













## 2020 Annual Report

















WE MAKE GOOD JOURNALISTS BETTER.

THE NATIONAL PRESS FOUNDATION IS A 501 (C)(3) ORGANIZATION





### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND COO









The National Press Foundation was honored to serve journalists throughout the chaos of 2020. As news organizations rallied to cover the pandemic, a contested election and a national reckoning on race, NPF reinvented itself as an all-digital operation. We rededicated ourselves to making good journalists better — in lockdown and beyond.

NPF began the year with two in-person, full-length fellowships on the nation's top pre-pandemic health issues: heart disease and cancer. When COVID-19 struck, we quickly pivoted to training journalists on vaccines, homelessness and rural mental health. As the year wore on, we began offering full-length online trainings on how to track taxpayer money through Paycheck Protection Program loans and other pandemic relief programs. We ran a boot camp in vaccine development, a 10-part series on international trade and global supply chains, and programs on disinformation, lessons from the pandemic, and rising poverty and inequality in the United States.

Our speakers included Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee, the Rev. William Barber, former Labor Secretary Robert Reich, pioneering psychologist Dr. Alfiee Breland-Noble and other experts Zooming in from Beijing, Singapore, Canberra, Toronto, Geneva,

Paris and elsewhere. They helped journalists seed a troubled information ecosystem with sensitive, data-driven and timely coverage of critical isues.

NPF also launched a redesigned website, held an all-virtual fundraising event and made its trainings more accessible to more journalists in more places around the world. We launched a partnership with DataKind to match fellows tackling complex investigative projects with data scientist volunteers willing to help them. And we launched new awards to recognize the best reporting on poverty in the United States.

Our work would not be possible without the generosity of our friends, sponsors, donors and unsung volunteers. These include our speakers, who gave their precious time free of charge; our board and fundraising committee members, who offered unstinting help; our sponsors, who shared expertise and staff time, as well as financial support; and our awards judges, who helped us celebrate the best in journalism. Your work sustains American democracy.

With sincere thanks,

Sonni Efron

### LETTER FROM THE **BOARD CHAIR**



Dear Friends of the National Press Foundation,

It's hard to imagine a more tumultuous year than 2020. One month after our always inspirational gala honoring the best of journalism, the world locked down into a pandemic crouch that continues even as I write this. Yet in times like this, our craving for truthful, accurate and clear information grows stronger.

That is precisely why I am so grateful to our friends, our donors and our volunteers who continued their generous support of the National Press Foundation and its mission to make good journalists better. COVID-19 forced us to reinvent our programs from in-person to online training. Thanks to our terrific, flexible and imaginative staff, led by NPF President Sonni Efron, the National Press Foundation continued to deliver timely, issue-focused programming that connected journalists with top experts in vaccine science, disinformation and many other of-the-moment topics. And in the "silver lining" category, those programs reached more journalists in more countries than ever before.

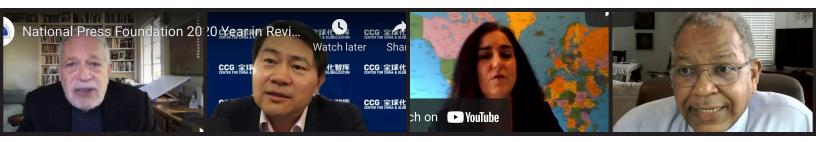
This February, at the height of Zoom fatigue, we held our gala online, and still, you — our stalwart supporters — showed up, full of enthusiasm for great journalism. Your generosity in these uncertain times allowed the National Press Foundation to thrive.

2021 promises to be a brighter, healthier year, but we are all changed. The National Press Foundation, ever mindful of the fragility of the free press in times of crisis, will press forward with a renewed commitment to the future of journalism.

Donna Lerwand Leger

Donna Leinwand Leger

### 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW VIDEO



The National Press Foundation is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to "make good journalists better." We educate journalists on the complex issues of the day and train them to use the latest reporting tools and techniques. The foundation recognizes and encourages excellence in journalism through its awards and fellowships.

