nefai

2020

Table of Contents

Letter from NEFAC's Executive Director	**3**
About the New England First Amendment Institute	**4**
Subscribe to NEFAC	**4**
Former NEFAI Fellows	**4**
Institute Schedule	**7**
NEFAI 2020 Featured Speakers	**11**
NEFAI 2020 Faculty	**11**
NEFAI 2020 Fellows	**19**
How You Can Support NEFAC	**25**
Notes	**26**

Sponsors and Major Contributors

Hearst Connecticut Media Group	**2**
Boston University	**6**
The Academy of New England Journalists	**10**
The Boston Globe	**12**
WBUR-Boston	**18**
Paul and Ann Sagan	**22**
The Robertson Foundation	**24**

Please Bookmark

NEFAI 2020 Event Page
nefac.org/nefai-2020

NEFAI 2020 Schedule and Class Documents
nefac.org/nefai-2020-schedule

Pre-Recorded Presentations and Materials
nefac.org/nefai-2020-pre-recorded-presentations

Connecticut Post | New Haven Register | Stamford Advocate | Greenwich Time | The News-Times | Norwalk Hour | The Register Citizen | The Middletown Press

Sunday, June 28, 2020

The Heart of the coronavirus crisis

COVID-19 has had a devastating impact. In Connecticut alone, it has been linked to more than 4,000 deaths, with the pandemic affecting nursing home communities and the Black and Latino populations especially hard. As Connecticut starts to open back up, today's Heart of the Coronavirus Crisis remembers the lives we lost.

