee government officials in ways they did not like. Helbert did not directly identify herself as a journalist, but was holding a microphone and was wearing press credentials. University of Tennessee Chattanooga administrators decided to fire Helbert after facing pressure from the officials, who are part of the budget-making process for the university. NLGJA called for both the reinstatement of Helbert to her position and the creation of safeguards to ensure state officials don't overstep their bounds by interfering with journalists who are charged with covering them.

Informally, members of the RRTF used newsroom outreach to address issues. Among the incidents that members addressed individually was the misgendering of a transgender murder victim in Chicago.

The RRTF issued a letter of guidance for covering the Southern Baptist Convention in Arizona this year. Including statistics, the letter informed our members and friends about the existence of the convention, and pointed them to resources to help them better cover the convention, which was well-attended by people who have previously made public biased and inaccurate comments against the LGBTQ community.

NLGJA reissued last year's letter of guidance on covering military transgender policy in response to Donald Trump's tweets that the military would begin banning transgender service members. The letter was posted to Twitter and Facebook and was shared by several members on both platforms.

Additionally, NLGJA drew on guidance published in response to the Pulse Nightclub shooting last year to issue a letter advising journalists on how to cover the anniversary of the shooting. Among the pieces of guidance was to not assume a news subject's gender identity. The letter was shared through our social media channels, as well as on NLGJA's website.

Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology

In March, NLGJA launched a Spanish-language version of the Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology, *El Manual de Estilo Sobre La Comunidad Lesbiana, Gay, Bisexual y Transgénero*, in partnership with the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and the National LGBTQ Task Force. The Spanish-language version is now online at www.nlgja.org/stylebook. As part of the launch NLGJA Executive Director **Adam Pawlus** participated in a Facebook Live broadcast with NAHJ Executive Director **Alberto Mendoza**, NAHJ President **Brandon Benavides** and the National LGBTQ Task Force Trans Justice Project Director **Victoria Rodriguez-Roldan**. The discussion explored why the three organizations came together to create this iteration of NLGJA's Spanish-language stylebook. The video has over 3,000 views. The Spanish-language version was also included in the 2017 printing of the Stylebook. Additionally, the following entries were updated, and now read as:

stylebook

Closeted, in the closet

Refers to a person who wishes to keep their sexual orientation or gender identity secret. See coming out.

Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)

*The 1996 law signed by President Bill Clinton that limited federal marriage recognition to those between one man and one woman; overturned in part by the 2013 Supreme Court case *U.S. v. Windsor* and in full by the 2015 Supreme Court case *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Write out on first reference; may be referred to as DOMA in subsequent references.*

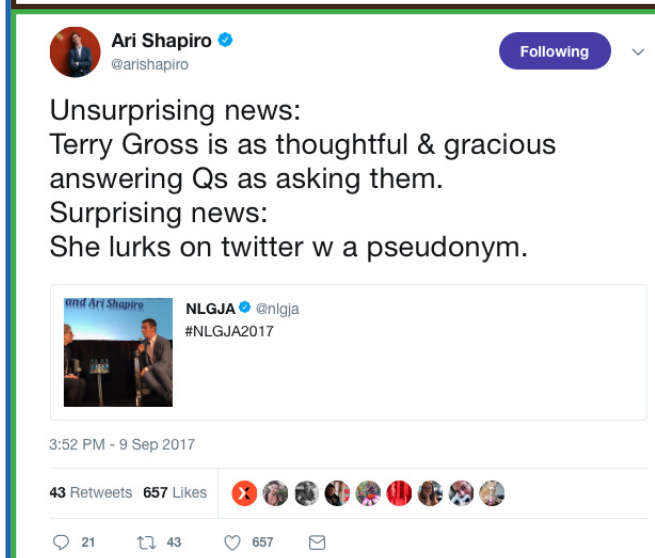
Marriage

Avoid modifying the word “marriage,” as advocates sought the right to marry not a variation of the legal rights. When there is a need for distinction, “marriage for same-sex couples” is preferred. When there is a need for shorthand, such as in headlines, “same-sex marriage” is preferred because it is more inclusive and accurate than “gay marriage.” See civil union, commitment ceremony, domestic partner, relationships.