Since 1976, the foundation has provided in-person professional development opportunities to thousands of editors, producers and reporters, helping them better understand and explain the effects of public policy on readers and viewers. All NPF programming is free and on the record.

Prior to COVID-19, NPF programs were held in the nation's capital, around the United States and overseas. During the global pandemic, we are offering all-virtual training and are continuing to bring journalists together with leading authorities to discuss significant issues, such as health care, foreign affairs, poverty and economics. Using the information in these fellowship briefings, NPF produces digital curricula that are posted to our website, allowing journalists around the world to access the best expertise and enhance their reporting.

Journalists are currently under fire, overworked, underpaid, and too often threatened with violence. The landscape for media continues to deteriorate with widespread layoffs, newsroom closures, mistrust and disinformation. Against this grim background, the National Press Foundation's mission — making good journalists better — has become more necessary than ever.

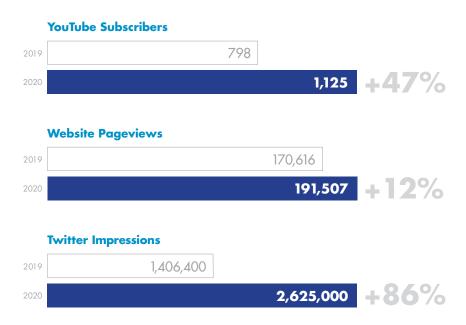
### Metrics

### MOST-WATCHED VIDEOS OF 2020



### 2020 WAS A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER





## Programs









CANCER

CORPORATE **ACCOUNTABILITY** 

COVID CASH

**DEMOCRACY** 

GLOBAL TRADE

HEART HEALTH

HOMELESSNESS

OPIOIDS AND ADDICTION

POVERTY AND **INEQUALITY** 

**VACCINES** 

Covering the Heart Beat JAN. 26-29

What's New in Cancer Coverage MARCH 2-4

From Coronavirus to Tariffs: Online Workshop on Trade Issues MARCH 16

COVID-19 and Homelessness Part One: Fighting COVID-19 Among America's Most Vulnerable MARCH 30

How to Report on COVID-19 and the Homeless MARCH 30

Developing a COVID-19 Vaccine APRIL 3

COVID-19 and Homelessness Part Two: The View From the Front Lines APRIL 6

Tracking COVID-19 Misinformation and Disinformation APRIL 9

COVID-19 and Homelessness Part Three: The Coming Wave of Evictions APRIL 13

"The Great Influenza" -Lessons From the Past with John M. Barry APRIL 20

COVID-19 and Suicide: Exploring Prevention APRIL 28

COVID-19 and Rural Mental Health MAY 5

Where's Our Food? Supply Chains and Food Insecurity **MAY 12** 

Medical Trade Wars MAY 26

Tracking the Anti-Vaccination Movement MAY 28

Techno-Nationalism IUNF 9

Pandemic Politics: Covering Voting by Mail JUNE 16

Superpower Showdown JUNE 23

Covering the Jobs Report JUNE 30

**Essential Ingredients** JULY 7

Managing the New Cold War JULY 7

### CONTINUED



Tracking Coronavirus Relief Funds JULY 13-17

Vaccine Boot Camp JULY 30-AUG. 12

Trump, Biden and What's Next for the WTO SEPT. 1

Poverty and Inequality 2020 SEPT. 2

What Works to Reduce Poverty SEPT. 9

Election 2020: Covering Ballot Initiatives SEPT. 10

Children in Poverty Plus COVID SEPT. 16

Poverty as a Pre-Existing Health Condition SEPT. 17

Data and National Security SEPT. 21

Children's Health SEPT. 23

Poverty, Trauma and the Developing Brain SEPT. 30

Election 2020: Barriers to Voting OCT. 1

Are Trade Wars Class Wars? OCT. 6

Child Care OCT. 7

A Discussion with Robert Reich NOV. 16

U.S. Trade Policy for the Next Administration NOV. 17

The Suburbs After COVID NOV. 19

A Conversation with Historian Harold Holzer DEC. 1

The Coming Battle Over Paid Family Leave DEC. 2

Workplace Mental Health DEC. 3

The White House Beat Under the Biden Administration DEC. 8

Education: Closing the COVID Inequality Gap DEC. 9

## Speakers

NPF thanks these speakers, who gave so generously of their time and expertise.



