

# 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 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 LGBTQ people 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 news industry
- 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](http://www.nlgja.org) \**

## From the Desk of the Executive Director

# Adam K. Pawlus



Change and growth were the themes for NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists in 2018. Over the course of the last year, NLGJA deepened its roots by focusing on infrastructure and strengthening existing programs, taking the organization's reach and impact to the next level.

With the support of longtime members and new members alike, NLGJA was able to create several new awards and scholarships to recognize the amazing work already being done to advance our mission and to support future LGBTQ journalists. The NLGJA Leadership Award and the Jeanne Córdova Award were both launched this year, and the Excellence in Journalism Awards program added three new categories to its roster.

NLGJA's scholarship program also expanded in 2018. Beginning this year, through a joint effort with the Facebook Journalism Project, NLGJA will award five \$10,000 scholarships for each of the next five years. NLGJA also launched the Steve Mason Sports Media Scholarship Award to encourage LGBTQ students to consider a career in sports journalism. Lifetime member and past board of director member Robin Phillips donated a legacy gift on behalf of her father to support students in financial need. Officially launching in 2019, the Phillips-Green Family Fund will provide tuition scholarships for up to two CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project participants annually.

With the support of the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund and the Arcus Foundation, NLGJA once again hosted the LGBT Media Journalists Convening. For the first time, however, the convening was held in conjunction with our annual National Convention. Approximately 50 journalists working in LGBTQ media were brought together in Palm Springs, CA to exchange ideas, develop professionally and expand their networks.

With all of the changes that NLGJA saw in 2018, one of the most noticeable was the passing of the torch from our Immediate Past President **Jen Christensen** to our new National Board President **Sharif Durhams**. There are no words to adequately express the impact that Jen has had on NLGJA over her past five years as president. Because of Jen's leadership, NLGJA is now able to shift our focus from stabilization to expansion and growth. I would also like to thank our "First Lady of NLGJA," **Holly Crenshaw**, for all of her support and patience through the past several years.

Under Jen's leadership, and with the support of a dedicated board of directors and staff, NLGJA has seen unprecedented growth over the last five years, including a 50 percent increase in membership, a 40 percent increase in National Convention attendance, triple the number of Excellence in Journalism Award categories and quadruple the number of scholarships offered to support future LGBTQ journalists.

With the election of Sharif Durhams as the new president of our association, NLGJA is entering a new phase of leadership and of growth. To begin this phase, the board of directors has launched a new strategic plan for 2019 and the years beyond, with the ultimate goal of expanding NLGJA's reach and impact.

In the following pages, I invite you to learn more about the exciting growth and developments that we saw in 2018. NLGJA's success is your success. Thank you for your continued dedication to NLGJA's mission, and I look forward to working with you in 2019.

# 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



**Sharif Durhams**  
President  
CNN



**Jen Christensen**  
VP, Print & Online  
CNN



**Belinda Hernandez**  
VP, Broadcast  
CNN



**Ken Miguel**  
Treasurer  
KGO-TV



**Rick Stuckey**  
Secretary  
NBC Chicago

## NLGJA National Board of Directors



**Sarah Blazucki**  
U.S. Dept. of  
Justice



**Karen Hawkins**  
Chicago Reader



**Eric Hegedus**  
New York Post



**April Hunt**  
Emory University



**Chris Martin**  
Bloomberg



**Senta Scarborough**  
Freelance



**Kristina Torres**  
Atlanta Journal-  
Constitution



**Jeff Truesdell**  
PEOPLE  
Magazine



**Eric Walter**  
WHYY

## National Office Staff:



**Adam K. Pawlus**  
Executive  
Director



**Elliot Ayres**  
Programs  
Assistant



**Maya Blackmun**  
Development &  
Project Director



**Sachelle Brooks**  
Membership  
& Programs  
Coordinator



**Dillon Lewis**  
Communications &  
Marketing  
Manager

\* NLGJA thanks **Oriol Gutierrez**, **Christina Kahrl**, **Steve Rosen** and **Lorraine Sembra**, whose terms expired in September 2018, for their service\*

# NLGJA Chapters

## **Arizona**

**Wyatt Buchanan**, Chapter President  
wyatt.buchanan@gannett.com

## **At-Large**

## **Boston**

**Jeremy Fox**, Chapter President  
jeremycfox@gmail.com

## **Central Florida**

**Chicago**  
chicago@nlgja.org

## **Georgia**

**Holly Crenshaw**, Chapter President  
hollycren@aol.com

## **Los Angeles**

**Joseph Fenity**, Chapter Co-President  
joseph@josephfenity.com  
**Ande Richards**, Chapter Co-President  
ande.nlgjala@gmail.com