Queer

Originally a pejorative term for gay, now being reclaimed by some gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and non-heterosexual people as a self-affirming umbrella term. Some people may identify their sexual orientation as queer because they find the other labels inaccurate or overly restrictive. Some straight people who identify with LGBT culture, such as children of queer parents, call themselves “culturally queer.” Queer is still offensive as an epithet to many.

Social Media Highlights



News Coverage & Mentions

"The first LGBT journalist group in Texas is forming at UT", *USAToday College*, April 12

"CNN's Don Lemon hosts 22nd annual NLGJA benefit", *AdWeek TV Newser*, April 21

"Journalists united", *Metrofocus PBS*, April 24

"Veteran entertainment journalist Marc Malkin exiting E! News", *The Hollywood Reporter*, June 1

"As the abbreviation grows, what does LGBTQIA stand for?", *Chicago Tribune*, June 8

"How Fox News has evolved since its tumultuous 2016", *Adweek TV Newser*, September 7

"LGBT and ally journalists to convene in Philly", *Philadelphia Gay News*, September 8

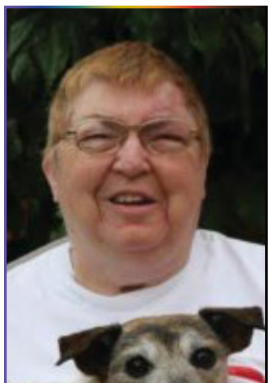
"Applaud journalism", *Philadelphia Gay News*, September 8

"'Fresh Air,' NPR host share stage and stories at LGBTQ journalists' conference in Philadelphia", *WHYY NewsWorks*, September 10

"Editor's Corner: Journalism conference leads to 'empowerment'", *The Rider News*, September 15

LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame

*Established in 2005 as part of NLGJA's 15th anniversary celebration, the LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame was launched to make sure that their stories are told and preserved — not just for us, but for all journalists and for our readers, viewers and listeners. This year, **Jinx Beers** and **Dan Savage** joined were inducted into NLGJA's Hall of Fame at the National Convention. A full list of NLGJA Hall of Fame Members can be viewed online at www.nlgja.org.*



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. Beers proudly served in the U.S. Air Force and the Active Guard Reserve. In civilian life, she held a range of public service roles for state and local governments – while nurturing The Lesbian News for its first thirteen and a half years. The recipient of many honors and awards, for her selfless dedication to the LGBTQ community, and to mark the first 75 years of her activism, she penned her autobiography: “Memoirs of an Old Dyke.”

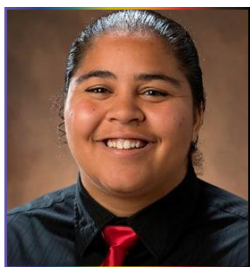


Dan Savage is an award-winning journalist and author, TV personality and activist best known for his political and social commentary, as well as his honest approach to sex, love and relationships. His sex advice column, “Savage Love,” introduced over 25 years ago, is now syndicated throughout the U.S., 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. He is the Editorial Director of The Stranger, Seattle's weekly alternative newspaper. 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 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.

Awards and Scholarships

*The NLGJA Excellence in Journalism Awards were established in 1993 to foster and recognize excellence in journalism on issues related to the LGBTQ community. Thank you to the hard work of Awards Chair **April Hunt** and the volunteer judges. This year, NLGJA added the Excellence in Religion Coverage to the program. The Al Neuharth Award for Innovation in Investigative Journalism is funded by Gannett.*



Katie Barnes

NLGJA
Journalist of the Year



Erik Hall

Sarah Pettit Memorial
LGBTQ Journalist of the Year

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 Travel Writing Award

Christopher Muther for "Raise a Glass to the Country's Newest, Most Boisterous National Monument", The Boston Globe

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 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

Santiago Garcia, Jordi Oliveres, Gerry Martinez and Fer 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

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

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 Radio Award

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

Excellence in Podcasts Award

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

Excellence in Local Television Award

Megan Mitchell and Cliff Naylor for “Two Spirits”, KFYZ-TV

Excellence in Network Television Award

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

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

Michelle Nash 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

Leroy F. Aarons Scholarship

Provides up to \$5,000 in tuition assistance to an LGBTQ student who plans to pursue a career in journalism and is committed to furthering NLGJA's mission of fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.