### **Heart Health**

Laurence Sperling David Goff Jr. Carl Orringer Joshua Hare Jeffrey Goldberger Mauricio Cohen Robert Myerburg Jennifer Chao Charles Fraser Jr. Noel Bairey Merz Martha Gulati Judith Hochman Joanna Chikwe Virend Somers Steve Sternberg Malissa Wood Nandita Scott

### What's New in **Cancer Coverage**

Clifton Leaf Norman E. Sharpless Larissa Korde Nirali N. Shah Steven A. Rosenberg Jennifer Croswell George Demetri Elizabeth A. Platz Jane Henley Brian M. Rivers Carl June Otis W. Brawley

Carol Taylor Behfar Ehdaie Rebecca Goldin

### Latest on **Autonomous Cars**

WEBINAR

Kelly Donahue Catherine McCullough Courtney Rozen

### From Coronavirus to Tariffs: Online Workshop on **Trade Issues**

Myron Brilliant Kurt Tong Jennifer A. Hillman Rick Dunham Paul Wiseman Megan Cassella

### COVID-19 and **Homelessness:** A View from the Front Lines WEBINAR

Stephanie Klasky-Gamer Dennis Culhane Vianna Davila Miriam Mason

### COVID-19 and **Homelessness: Evictions** WEBINAR

Juan Pablo Garnham Matthew Desmond Alieza Durana Nan Roman

### **Tracking COVID-19** Misinformation and Disinformation

Joe Smyser Claire Wardle Donie O'Sullivan

### "The Great Influenza": Lessons From the Past John Barry

### COVID-19 and Suicide

Alfiee Breland-Noble Holly Wilcox David Gunnell

### COVID-19 and **Rural Mental Health: Through** the Cracks

Susan Greene Niki Turner Paul Force **Emery Mackie** 

### **Global Trade: Essential Ingredients**

Glenn Luckinbill Jane Nakano Kristin Vekasi

### **Global Trade:** Medical

Sébastien Miroudot Rosemary Gibson Gary Gereffi

### **Corporate Accountability**

Maya MacGuineas Phillip Mattera Maxwell Mishkin Kathleen Day James B. Steele Danielle Brian Derek Willis Chantilly Jaggernauth Sheila Krumholz Dan Auble James V. Grimaldi Susan E. McGregor Cheryl W. Thompson Mark Horvit Rob Wells Mark Walker Diana B. Henriques

### CONTINUED

### **Superpower** Showdown: What's Next in the **U.S.-China Trade** War?

**Bob Davis** Mary Lovely Henry Huiyao Wang

### **Democracy: Vote by Mail**

Wendy Weiser Herb Jackson Adam Bonica

### **Managing the New Cold War**

Alan Dupont Jia Qingguo Ana Swanson

### **Covering** the Monthly **Jobs Report**

Erica Groshen

### **Global Trade: Food**

Darci Vetter Shefali Kapadia Simon Evenett

### **Global Trade: Technonationalism**

Alex Capri Yukon Huana Martijn Rasser

### **Vaccines**

Arthur Caplan Seth Mnookin Margot Savoy Walter Orenstein losé Romero

Deborah Fuller Georges Benjamin Rahul Gupta Iulie Morita Paul Offit Leonard Friedland Peter Marks Wilbur Chen Kathleen Neuzil