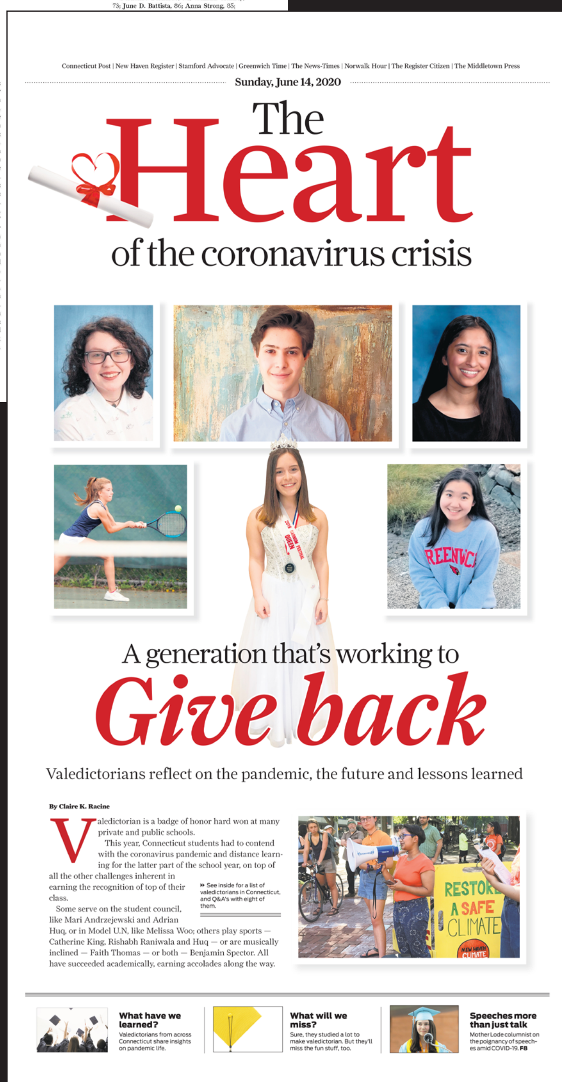
William Pike, 91; Michael Thomas Ganci, 74; Mary Roman, 83; Joseph Collucci, 88; Marvin Gelfand, 86; Marie Borgia, 82; Robert Klein, 74; Esmaragdo Valencia, 78; Anthony Spadaccini, 54; Raymond P. Aubin, 72; Michael John O'Brien, 35; Albert Anderson, 92; James Ercolani, 85; John Michael Cappucci, 79; Orest Engelbrecht, 85; John Harold Roberts, 79; Gilbert Baker, 73; Audrey Caretta, 86; Robert "Bob" Jonathan Levine, 66; James Joseph Shanley, 83; Alfred F. Buchetto, 88; Burton Henry Harwood Jr., 99; Dorothy "Dottie" Mason, 88; Theodore John "Ted" Vartelas, 89; Kevin Duffy, 87; Barbara Baker, 75; Robert Bailey, 81; Michael "Mickey" Ross, 71; John Verel, 72; Luisa Inez Rodriguez, 75; William Wallner, 83; Jeanne Hammond Byrnes, 97; Lillian Cormaggi, 89; Vincent Lionti, 60; Sally O'Day Panigutti, 72; Bryson Kent Bowman, 59; Angeline Bernadel, 52; Ronald Anthony Amicone, 76; Florence L. Wilhelmsen, 90; Lawrence T. Chiaramonte, 82; Betty Bennett, 70; Philomena Petruccelli McKinstry, 93; Elizabeth J. Maizell, 62; Carol Ballard, 81; Elizabeth Batista, 57; Jerry Reveron, 57; Anna Dykun Stopka, 95; Joseph Hawley, 67; Salvatore J. Pitruzzello, 93; Kenneth Olshan, 87; Angelica Aparicio, 82; Torrin Howard, 26; Rev. Evadny Blake, 65; Fred Simon, 71; John J. Corsano, 93; Nancy Krupp, 87; Marcia Louise Sanchez, 81; Angelina "Angie" Moccia, 91; Mary Nestor Radziszewski, 83; Irma C. DiNapoli, 91; Loretta Lovine Postupack Sambides, 85; Lawrence "Skip" Woodward, 75; Nancy H. LaFleur, 90; Steven Edwin Jones, 60; George Anthony DiScala Jr., 89; William Joseph Collins, 83; Brad Harris, 85; Bishop Sarah Louise Kipping, 81; Rosemary "Rosie" Chisholm, 83; Jeff Madoff, 91; Jay Wahlberg, 76; Mark Fallo, 57; Patricia Olshan, 84; John B. Ahrens, 96; Linda Jean Grayeck, 76; Nicholas Michael Staphos Jr., 76; Richard Louis Rettig, 86; Frank Bonomo, 94; Winann Meyer Curran, 89; Dan Spano, 30; Paul Frederick Reilly, 81; Annette Possidento, 84; Gloria Dicosola, 91; Alan A. Potanka, 68; Sally J. Carr, 90; Silvio A. Berni, 67; Virginia Thompson, 78; John Carbonell, 93; William Trabakino, 63; Sean Evans, 44; Yasmin Pena, 18; Pola Goldsher, 97; Louis Bascetta, 91; Gregory K. Jubrey, 61; Janice Lin Bisley, 70; Rose Mary Infantino, 88; Joan (Butler) Dorman, 88; Marilyn Rosalia Cumiskey, 88; Mercedes Kulish, 93; Edward J. Ryan Jr., 79; Joyce Ann Christiana, 86; Lois A. Flacke, 87; Louis A. Haddad, 72; Roy Northway Stephens, 85; Karen Robidoux Thifault, 64; Laszlo V. Nandori, 74; Carol Konowitz, 77; Nancy Wilde, 82; Samuel James Manzo, 60; Anthony Amoroso, 90; Dolores Vail, 89; Francisco "Frankie Love" Torres, 77; Jeffrey