2017-2018 Recipient: Sally Smith

Kay Longcope Scholarship

Provides up to \$3,000 tuition assistance to an LGBTQ student of color who plans a career in journalism and is committed to furthering NLGJA's mission of fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.

2017-2018 Recipient: Kristine Xu

CONNECT: Student Journalism Project

The CONNECT program provides real-world experience to undergraduate and graduate students who are considering a career in journalism. During the week-long training, the selected students worked with mentors from organizations including Rebellious Magazine, Channel 6 Action News Philadelphia, The New York Times and more to report, edit, photograph, design and produce the news of NLGJA's National Convention and host city, while helping to ensure fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues at the event. This week-long program provides an opportunity for budding journalists to produce portfolio-quality journalism, network with media professionals and receive feedback on their résumés and career plans. Their stories were posted online at news.nlgjaconnect.org. This year, the CONNECT: Student Journalism Project celebrated its 20th anniversary. While the program hosted 11 students this year, over the course of the last 20 years CONNECT has hosted more than 200 student participants.

This year, the program celebrated its 20th anniversary. Over the past two decades, CONNECT has reached over 200 students and NLGJA celebrated the milestone at the National Convention. The CONNECTIONs Welcome Reception was held to celebrate the anniversary and featured a live interview between CONNECT alumna and NPR reporter **Neda Ulaby** and CBS News President **David Rhodes**.

Caroline Que once again served as Lead Project Manager and was awarded the Triplett Service Award for her decade of dedication to CONNECT. **Frances Fernandes, Karen Hawkins, David McAlpine, John-Michael Murphy, David OK, Megan Rossman** and **Brett Zongker** served as project mentors.



CONNECT participant **Salvatore Serpe** edits his filmmaking project.

CONNECT Participants

Gianluca D'Elia, *Rider 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 University*

Carmen Triola, *Eugene Lang College*

Salgu Wissmath, *Ohio University*

Crystal Wong Ching-Ying, *The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Hani Zaitoun, *Davidson College*

Special Programs

NLGJA Mentorship Program

The NLGJA Mentorship Program pairs members making the next step in their career with some of our seasoned, veteran members who have done it all before. The program aims to create lasting professional relationships between NLGJA members. These mutually beneficial partnerships provide important resources to help the next generation of leaders in journalism to succeed.

The Michael Triplett Series

The series is named in honor of **Michael Triplett**, longtime NLGJA member and former NLGJA President, who died in 2013. The most recent installment was held at NLGJA's 2017 National Convention and was titled, "Erased". This installment asked, "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)?" The discussion included an exploration of how religious elements affect what stories successfully break through and stick in the public consciousness. The panelists included Trevor Project vice chair **Chris Allieri**, former SPART*A president **Sue Fulton**, Vox.com senior editor **Michelle Garcia**, furniture executive and LGBTQ activist **Mitchell Gold**, former Human Rights Campaign president **Joe Solmonese**, and Newseum Religious Freedom Center director **Rev. Nathan Walker**. The discussion was moderated by Target Cue managing partner **Cathy Renna**.



*A student journalist gets insights from NLGJA CONNECT mentor
Frances Fernandes.*



***Cathy Renna, Chris Allieri, Sue Fulton, Michelle Garcia, Mitchell Gold, Joe Solmonese and Rev. Nathan Walker** discuss the intersection of politics, religious liberty and the LGBTQ community.*

New Ways: Reporting HIV & AIDS Today

In 2017, NLGJA completed our second year as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS program. With NLGJA's program, New Ways, we enhance strategies and skills in covering HIV & AIDS through trainings, fellowships and specially designed online resources to improve access to information for prevention, treatment and stigma reduction.