## **Minnesota**

**Sharyn Jackson**, Chapter President  
ryn111@gmail.com

## **Missouri**

**Doug Moore**, Chapter President  
dmoore@post-dispatch.com

## **New York**

**Zach Wichter**, Chapter President  
zlwichter@gmail.com

## **Northern California**

**Catherine Plato**, Chapter President  
catherineplato@gmail.com

## **Philadelphia**

**Gary Bramnick**, Chapter Contact  
gbramnick@gmail.com

## **South Florida**

## **Washington, D.C.**

**Steven Overly**, Chapter President  
steven.overly@gmail.com

*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**

**Florida International University**  
**Harold D. Lopez**, Chapter President  
mrharolddaniel@gmail.com

## **Indiana University**

## **Northwestern University**

**University of Missouri**  
**TJ Thomson**, Chapter President,  
contact@cenevox.com

## **University of North Carolina**

**University of Oregon**  
**Kiva Hanson**, Chapter President  
kivaahanson@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

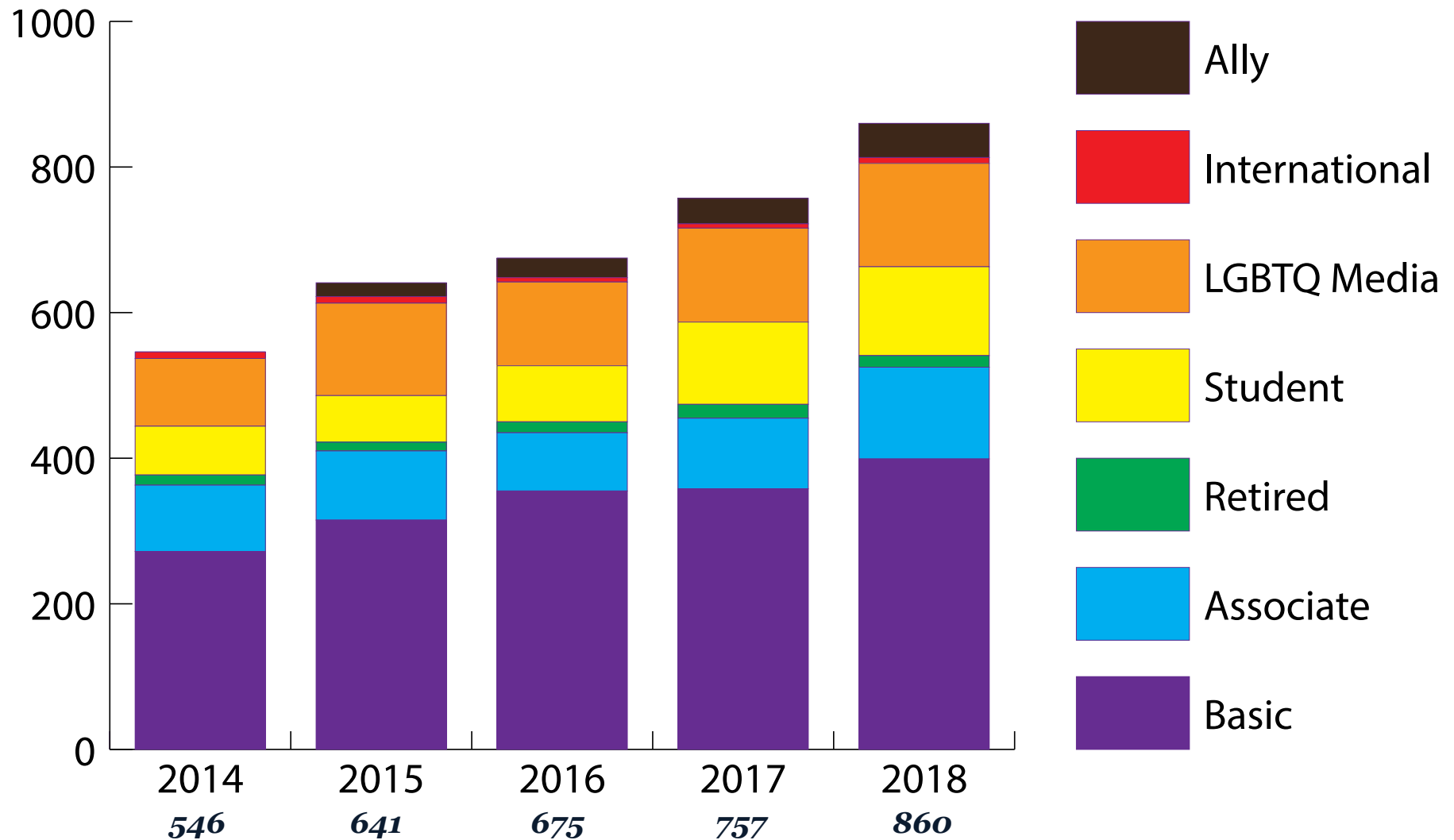
People who are classified as one of the other membership categories, but have devoted their extended interest and financial commitment to NLGJA and its mission.

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 2018 included:

- The **Pittsburgh** chapter organized several professional development events throughout the year, including panels called "Freelance Like a Pro" and "Reporting on HIV and AIDS in America Today".
- The **Boston** chapter hosted monthly trivia nights and quarterly events with partners in the local AAJA, NAHJ and NABJ chapters.
- The **Washington, DC** chapter hosted a happy hour on June 28 in honor of Capital Pride.
- The **Los Angeles** chapter facilitated a bootcamp in partnership with Google Labs and NABJ following a presentation about the CDC's #DoingIt and Act Against AIDS campaigns.