### Trump, Biden and What's Next for the WTO

Andrea Durkin Jennifer Hillman Bryce Baschuk

### What Else Is on the Election **Ballot?**

John G. Matsusaka Ryan Byrne Pete Quist

### **Poverty and Inequality 2020** William Barber

**What Works to** Reduce Poverty? Abhijit Banerjee

### **Children in Poverty Plus COVID**

Anna Johnson Hirokazu Yoshikawa

### Poverty as a **Pre-Existing Health** Condition

Sir Michael Marmot Otis W. Brawley

### Data and **National Security:** The New Digital **Trade War**

Lindsay Gorman Clete Willems Adam Segal

### Children's Health

Ioan Alker Benard Dreyer

### Poverty, Trauma and the **Developing Brain**

Swati Adarkar Jack P. Shonkoff

### **Are Trade Wars Class Wars?**

Cathy Feingold Matthew Klein

### **Informing Citizens About Voting Barriers**

Wendy Weiser Dale Ho Scott Bland

### **Child Care** in Crisis

Catherine White Linda Smith Hannah Matthews

### **America's Growing Inequality** Robert Reich

**U.S. Trade Policy** for the Next **Administration** 

Edward Alden Mary Lovely Lingling Wei

### The Suburbs **After COVID**

Richard Fry June Williamson Brian O'Looney

### **A Conversation** with Historian **Harold Holzer** Harold Holzer

### **The Coming Battle Over Paid Family** Leave

Indivar Dutta-Gupta Wendy Chun-Hoon

### **The White House Beat Under** the Biden **Administration**

Anita Kumar Margaret Talev Francesca Chambers George Condon Paula Reid

### **Education:** Closing the COVID **Inequality Gap**

Katharine Stevens Julia Kaufman Bryan Hancock

### **Paul Miller Fellowship**

Idrees Ali Dan Auble Lolita Baldor Sean Doody Christopher Garver Shane Harris Jonelle Henry Nate Hurst David Lightman Maya MacGuineas David Martin Mike Mastrian Philip Mattera John McCambridge Elizabeth McLaughlin Sean Moulton John Mulligan Michael O'Hanlon Taft Phoebus Paul Stares Susan Swain

# Paul Miller Fellowship









For more than 30 years, the Paul Miller Washington Reporting Fellowship has introduced promising young(ish) Washington reporters to the city they have been assigned to cover. The fellowship gives print, online and broadcast journalists from top news organizations an intensive and lively overview of reporting in the capital.

The fellows meet once a month to learn more about the Pentagon, the Supreme Court, the Capitol and other key Washington institutions. They review politics and policy with regulators, lawmakers, experts and the best reporters in the business. And they network with colleagues who help them grow personally and professionally.





2019-2020 PAUL MILLER **FELLOWS** 

**Alana Abramson** TIME

Zach C. Cohen NATIONAL JOURNAL

**Elizabeth Crisp** THE ADVOCATE, THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

Lauren Dezenski CNN

Lauren Egan **NBC NEWS** 

**Caitlin Emma POLITICO** 

**Teaganne Finn** 

**BLOOMBERG** GOVERNMENT **Story Hinckley** 

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Willie James Inman **NEWSY** 

Sanjana Karanth HUFFPOST

**Ellie Kaufman** CNN

**Emma Kinery** BLOOMBERG

**Zach Montague** THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Daniel Moore** PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Juliette Rocheleau NPR

**Katie Suiters** COX MEDIA GROUP

**Sophie Tatum** ABC NEWS

**Adam Taylor** THE WASHINGTON POST

**Elizabeth Thomas** 

ABC NEWS **Jazmine Ulloa** 

THE BOSTON GLOBE

**Laura Weiss** CQ ROLL CALL

# Website Redesign

We launched an all-new website in November, with modern architecture to better support NPF's all-virtual operations. Features include a search function; speaker biographies; search engine optimization; the ability to embed video, slides and PDFs; and the ability to surface some evergreen content that was buried on the old website. Pageviews have been steadily climbing since the launch. | nationalpress.org

### **NEW WEBSITE METRICS**

UNIQUE PAGEVIEWS	on homepage	ON TOPICS PAGES	
Oct. 1, 2020 – Feb. 28, 2021	5,694	8,447	
Oct. 1, 2019 – Feb. 28, 2020	4,115	4,205	
	+38%	+101%	

### **CHANNEL ANALYTICS**

Overview	Reach	Engagement	Audience		
Your videos got 89,184 views in 2020					
		- go. 02/.			
Viev	<b>/</b> S	Watch time (hours)		Subscribers	
89	2K	5.3K		+377	

# What Our Journalists Say

### **Barbara Sprunt, NPR**

PAUL MILLER REPORTING FELLOWSHIP 2017-2018

"It was one of the best experiences of my professional career and where I met some of the best people I know in D.C."