This included updating those who receive our weekly newsletter and social media alerts with information about awareness days focused on HIV & AIDS and African Americans, Women and Girls, Native Americans, Youth, the Transgender Community, Vaccine Awareness, Asian & Pacific Islanders, Testing, Aging, Gay and Bisexual Men, Latinos and the World. With the resources provided by NLGJA's New Ways, journalists in turn can better serve their viewers, readers and listeners with important information. Learn more about and from New Ways, including videos of trainings, at www.nlgja.org/newways. Highlights from 2017 include:

New Ways Philadelphia

"The HIV Stories You're Missing" was presented September 8 during the NLGJA National Convention in Philadelphia. The panel was moderated by **Cherri Gregg**, the Community Affairs reporter for KYW Newsradio in Philadelphia and featured **Chip Alfred**, director of Development and Communications at Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers, **Hilary Beard** of Philadelphia who runs Black AIDS Weekly and **Linda Villarosa**, director of the journalism program at the City College of New York in Harlem and a New York Times Magazine contributing writer. Alfred offered tips on how to do more and get it right, Villarosa shared insights gained from her deep reporting for her expansive Times Magazine cover story "America's Hidden HIV Epidemic" in June and Beard delivered a rapid-fire extensive list of HIV stories that need to be told.



Hilary Beard, Linda Villarosa, Chip Alfred and Cherri Gregg at New Ways Philadelphia.

New Ways: Reporting HIV & AIDS Today

New Ways & NLGJA Board

NLGJA Board Members **Oriol Gutierrez** and **Ken Miguel** presented a compact whys-and-hows of HIV & AIDS coverage to their fellow board members and journalists at the Mid-Year meeting April 21 in New York. Gutierrez, New York-based editor-in-chief of POZ magazine and POZ.com, and Miguel, San Francisco-based ABC News KGO-TV Special Projects Producer, shared coverage strategies for board members to share with those they know in the news industry.

New Ways at NLGJA Benefit Events

NLGJA shared important Act Against AIDS information at our three benefit event receptions – Headlines & Headliners on April 20 in New York, L.A. Exclusive on June 20 in Los Angeles and on November 16 at Dateline:DC in Washington, D.C., and also as a partner at Bodies on the Line: A Memorial Event to Honor AIDS Journalists on June 23 in New York.

New Ways New Orleans

"Sisters Suffering in Silence: The HIV Crisis Ignored in Black Women" was presented August 9 during the National Association of Black Journalists Convention in New Orleans. With the leadership of NLGJA and NABJ member **Femi Redwood**, who also served as moderator, the panel featured **Olivia Ford**, a New Orleans-based Contributing Editor at TheBody.com, and **Natay Holmes**, a Digital Journalist for WJTV-12 in Jackson, Mississippi, in a discussion that included tips on producing nuanced, meaningful stories and practical advice on finding sources.



Olivia Ford, Femi Redwood and Natay Holmes at New Ways New Orleans.

NEW WAYS
REPORTING HIV & AIDS TODAY

ACT
AGAINST
AIDS
PACT
PARTNERING
AND COMMUNICATING
TOGETHER

2017 LGBT Media Journalists Convening

NLGJA hosted the 2017 LGBT Media Journalists Convening, sponsored by the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund and the Arcus Foundation, in Orlando, March 23-25. Based on feedback from previous attendees and the generous support of the event's sponsors, the convening was expanded to two days of programming. Members of the LGBTQ media were invited to attend an all-expense paid symposium in one of America's oldest cities to improve their journalism skills, while learning about issues of importance to the LGBTQ

community. Attendees spent the weekend attending seminars and mingling with their fellow attendees and other journalists. Attendees also visited Pulse Nightclub to pay their respects to the victims of the shooting that took place there.

As always, attendees were free to blog, tweet or post about the weekend's events using the hashtag, #LGBTMedia17. Many attendees and several folks who couldn't be in the room used the page to follow along with the day's events. The convening utilized recording technology to preserve some of the presentations, which are available on NLGJA's website. The convening planning committee included **Matt Foreman** of the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, **Andy Marra** of the Arcus Foundation, NLGJA President **Jen Christensen**, **Bil Browning** and **Joz Wang**.