# Membership Data



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

# NLGJA Lifetime Members

|                            |                            |                           |                         |                          |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Randy Alfred, 1995         | Scott Dill, 1997           | Mike Huckman, 1994        | Daniel Morales, 2003    | Chuck Small, 1990        |
| Kenn Altine, 2002          | Randy Dotinga, 2000        | April Hunt, 1996          | Alex Morash, 2018       | Sandy Smith, 2011        |
| Karen Bailis, 1995         | Barbara Dozetos, 1999      | Leonard P. Iaquina, 1996  | Javier Morgado, 2003    | Samantha Snyder, 2008    |
| David Barre, 1999          | Sharif J. Durhams, 2000    | Derrick Jones, 2013       | Thomas Musbach, 1995    | Curtis Sparrer, 2012     |
| Robert Bennett, 2013       | Dawn Ennis, 2014           | Wesley Juhl, 2013         | Bryan Norcross, 2014    | David Steinberg, 1998    |
| Matthew Berger, 2002       | Chad Findlay, 2005         | Christina Kahrl, 2011     | Donald Parsons, 1999    | Douglas Stewart, 1995    |
| Sarah Blazucki, 2007       | Calvin Fleming, 2007       | Jason Knight, 2007        | Court Passant, 1996     | Rick Stuckey, 2005       |
| Ron Blum, 2007             | Alan Flippen, 1996         | Laurie Kozbelt, 2010      | Steven Petrow, 1994     | Hassan Luis Sudler, 2001 |
| Sherry Boschert, 1995      | Ina Fried, 2000            | Eden Lane, 2008           | Robin Phillips, 1999    | Stacy Sullivan, 1998     |
| Ray Bradford, 2000         | Mathew Friedman, 1995      | Don Lemon, 2011           | Catherine Plato, 2009   | Curtis Tate, 2004        |
| Gary Bramnick, 2004        | Steve Friess, 1996         | Sean Lewis, 2008          | David Plazas, 2002      | Katie Thomason,          |
| 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   | Lisa Van Arsdale, 2015   |
| William L Canacci Jr, 1996 | Trey Graham, 1995          | Marc Malkin, 2017         | Richard Quest, 2014     | Kris Van Cleave, 2015    |
| Michael Caprio, 2005       | LZ Granderson, 2003        | John Marble, 2007         | Rick Reichmuth, 2015    | Meredith Vieira, 2015    |
| Sam Champion, 2015         | Sue Green, 2006            | Christopher Martin, 2000  | Cathy Renna, 1998       | Eric Walter, 2003        |
| Jen Christensen, 1996      | Jonathan Greenberger, 2015 | David McAlpine, 2010      | Steve Rosen, 1991       | Zach Wichter, 2010       |
| Holly Crenshaw, 1998       | Oriol Gutierrez, 2002      | Ian McCann, 2001          | Steve Rothaus, 1991     | Robert V. Witeck, 1995   |
| Luis Cruz, 2005            | Eric Hegedus, 1993         | Reed McDowell, 2010       | Senta Scarborough, 2002 | Judy Wolf, 1996          |
| Tim Curran, 1995           | Belinda Hernandez, 2013    | Margaret McElligott, 2002 | Gregory Schmidt, 1997   | Matt Wurster, 1996       |
| Cyr Geoffrey-Martin, 2018  | Simon Hobbs, 2015          | Jim Michalowski, 2003     | Mark Segal, 2004        |                          |
| Geoff Dankert, 1996        | Bethany Howe, 2015         | Ken Miguel, 2003          | Kim Severson, 1996      |                          |
| Jason DeRose, 2001         | Kathleen Howley, 2003      | Akilah Monifa, 2000       | Randy Slovacek, 2015    |                          |

# Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology

*The following entries in the Stylebook on LGBTQ Terminology were added or updated in 2018:*

- **asexual:** As a noun or adjective, someone who doesn't experience sexual attraction.
- **gender fluid:** Refers to a person whose gender identity or expression is not fixed but can vary between, and extend beyond, male and female.
- **nonbinary:** Refers to a person whose gender identity and/or expression is neither male nor female. Nonbinary individuals may identify as somewhere between male and female, or reject a binary categorization of gender altogether. Use only if people refer to themselves as nonbinary, or in quotations or names of organizations. *See gender nonconforming, transgender.*
- **pansexual:** As an adjective, someone who experiences attraction without regard to sex, gender identity or gender expression.
  - **religious exemption:** Term that describes the right of individuals and others to be exempt from laws on the basis of religion, unless the government has a compelling interest to deny the exemption. Can also be politically charged.
  - **religious liberty, religious freedom:** Politically charged term used by some who believe religious beliefs should allow discrimination against LGBT and other minority communities. Avoid this and similar terms. *See religious exemption.*
  - **bisexual:** As a noun, an individual attracted to more than one gender. As an adjective, of or relating to sexual and affectional attraction to more than one gender. Does not presume nonmonogamy. Avoid other spellings in print (for example "bi-sexual"). *See biphobia.*
  - **gender dysphoria:** Medical diagnosis that identifies the unhappiness people experience when they feel their outward appearance of gender does not align with their mental and emotional state. This diagnosis given to transgender people is often a prerequisite to receive hormones or other transitioning treatments. Gender dysphoria replaces the outdated term "gender identity disorder." *See transgender.*
  - **lover:** Term preferred by some individuals for a person's sexual partner. "Girlfriend," "boyfriend" and "partner" may be acceptable alternatives. *See husband, relationships, wife.*
  - **queen:** Originally a pejorative term for an effeminate gay man, but sometimes used as slang among LGBTQ people. It sometimes describes a shared interest or disposition, for example: soccer queens, opera queens. Queen is offensive when used as an epithet. *See LGBT, LGBTQ.*