### Craig Harris, Arizona Republic

"In ever-shrinking newsrooms, we are so grateful for folks like you who believe in the Fourth Estate and help us to learn new ways to hold accountable those in power."

### Rhea Mahbubani, Insider Inc.

TRACKING CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS, JULY 13-17, 2020

"I've been in newsrooms for almost 10 years, but have always been intimidated by data and Excel sheets. ... This fellowship offered training that added another dimension to my skillset as a journalist. I look forward to being able to take the lead on digging up scoops and finding stories that I couldn't previously because I didn't know my way around data well enough."

### Alva James-Johnson, **Spectrum Magazine** TRACKING CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS, JULY 13-17, 2020

"I liked the intensity of the training, which gave it a boot camp feel. The time was used efficiently, and I enjoyed the selection of speakers. I find the support very encouraging."

### Lisa Krieger, The Mercury News VACCINE BOOT CAMP, JULY 30-AUG. 12, 2020

"Because I knew there would be accurate transcripts, I didn't have to focus on taking perfect notes instead. I could listen for content. The transcripts also made it possible to quickly write accurate 'Q and As' based on verbatim quotes; readers wrote to say they appreciated hearing facts straight from the experts."

### Letitia Stein, **USA Today**

WHAT'S NEW IN CANCER COVERAGE, MARCH 2-4,

"I enjoyed the really deep science dive on precision medicine and some of the new technologies."

FEBRUARY 13, 2020









The National Press Foundation Annual Awards Dinner recognizing journalistic achievement is one of the largest media dinners in Washington, bringing together more than 1,000 journalists, policymakers and executives of media companies, public relations firms, corporations and trade groups.

### AWARD WINNERS

SOL TAISHOFF AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN **BROADCAST JOURNALISM** 

### Dana Bash

INNOVATIVE STORYTELLING AWARD

NPR and the University of Maryland's **Howard Center for Investigative Journalism & Capital News Service** 

CLIFFORD K. & JAMES T. BERRYMAN AWARD FOR EDITORIAL CARTOONS

### Robert "RJ" Matson

CQ Roll Call

BENJAMIN C. BRADLEE EDITOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

### Aminda (Mindy) Marqués Gonzalez

Miami Herald Media Company

EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED REPORTING OF CONGRESS

### **Michael Kruse**

Politico



HINRICH FOUNDATION AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED REPORTING ON TRADE

### Paul Wiseman, Joe McDonald and Anne D'Innocenzio

The Associated Press

THE FEDDIE REPORTING AWARD

### **Christina Jewett**

Kaiser Health News

W.M. KIPLINGER DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS TO JOURNALISM AWARD

### **Bob Woodward**

The Washington Post

CHAIRMAN'S CITATION

### **Charles Sennott and Steven Waldman**

Report for America

## Awards

### **2019 CAROLYN C. MATTINGLY** AWARD FOR MENTAL HEALTH **REPORTING**

The Colorado Independent won the National Press Foundation's Carolyn C. Mattingly Award for Mental Health Reporting for a story on how the killing of a mentally ill man by a police officer changed a community.

"Through the Cracks: A stranger, a police shooting, and a small town's silence" was written by Niki Turner, editor of the Rio Blanco Herald Times, and Susan Greene. editor of The Colorado Independent, a nonprofit in Denver.

### **NATIONAL PRESS FOUNDATION'S 2020 POVERTY** AND INEQUALITY AWARDS

Idrees Kahloon of The Economist and Anna Wolfe of Mississippi Today were the first winners of the National Press Foundation's 2020 Poverty and Inequality Awards.