Participating Outlets and Organizations:

#Boom Media	California Public	Queerty
8 Asians	Radio	San Diego Gay and
AndACTION	Lady Parts Justice	Lesbian News
Atlanta Journal-	League	Slate - Outward
Constitution	LGBTQ Nation	South Florida Gay
Atlantic Point, LLC	Logo/NewNowNext	News
Autostraddle	Mayer Media	Spitfire
Bay Area Reporter	Strategy	Communications
Boundless	Miami Herald	Tagg Magazine
Buzzfeed News	Mic	The Advocate
Colorlines	Mombian	The BiCast
Dallas Voice	My Fabulous Disease	The Gayly
ELIXHER Magazine	NBC News	The Midwest Eagle
Equality Case Files	NLGJA	ThinkProgress
Evelyn & Walter	Out & About	TransAdvocate
Haas, Jr. Fund	Nashville	TransGriot
Gay City News	Out Right Action	TransMilitary
Georgia Voice	International	UnicornBooty.com/
GO Magazine	People Magazine	Hornet Networks
Holy Bullies and	Philadelphia Gay	University of Florida
Headless Monsters	News	University of Oregon
Hotspots Central	Plus Magazine	Vox.com
Huffington Post	POZ	Washington Blade
Queer Voices	PQ Monthly	Watermark
JoeMyGod	QNotes	Windy City Times
KARE 11	Q Salt Lake	WKMG-TV
KPCC Southern	Magazine	



Headlines & Headliners

NLGJA's 22nd annual Headlines & Headliners benefit event was held on April 20 at the Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Signature Store in New York City. NLGJA National Board member **Eric Hegedus** and NLGJA Auctions Chair **Reed McDowell** served as co-chairs for the event. CNN's **Don Lemon** served as the event's host. An online silent auction accompanied the event. At the event, the 2016 Leroy Aarons Scholarship was presented to **Megan Rossman** and the 2016 Kay Longcope Scholarship was presented to **Francisco Vara-Orta**. Headlines & Headliners attendees were surprised when international superstar **Barry Manilow** walked into the event to show his support for NLGJA.



Mitchell Gold, Holly Crenshaw, Jen Christensen and Barry Manilow pose for a photo.



Reed McDowell and Eric Hegedus welcome attendees.



Headlines & Headliners Host Don Lemon addresses attendees.

Special Guests included:

Dari Alexander, WNYW
Jason Bellini, The Wall Street Journal
Gio Benitez, ABC News
Dan Bowens, WNYW
Frank Bruni, New York Times
Kenneth Craig, CBS News
John Bannon Dias, News 12
Ashley Dvorkin, FOX 411

Willie Geist, MSNBC
Kendis Gibson, ABC News
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Carolyn Ryan, New York Times

Michelangelo Signorile, SiriusXM
Baruch Shemtov, WNYW
Lauren Simonetti, FOX Business Network
Steve Sosna, NBC4
Joanna Stern, The Wall Street Journal
Joe Toohey, WNYW
Kris Van Cleave, CBS News
Jana Winter, investigative reporter

L.A. Exclusive

NLGJA's 2017 L.A. Exclusive event was held on June 20 at the L.A. LGBT Center's The Village at Ed Gould Plaza, and over 50 people came to show their support for NLGJA. The event was chaired by NLGJA Treasurer **Ken Miguel** and NLGJA National Board member **Senta Scarborough**. **Steve Holzer**, a longtime journalist and television producer, served as the event host. The Lisa Ben Award for Achievement in Features Coverage was presented to E! News reporter and editor **Marc Malkin**. Malkin was presented with the award for his commitment to bringing LGBTQ stories to light. Among the stories he covered was the announcement that Lily Tomlin would marry her longtime partner. His refusal to attend an event honoring Nancy Reagan because of his anger at the Reagan administration's record on the HIV & AIDS epidemic also gained national attention. In accepting the award, Malkin recalled attending NLGJA's first National Convention and landing a job during that convention's Career & Community Expo.