# Social Media Highlights



**Fran Drescher** @frandrescher · Jun 2  
I support @nlgja & the tireless efforts they make for the greater good, in their alliance with the CDC re HIV-AIDS & their positive presence in publications, online and broadcast media everywhere in support of LGBTQ image & civil liberties.



8 38 241



9 38

**GMU SPJ** @GMasonSPJ · 15 Nov 2018  
It's @GMasonSPJ's second year attending @nlgja's #DatelineDC networking event! Thank you to the folks over at NLGJA for this wonderful opportunity. #nlgja2018 Shoutout to our new friend, Nia, from GW for tagging along!



1 11



Anthony Rapp liked  
**Arlyn Gajilan** @arlyntg · 9 Mar 2018  
Thanks to Anthony Rapp @albinokid, @AChrisGajilan @jechristensen and all the @nlgja members who attended last night's Headlines & Headliners #NLGJA2018. @Reuters was proud to be this year's host sponsor! #workingatTR — at Thomson Reuters



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# Special Programs

## 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. This year, the RRTF responded to several news incidents, many surrounding coverage of transgender people, and publicly called for the White House to reinstate CNN reporter **Jim Acosta's** press credentials after they were revoked.

## 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 2018 National Convention and was titled, "Matthew Shepard: Twenty Years Later". This installment examined how attitudes and news coverage around anti-LGBTQ hate violence have changed in the twenty years since the murder of University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard, and the impact that a changing political landscape has on efforts to prevent future hate violence. The panelists included Matthew Shepard's parents, **Dennis** and **Judy Shepard**, as well as New York Anti-Violence Project Executive Director **Beverly Tillery**. The discussion was moderated by Target Cue managing partner **Cathy Renna**.



*Judy Shepard addresses the audience during the 2019 Michael Triplett Series, "Matthew Shepard: Twenty Years Later."*

# Inaugural Awards

## NLGJA Leadership Award

The New York Times Assistant Managing Editor **Carolyn Ryan** (right) was the inaugural recipient of the NLGJA Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals who have made a positive impact on their newsrooms by increasing diversity and improving coverage of the LGBTQ community. The recipients of the award may not necessarily be active journalists themselves, but have nonetheless used their work to improve the news industry and the journalism profession.

Ryan oversees the recruiting of journalists to The Times. Before joining The New York Times, Ryan was deputy managing editor for local news at The Boston Globe.

The NLGJA Leadership Award is made possible through the generosity and support of Randy Lovely and the Gannett Foundation.



## Jeanne Córdova Award

Rebellious Magazine for Women founder and editor-in-chief **Karen Hawkins** (right) was the first recipient of the NLGJA Jeanne Córdova Award. The award recognizes the achievement of an LGBTQ woman for a current body of work in journalism and/or opinion, with an emphasis on, but not exclusively coverage of issues of importance to the LGBTQ community, in any medium and on any platform.

Hawkins is an award-winning reporter and editor whose journalism background includes positions with The Associated Press, the Windy City Times, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and the Palm Beach Post. She is also the former director of communications for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

The award is named for Córdova, who was a journalist and the editor and publisher of Lesbian Tide, which chronicled the 1970s lesbian feminist movement. The award is possible because of Córdova's generosity, and is envisioned to be awarded annually at least through 2026.



# 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, **Hilton Als** and **Dudley Clendinen** were inducted into the Hall of Fame.*

*A full list of NLGJA Hall of Fame Members can be viewed online at [www.nlgja.org](http://www.nlgja.org).*



**Hilton Als** is a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, critic and social commentator. His work surrounding identity and queerness has earned him the praise of the nation's leading literary and cultural institutions. He is currently a staff writer and theatre critic at The New Yorker. His most recent book, *White Girls*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the winner of a Lambda Literary Award in 2014. He has worked across diverse media and has collaborated on installments and exhibitions at the Metropolitan Opera, La MaMa and the VeneKlasen/Werner gallery in Berlin. Als is currently an associate professor of writing at Columbia University's School of the Arts.

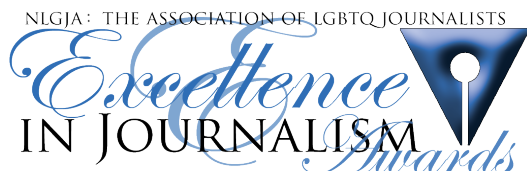


**Dudley Clendinen** was a national reporter and editor for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Baltimore Sun and The New York Times, frequently known for his writings on gay life, societal inequality, addiction and illness. Clendinen explored gay life in America, from the ravage of AIDS in the last decades of the 20th century, to his lens on gay rights activism, identity and community-building. He identified the need for AIDS coverage early in the epidemic, and advocated firmly for front page placement of news stories about the disease in The New York Times. In the final years of his life, when diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, he wrote frankly about illness, death and dying before he passed away in 2012.