Wolfe's winning story and photo essay, "Are the kids alright?," captured the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19 for the schoolchildren of Jackson, Mississippi. Wolfe chronicled how the system and its children have adapted with grace and spirit.

Kahloon, who works in the Washington bureau of The Economist magazine, won for "Measuring Poverty: And the poor get poorer." His piece wove together a panoply of data to show how the \$1,200 federal stimulus checks made a dent in American

poverty at the beginning of the pandemic and how such aid soon ran out.

The awards honor the best reporting on children in poverty in the United States for the month of September. Each carries a \$4,000 prize and is offered in conjunction with trainings for journalists. Both the awards and the trainings are funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Heising-Simons Foundation; NPF is solely responsible for the content of the trainings.

### **THOMAS L. STOKES AWARD FOR BEST ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT WRITING**

Three Wall Street Journal reporters won the Thomas L. Stokes Award for Best Energy and Environment Writing for their three articles on "How PG&E Burned California."

Katherine Blunt, Russell Gold and Rebecca Smith cover energy and the environment. The award carries a \$2,500 prize.

Judges called the work "accountability journalism at its finest" and "an example of dogged public affairs reporting based on record requests, on-site reporting and good old shoe leather."

## NPF Board of Directors

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Donna Leinwand Leger DC MEDIA STRATEGIES

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Amos Snead **ADFERO** 

### **Treasurer**

Jon Sawyer PULITZER CENTER ON CRISIS REPORTING

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Kevin M. Goldberg DIGITAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION

Tom Rosenstiel AMERICAN PRESS INSTITUTE

Kathy Gest IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONSULTANT

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Catalina Camia CQ ROLL CALL

Peter Cherukuri ALTICE NEWS

Heather Dahl INDICIO.TECH

Tom Davidson GANNETT PRODUCT

Rafael Lorente PHILIP MERRILL COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Sudeep Reddy POLITICO

Terence Samuel NPR

Charles Self 227 INTERNATIONAL

Adam Sharp NATIONAL ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES

Susan Swain C-SPAN

Robyn Tomlin **MCCLATCHY** 

Iulie Triolo WARNER MEDIA

John Walcott GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

## NPF Staff



Sonni Efron PRESIDENT AND COO

Sonni Efron joined the National Press Foundation in January 2020. Efron began her career at The Associated Press in Boston, followed by 20 years at the Los Angeles Times. She was a foreign correspondent in Moscow, Tokyo bureau chief, State Department correspondent and editorial writer on national security. She was also a speechwriter and senior policy advisor at the State Department and writer in residence at the RAND Corporation.



Chris Adams DIRECTOR OF TRAINING AND CONTENT

Chris Adams joined the NPF in 2015 after more than 25 years as an investigative, political and business reporter and editor. He previously worked for The Times-Picayune in New Orleans, The Wall Street Journal's Pittsburgh and Washington bureaus, and the Knight-Ridder and McClatchy Washington bureaus. He was part of a six-member Journal team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2000 for coverage of military spending issues. He teaches journalism at American University.



Jason Zaragoza DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Jason Zaragoza joined the NPF in January 2021. He manages the foundation's finances, operational budget and human resources. Jason also oversees the logistical execution of NPF's Annual Awards Dinner and is responsible for its project management. Prior to NPF, he spent II years at the Association of Alternative Newsmedia (AAN), most recently as executive director.



Jeff Hertrick DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL STRATEGY

Jeff Hertrick joined the NPF in 2020 from National Geographic, where for 17 years he held a variety of roles, including director of news and documentary video, director of digital media operations and senior producer. previously spent 20 years as a reporter, anchor and producer at radio and television stations in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Washington, D.C.



Alyssa Black PROGRAM MANAGER

Alyssa Black joined NPF in July 2018. She has a background in logistics and administration and volunteers as a group captain for Atlas Corps, an online community for global social change.

**Chikezie Omeje** DIGITAL FELLOW

Kaela Roeder INTERN

**Valerie Yurk** INTERN

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