Ronald Henry Muzljakovich, 56; Matthew Barclay Brown III, 70; Mary Eastwood, 89; Helene Goward, 93; Matt Gras, 46; Lorraine Russo, 91; Antoinette M. Lutz, 91; Alan F. Krupp, 83; Phyllis Ehrenthal, 84; Margaret Karis, 82; Verla L. Courey, 88; Jack Bryant, 63; Laurie Appell, 70; Ina Shaw Mirviss, 93; Ronaldo E. Ferrari, 42; Saverio Nero, 98; Louis Joseph Tambone, 89; Arthur W. Barstow, 93; Rosemary Landry, 71; Phyllis Beatrice Antonetz, 103; Cynthia McGill, 76; Jean Claude Lavoie, 87; Walter Mallin, 97; Andrea Ruth Ludgin, 81; Victor M. Borras, 71; John R. Collins, 94; Diane Gill Fraker, 68; Katherine O'Connell, 79; Joseph Emilio Revolus, 79; Domingos Henriques, 69; Louis Leon Lake, 93; Raymond Joseph Beaucar, 82; Alice Zeranski, 84; Rocco Toce, 87; Julia Chan Lee, 85; Ralph Loranger, 74; Robert K. Schmieg, 52; Michael R. Mainiero, 92; Steve Dalkowski, 80; Roger Stackpole, 84; John Joseph Christiana Jr., 80; Harry J. Goralski, 79; Vito Frank Bova, 83; John Joseph Thompson Jr., 75; Enid Quinn, 97; Alexander Stamatien, 93; Jon M. Blair, 57; Hazel Lee Bailey, 73; Albert Dennis, 69; Gustavo Marchand, 63; Dorothy Cembrano Jay, 92; Samuel L. Trachtenberg, 86; Maria Fiore, 60; Denise Camille Buczek, 72; Pauline Corrigan, 90; Marilyn Joyce "Lynn" Liberman, 92; Gwen Zgoda, 81; Edith Costanzo, 93; Mary Scata, 90; Alynne Martelle, 80; Beverly Sincere, 74; Wallace Kosilla, 82; Mary L. Milanese, 68; Richard "Dick" J. Conway III, 64; Catherine Nordby, 96; John (Sean) Philip Coughlin, 74; Sheryll "Sher" Enriquez, 21; Lenore Chaice Mintz, 94; Theodore Robert Zaterka, 89; Roger Watts, 91; Richard Nowlin, 75; Daniel J. Burke, 90; Jonathan Coelho, 32; Marian Marie Gasper, 93; Maurice Chirico, 87; Elizabeth S. Strossi, 84; Linda Yolanda Palmer, 72; Otto Hollstein, 84; Sharon Claire Post, 73; Sue Colucci, 86; Raquela Mesa-Acosta, 97; Barbara Louise Wheeler, 93; Frank LaPegna Sr., 52; Paul Edward Herbst, 92; Carol R. Petit, 78; Cecilia E. Dunn, 88; Howard Lee Dines, 65; Richard C. "Dick" Johann, 87; Rev. Allen Tinkham, 91; Isabella Kovacs, 84; Carolyn Plenzio, 90; Susan T. Benedetto, 57; Frederick Nelson Green, 84; Lorita Headley, 80; Dorothy D'Ostilio, 95; Dorothy D'Ostilio, 95; Norma Mary Hubert Carlson, 91; Ronald "Chico" Boccacio, 80; Douglass Cornwell, 77; Mark J. Ukraine, 55; Elizabeth S. Bolduc, 92; Marion J. Busa, 91; Linda Fulton, 75; Mark J. Tucker, 62; Jim William Walker, 78; Paul E. Tausche, 93; George Forte, 86; June Mervine, 95; Carl Robert Bentley, 78; Margaret Penfield Andrian, 92; Ronald George Frangipane, 75; Jorge F. Casals, 75; Patrick Laureat "Larry" Dube, 76; Lucille Resto, 77; Vito DeVito, 94; Mary M. McCormack,