# Excellence in Journalism Awards

*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. The Al Neuharth Award for Innovation in Investigative Journalism is funded by Gannett.*



**Ronan Farrow**

NLGJA

*Journalist of the Year*



**Diane Anderson-Minshall**

*Sarah Pettit Memorial*

*LGBTQ Journalist of the Year*

## **Excellence in Book Writing Award**

Judy Wieder for "Random Events Tend To Cluster", Lisa Hagan Books

## **Excellence in Feature Writing Award**

Kathryn Joyce for "She Was an Ultraconservative Texas Christian. Then Kai Was Born and Everything Changed", Splinter

## **Excellence in Feature Writing Award (Non-daily)**

Alex Mohajer for "A Tale of Two Marches", HuffPost

## **Excellence in Photojournalism Award**

Carolyn Van Houten for "Life in Transition", San Antonio Express-News

## **Excellence in News Writing Award**

Jen Colletta for "Lesbian Couple Turned Away From PA Bridal Shop", Philadelphia Gay News

## **Excellence in News Writing Award (Non-daily)**

David Artavia for "Sordid Lives Actor Alleges Mogul Benny Medina Tried to Rape Him", The Advocate

## **Excellence in Longform Journalism Award**

Laura Rena Murray for "Trans, Teen and Homeless: On the Streets of New York With America's Most Vulnerable Population", Rolling Stone

## **Excellence in Food Writing Award**

Zach Stafford for "Burned Out: Hot Chicken Was the Prince Family Legacy — Then Nashville Transformed it Into an Icon, and Now Everybody Wants a Piece", Eater.com

## **Excellence in Profile Writing Award**

Danika Worthington for "Portraits of Pride: An Exploration of the LGBTQ Community Ahead of PrideFest", Denver Post

## **Excellence in Sports Writing Award**

Tim Teeman for "When Floyd Mayweather Shouts 'Faggot', This Is What LGBT People Hear", The Daily Beast

## **Excellence in Student Journalism Award**

Leah Juliett for "Youth and LGBTQ Communities Disproportionately Victimized by Revenge Porn and Cyber Crimes", GLAAD

## **Excellence in Travel Writing Award**

Christopher Muther for "For Real: Salt Lake City is America's Super Gay, Super Cool Hipster Haven", The Boston Globe

**Excellence in Blogging Award**

Josh Robbins for “Fauci: From a Practical Standpoint the Risk is Zero”, ImStillJosh.com

**Excellence in Digital Video Award**

Roman Feeser, Alex Romano, Angelica Fusco, Nia Stevens and Luisa Garcia for “Uncharted: State of Mind”, CBS News

**Excellence in Multimedia Award**

Bill Daley for “Belmont Rocks: New Project Remembers Popular LGBTQ Gathering Spot”, The Chicago Tribune

**Excellence in Online Journalism Award**

Jessica Mason Pieklo for “Cakes for the Klan? Conservatives Craft a Trojan Horse in Supreme Court’s LGBTQ Discrimination Case”, Rewire.News

**Excellence in Column Writing Award**

Lucas Grindley for “LGBTs to America: ‘We Told You So’”, The Advocate

**Excellence in Opinion/Editorial Writing Award**

Chase Strangio for “How Transgender People Have Survived (and Thrived) Under a Year of Donald Trump”, INTO

**Excellence in Documentary Award**

Nick Broomfield and Marc Hoferlin for “Whitney: Can I Be Me”, Showtime and BBC

**Excellence in Local Television Award**

Peggy Kusinski, Katy Smyser, Lisa Capitanini, Richard Moy, Julio Martinez and Nathan Halder for “Some Local Rules Keep Transgender Athletes From Competing In High Schools”, NBC5 Chicago

**Excellence in Network Television Award**

Todd Cross and Gabe Gutierrez for “One Year After Pulse Nightclub Shooting, 4 People Reflect on How Their Lives Changed”, Sunday TODAY with Willie Geist/NBC

**Excellence in Podcast Award**

Jacob Brogan and Benjamin Frisch for “Working”, Slate

**Excellence in Radio Award**

Natalie Winston, Gabriela Saldivia and David Greene for “‘They Told Me I Wasn’t A Human Being’: Gay Men Speak Of Brutal Treatment In Chechnya”, National Public Radio

**Excellence in Bisexual Coverage Award**

Kate Sloan and Indiana Joel for “What It’s Like to Talk to Your Doctor About Sexual Health When You’re Bisexual”, Xtra

**Excellence in Health or Fitness Coverage Award**

Aliyah Musaliar, Isabella Ortiz, Noel Gasca and Jenny Asarnow for “Why Was I Taught Sex Ed by a Man Who Uses the Word ‘Slut’?”, KUOW Puget Sound Public Radio