*L.A. Exclusive Co-Chair **Senta Scarborough** and Lisa Ben Award Recipient **Marc Malkin** at L.A. Exclusive.*

Dateline:DC

NLGJA's annual **Dateline:DC** event was held on November 16 at the Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Signature Store in Washington, DC. Over 130 members and friends of NLGJA registered for the event and came out to show their support for fair and accurate LGBTQ coverage. **Matthew Berger** and **Sarah Blazucki** once again served as event co-chairs, and NPR "1A" host **Joshua Johnson** served as event host.

NPR "Weekend Edition" host **Scott Simon** received the Randy Shilts Award for LGBTQ Coverage. In accepting the speech, Simon recounted that he carried NLGJA notepads bearing the slogan, "We're here, we're queer, we're on deadline," while on assignment in Afghanistan. Simon recalled that in meeting with a warlord and his staff, Simon handed one of the notepads to the man to assist with communication. He laughed thinking about the reaction western military forces must've had in discovering the notepad among the warlord's belongings.

Special guests included:

Matt Ackland, FOX5

Sarah Blackwill, NBC News

Mike Carter-Conneen, ABC7

David Culver, NBC4

Jonathan Greenberger, ABC News

Ed Henry, FOX News Channel

Evan Lambert, FOX5

Suzanne Malveaux, CNN

Kidd O'Shea, ABC7

Steve Rudin, ABC7

Steven Tschida, ABC7

Neda Ulaby, NPR

Kris Van Cleave, CBS News

Cecilia Vega, ABC News



Scott Simon accepts the Randy Shilts Award.



National Convention

NLGJA held its annual National Convention September 7-10 at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia. NLGJA President **Jen Christensen**, NLGJA Treasurer **Ken Miguel** and NLGJA National Board member **Eric Walter** served as convention co-chairs. Over 350 journalists, news executives, communications professionals and educators joined together to hone their craft and expand their networks with friends and colleagues, both new and veteran.

NLGJA Lifetime Members **Eden Lane** and **Sean Lewis** served as convention emcees. The opening reception featured a discussion between out meteorologists **Adam Joseph**, **Drew Tuma** and **Steve Sosna**, moderated by Miguel. The Miss Fancy Brigade, the only LGBTQ Mummies brigade, entertained attendees with weather-themed songs and dances. At the Closing Reception, NLGJA inducted **Jinx Beers** and **Dan Savage** into our LGBTQ Journalists Hall of Fame.

Among the highlights of this year's convention were the Author's Cafe and Career & Community Expo. This year the Author's Cafe was expanded to include podcasters, and attendees enjoyed learning about the terrific books and podcasts NLGJA members have been producing. Representatives from nearly every major media organization, including Comcast NBCUniversal, CBS News, FOX News Channel, Gannett and McClatchy, greeted attendees in the Expo Hall. Additionally, Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE) hosted a Watchdog Bootcamp that was attended by over 75 people.

2017 National Convention Plenary Sessions:

The View from the Top

Moderated by **Steven Petrow**. Panelists included: **Stephen Adler**, **Rick Berke**, **Karen Hawkins**, **Randy Lovely**, and **Lydia Polgreen**

Covering Trump

Moderated by **Marcus Mabry**. Panelists included: **Marilyn Geewax**, **Patrick Healy**, **Jeff Mason**, **Ellen Ratner**, and **John Yang**

Trans Military

Moderated by **Gautam Raghavan**. Panelists included: **Dave Cullen**, **Blake Dremann** and **Sue Fulton**

A Breath of Fresh Air

Panelists included: **Terry Gross** and **Ari Shapiro**

National Convention



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NLGJA extends its sincerest thanks to these grantors, sponsors and funders and their support for NLGJA's mission.

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The Florida Keys & Key West	Heineken USA	ABC News
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**More information about membership, events, programs
and other opportunities is available at
www.NLGJA.org**

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NLGJA works each day to advance fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ issues and people.
Please consider showing your support today at www.nlgja.org/donate.

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