**Excellence in HIV/AIDS Coverage Award**

Linda Villarosa for “America’s Hidden HIV Epidemic”, The New York Times Magazine

**Excellence in Queer People of Color (QPOC) Coverage Award**

Margie Fishman for “A Child’s Journey to ‘Truegender’”, The News Journal/USA Today

**Excellence in Religion Coverage Award**

Phoebe Wang for “God + The Gays”, The Heart (Radiotopia)

**Excellence in Transgender Coverage Award**

Ryan Kost for “Finding Himself”, The San Francisco Chronicle

**The Al Neuharth Award for Innovation in Investigative Journalism**

Ken Schwencke for “Documenting Hate”, ProPublica and the Documenting Hate Coalition

# 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 resumes and career plans. Their stories were posted online at [news.nlgjaconnect.org](http://news.nlgjaconnect.org). This year, NLGJA staff and networking experts hosted a workshop to give CONNECT students the skills to make connections and advance their careers while at the National Convention. The program hosted 10 students this year, but over the course of the last 21 years, CONNECT has served more than 200 student participants.

**Caroline Que** served as Lead Project Manager. **Frances Fernandes, Karen Hawkins, Jamal Jordan, David McAlpine, John-Michael Murphy, David OK, Megan Rossman** and **Brett Zongker** served as project mentors.



## CONNECT Participants

**Benjamin Appel**

*Columbia University*

**Palmer Haasch**

*University of Minnesota*

**Kristin Lam**

*San Jose State University in San Jose*

**Bennett Purser**

*Utah State University*

**Brooklyn Riepma**

*Boise State University*

**Orion Rummler**

*Emory & Henry College*

**Trey Strange**

*New York University*

**Jacob Sutherland**

*University of California San Diego*

**Tamica Jean-Charles**

*Florida International University*

**Shaw Wan**

*Northwestern University*

# Scholarships

## 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.

---

### 2018-2019 Recipient

*Madeline Broom*

## 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.

---

### 2018-2019 Recipient

*Kelsi Williams*

## Steve Mason Sports Media Scholarship

Provides up to \$2,500 in tuition assistance to an LGBTQ student who plans to pursue a career in sports journalism and is committed to furthering NLGJA's mission of fair and accurate coverage of the LGBTQ community.

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### 2018-2019 Recipient

*Julia Poe*

## Facebook Journalism Project Scholarship

The Facebook Journalism Project Scholarship is offered to journalism organizations serving underrepresented communities that share Facebook's commitment, including NLGJA, National Association of Hispanic Journalists, Asian American Journalists Association and Native American Journalists Association.

The Facebook Journalism Project has provided funding for NLGJA to award five \$10,000 scholarships for five years, beginning in 2018. Students do not need to identify as LGBTQ in order to receive the scholarship award.

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### 2018-2019 Recipients

*Claire Heddles*

*Mackenzie Moore*

*Harold Lopez*

*Dave Sebastian*

*Avichai Scher*



**facebook**  
Journalism  
Project

# New Ways: Reporting HIV & AIDS Today

In 2018, NLGJA completed our third year as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS program.

NLGJA's PACT program, New Ways – Reporting on HIV & AIDS Today, provides strategies and skills to enhance and increase news coverage of HIV and AIDS through trainings, online tip sheets and other tools, fellowships, newsroom presentations and other resources. The aim is to improve access to information for prevention, treatment and stigma reduction.

This included noting the CDC's various Act Against AIDS campaigns and updating those who receive our weekly newsletter and social media alerts with information and story ideas for 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. Learn more about and from New Ways, including videos of trainings, at [www.nlgja.org/newways](http://www.nlgja.org/newways).

## New Ways in the Newsroom

NLGJA Board Members shared information about NLGJA, our New Ways program and various Act Against AIDS campaigns in newsrooms presentations at Reuters on March 9, CNN's The Great Big Story on May 18 and The Daily Beast on June 11.



NLGJA partnered with the Desert AIDS Project to provide free HIV testing to National Convention attendees.

# New Ways: Reporting HIV & AIDS Today

## New Ways at NLGJA Events

NLGJA shared important Act Against AIDS information at our three benefit event receptions and upcoming HIV and AIDS Awareness Days – Headlines & Headliners on March 8 in New York where we highlighted Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, L.A. Exclusive on June 1 in Los Angeles where we featured National HIV Testing Day and on November 15 at Dateline:DC in Washington, D.C. where we highlighted World AIDS Day.



*Entertainment Weekly Editor-in-Chief Henry Goldblatt and Fran Drescher celebrate NLGJA's partnership with the CDC at L.A. Exclusive.*

**NEW WAYS**  **ACT AGAINST AIDS**   
REPORTING HIV & AIDS TODAY PARTNERING AND COMMUNICATING TOGETHER

## New Ways: Palm Springs

“Fun, Fast and With Sweet Prizes!: 25 HIV and AIDS Story Ideas for Any Beat or Platform” was presented September 7 during the NLGJA National Convention in Palm Springs. The panel featured **Diane Anderson-Minshall**, who wears many hats including as CEO/editorial director of Retrograde Communications, a Pride Media editorial partner, where she oversees editorial and production of The Advocate, Chill, Plus and Out Traveler magazines, as well as TinyLivingChic.com, Chill.us, and HIVPlusMag.com; **Jacob Anderson-Minshall**, who serves in many roles including as Co-founder/Chief Creative Officer at Retrograde Communications and as deputy editor of both The Advocate and Plus; **Carl Enzor**, RN, Chief Administrative Officer of Eisenhower Health Centers at Palm Springs and Cathedral City, CA; and **Kristina Torres**, leadership communications manager for the University System of Georgia, a position she began in 2017 after a 24-year career working at newspapers and media companies in South Carolina, Minnesota and Georgia, and also serves on the NLGJA Board of Directors. Each shared story ideas, respectively, related to HIV and the law, trans women, terminology, depictions in media, methamphetamine use, stigma and undetectability; big data, hate, disproportionately affected communities and those missed by outreach and treatment, PrEP, athletes, faith and art; aging, treatment, other physical and mental health issues, medical professional expertise and suicide; changes to federal funding, patents, coordination at the state and local level, putting together prevalence maps, spending accountability, urban v. rural program access and outreach to immigrant and limited English proficiency communities. Altogether the number of story ideas were almost quadruple what was billed.

# 2018 LGBT Media Journalists Convening

NLGJA hosted the LGBT Media Journalists Convening, sponsored by the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund and the Arcus Foundation, during our National Convention in Palm Springs from September 6-9. The convening ran parallel to the National Convention, allowing convening attendees to enjoy additional networking opportunities and to introduce fresh perspectives into

the convention conversations. The program was marked with short seminars about a variety of topics, as well as skill-building exercises. **Bethany Grace Howe** served as the convening emcee. Attendees were active on social media, leading the conversation using the hashtag #LGBTMedia18.

## *Participating Outlets and Organizations:*

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| The Advocate                 | OUT Front Colorado     |
| AfterEllen                   | Out in Jersey          |
| Atlanta Journal-Constitution | PQ Monthly             |
| Autostraddle                 | Project Q Atlanta      |
| Bay Area Reporter            | ProPublica             |
| Buzzfeed                     | Q Syndicate            |
| Environmental Health News    | Seattle Gay News       |
| FourTwoNine Online           | Slate - Outward        |
| Gay City News                | South Florida Gay News |
| GO Magazine                  | Tagg Magazine          |
| Hornet.net                   | Teen Vogue             |
| Huffington Post Queer Voices | them.                  |
| JoeMyGod                     | ThinkProgress          |
| Kansas City Star             | Trans Military         |
| LGBTQ Nation                 | TransAdvocate          |
| Los Angeles Blade            | TransGriot             |
| NBC News                     | University of Oregon   |
|                              | VICE                   |
|                              | Vice                   |
|                              | Vox.com                |



# Headlines & Headliners

Headlines & Headliners drew a crowd of nearly 300 journalists, communications professionals, news executives and students to the Reuters New York Headquarters in Times Square on March 8, raising tens of thousands of dollars for NLGJA's mission and programming. The event was co-chaired by NLGJA Lifetime Member **Reed McDowell** and NLGJA National Board Director **Eric Hegedus**. CBS News Transportation Correspondent **Kris Van Cleave** served as the event host. This was the first time that Headlines & Headliners was held at the Reuters New York Headquarters and Reuters Editor-in-Chief **Stephen Adler** welcomed attendees.



*The New Yorker investigative reporter Ronan Farrow chats with actor Anthony Rapp.*



*NLGJA Executive Director Adam Pawlus welcomes "The View" co-host Sunny Hostin.*



*Headlines & Headliners host Kris Van Cleave poses with CBS News colleagues.*

**Special Guests included:** **Ashley Dvorkin**, FOX 411  
**Victor Emmanuel**, FOX Business Network "Kennedy"  
**Dave Evans**, ABC7  
**Ronan Farrow**, The New Yorker  
**Harris Faulkner**, FOX News  
**Willie Geist**, NBC News  
**Kim Godwin**, CBS News

**Stephen Adler**, Reuters  
**Julie Banderas**, FOX News  
**Ellison Barber**, FOX News  
**Gio Benitez**, ABC News  
**Matt Collette**, WNYC  
**Kenneth Craig**, CBS News  
**John Dias**, CBS 2

**Carlos Greer**, "Page Six TV"  
**Sunny Hostin**, "The View"  
**Brett Larson**, FOX News  
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**Tobin Low**, WNYC  
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**Matt McClure**, NY1 News  
**Erin Moriarty**, CBS News  
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**Bill Ritter**, ABC7  
**Carolyn Ryan**, New York Times  
**Rosanna Scotto**, WNYW  
**Baruch Shemtov**, WNYW  
**Lori Stokes**, WNYW  
**Gerri Willis**, FOX News  
**Mike Woods**, WNYW

# L.A. Exclusive

L.A. Exclusive was held on June 1 at the Los Angeles LGBT Center's The Village at Ed Gould Plaza. NLGJA National Board Director **Senta Scarborough** served as chair of the event. The evening was hosted by INTO Editor-in-Chief **Zach Stafford** and CBS News correspondent **Jamie Yuccas**. NLGJA presented the Lisa Ben Award for Achievement in Features Coverage to Entertainment Weekly Editor-in-Chief **Henry Goldblatt**. The the leadership of the L.A. Chapter was instrumental in making the event a success. They utilized their relationships with local chapters of other minority journalism associations to bring new attendees to the event, including local industry leaders. The evening was a great opportunity to kick off Pride Month and promote HIV testing ahead of the annual National HIV Testing Day, which followed the event on June 27.



*L.A. Exclusive host Jamie Yuccas takes a photo with actress Fran Drescher.*



*Actor Jai Rodriguez smiles with L.A. Exclusive attendees.*



*INTO Editor-in-Chief Zach Stafford, CBS News correspondent Jamie Yuccas, Entertainment Weekly Editor-in-Chief Henry Goldblatt, NLGJA VP of Print & Online Jen Christensen, NLGJA Executive Director Adam Paulus and NLGJA National Board Director Senta Scarborough celebrate NLGJA.*

# Dateline:DC

Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams hosted NLGJA's annual Washington, DC benefit event, Dateline:DC, again this year. Some of Washington's best journalists gathered on November 15 for a wonderful evening of networking in support of NLGJA's mission to promote fair and accurate coverage of LGBTQ people and issues.

The journalists in attendance represented all corners of the media industry. The event has attracted more students in recent years, and the George Mason University Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists attended to the delight of the more seasoned journalists in attendance.

In addition to the event's special guests, **Dennis** and **Judy Shepard** came to show their continued support for NLGJA.

**Matthew Berger** and **Sarah Blazucki** served as the event co-chairs.

## Special guests included:

**Steve Clemons**, The Atlantic  
**Jonathan Greenberger**, ABC News  
**Doug Kammerer**, NBC4  
**Jeff Pegues**, CBS News  
**Carolyn Ryan**, The New York Times

**Steven Petrow**, USA Today  
**Stephen Tschida**, ABC 7  
**Kris Van Cleave**, CBS News  
**Cecilia Vega**, ABC News  
**John Yang**, PBS Newshour



*Mitchell Gold greets attendees at the Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams DC Signatire Store. Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams has hosted many NLGJA events*



*Dateline:DC co-chairs Matthew Berger and Sarah Blazucki welcome attendees to the event.*

# National Convention

NLGJA held its annual National Convention September 6-9 at the Hotel Zoso in Palm Springs, California. NLGJA Vice President of Print & Online **Jen Christensen**, NLGJA Treasurer **Ken Miguel** and NLGJA National Board member **Senta Scarborough** served as convention co-chairs. The convention welcomed over 450 attendees, the largest attendance in over a decade, and ran in conjunction with the LGBT Media Journalists Convening. The attendees represented all corners of LGBTQ and mainstream media, and joined together to hone their craft and expand their networks of colleagues and friends.

The convention was the first that NLGJA has hosted in Palm Springs. In the tradition of incorporating the local community, NLGJA welcomed a performance by the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus at the opening reception. Additionally, the Desert AIDS Project offered free HIV testing and counseling for attendees. One of the highlights of the agenda was a special Storytellers Project event, produced in conjunction with the USA Today Network and the Desert Sun, that featured NLGJA members and LGBTQ community members telling stories of their careers and experiences as LGBTQ people. Among the storytellers for the event were Scarborough, and NLGJA Lifetime Members **Bethany Grace Howe** and **Randy Lovely**.

The highlight for many attendees was the 2019 installment of the Michael Triplett Series, which featured activists **Judy and Dennis Shepard** and New York Anti Violence Project Executive Director **Beverly Tillery**. The Shepards made themselves available to attendees before and after the standing-room-only plenary session. The other plenary sessions featured an outstanding array of industry leaders, including CBS News national correspondent **David Begnaud**, CNN Worldwide Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion **Ramon Escobar**, Wall Street Journal managing editor **Karen Pensiero**, TrasGriot founder and publisher **Monica Roberts** and New York Times Deputy Managing Editor **Carolyn Ryan**.

In addition to the hallmark plenary sessions, the convention was packed with professional development opportunities, including over 30 breakout sessions. Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE) once again hosted a Watchdog Bootcamp that was attended by over 60 people. Representatives from nearly every major media organization, including Comcast NBCUniversal, CBS News, The New York Times, Gannett and McClatchy, greeted attendees in the Expo Hall. Attendees at every stage of career, from newsroom executives to CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project students, could be seen chatting with company representatives in the expo and networking at the convention's many receptions.

We appreciate the members and friends who came to Palm Springs to show their commitment to fair and accurate LGBTQ coverage, and we look forward to another outstanding convention in New Orleans.

# National Convention

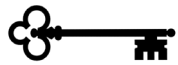


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*NLGJA extends our deepest appreciation to these grantors, sponsors and funders for their support of NLGJA's mission and work.*

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# Learn More About NLGJA

**More information about membership, events, programs  
and other opportunities is available at  
[www.NLGJA.org](http://www.NLGJA.org)**

***Connect With NLGJA on Social Media***

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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](http://www.nlgja.org/donate).

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