82; Thomas L. Hearn, 73; Rita Noonan, 91; Charles Powers, 88; Joan White Schmiedel, 90; William McCaul, 80; Henry N. "Hank" Dubois, 84; George L. Engel, 92; Martha Eddy O'Brien, 86; Charles Bowler, 94; Marilyn Frances (Hinchey) Phillips, 89; Eveline Ricci, 86; Marilyn Smith, 69; Ronald A. Barton, 82; Mark Albert Goncalves, 70; Anthony J. Valdati Jr., 83; Charles "Duffy" Jernigan, 61; Louise Endel, 98; Louis Badinelli, 78; Irene Ann (Wild) Allen, 80; Mafalda R. Massarelli, 94; Susan M. Colello, 62; Gary Watson, 78; Kathryn Jean Ward, 60; Ruth Paulette, 88; Catherine M. Goodwin, 82; Mary "Babe" DeMaro, 91; Matilde "Lia" Fichman Simmons, 97; Victor Gurvits, 89; Hazel A. Campbell-Somers, 89; Joseph J. Ingram Jr., 66; Rose Marie Cistulli, 90; Charles LeGrand Sr., 81; Sandra Porter, 73; Norma Jean Keller, N/A; Rita E. Greene, 101; Peter Crisanti, 84; Susan Carroll Kosche, N/A; Barbara Richardson, 97; Audrey Cody, 90; Paul Vincent Brockett, 79; Margaret Busha, 89; Barbara Mary Vota, 79; Elsie Rossitto, 92; Louise S. McDevitt, 89; Mary Eileen Byrnes, 91; James Condaris, 68; Daniel Blume, 89; Charles Krigbaum, 91; Rita Robidoux, 91; Jean Munson, 92; Angela Canneto, 56; Sylvia Corsi, 84; Santina DeLucia, 87; Edward A. Davis, 76; Leahdell "Lea" Davis, 90; Jonathan C.C. Ferreira, 26; Helen Sutton, 93; Patricia A. Luddy, 77; Anna Marie Lopiccolo, 74; Albert W. Watts, 88; Rosemary Hughes, 90; John E. Curtis, 77; Ina Macko, 96; Marshall Bennett Cutler, 92; Randolph Maitz, 56; Shirley Mullenite Weymer, 85; Carol Studdiford, 86; Lucretia Lamphier Huxley, 86; Elizabeth "Tina" Kelly, 91; Mary Elizabeth Parr, 80; Judith Gail Jursch, 77; Helen Kiraly, 96; Bette M. Jones, 80; Silvio Archino, 88; Mae T. Roser, 92; William Joseph Gannon, 99; Lawrence W. Littig, 81; Pilar Rodriques, 89; Mary Lou Oestmann Canning, 85; Mariah Reid Daly, 77; Howard Budd Bennett Sr., 86; Laura Yopp, 85; Deane K. Felter, 82; James Joseph Ross, 57; Elaine Beaulieu, 90; John Maciejewski, 77; Michael Joseph Moran, 83; Midge Leon, 83; John Leland Swindler, 69; Concetta Prisco, 98; Arthur French, 92; Arlene MacIntyre, 84; William Richardson, 68; Ruby Bechtold, 90; Michael D. Anziano, 80; Dominick Cardamone, 92; Antonio R. Silva, 85; Albert L. Speziali, 86; Phyllis Ballard, 91; Juan Lopez, 73; Fernando Bernardo, 94; William Glenney, 73; June D. Battista, 86; Anna Strong, 85;

Remembering

Paying tribute to Connecticut residents who have died with COVID-19

Nearly 500 community members whose deaths have been associated with the coronavirus and whose lives were featured in our special online tribute, are remembered here today. For those not known to us we welcome their names on our memorial page. Please visit **ctpost.com/memorial** to read more.



Connecticut Post | New Haven Register | Stamford Advocate | Greenwich Time | The News-Times | Norwalk Hour | The Register Citizen | The Middletown Press

Sunday, June 14, 2020

The Heart of the coronavirus crisis

A generation that's working to

Give back

Valedictorians reflect on the pandemic, the future and lessons learned

By Claire K. Racine

Valedictorian is a badge of honor hard won at many private and public schools.

This year, Connecticut students had to contend with the coronavirus pandemic and distance learning for the latter part of the school year, on top of all the other challenges inherent in earning the recognition of top of their class.

Some serve on the student council, like Mari Andrzejewski and Adrian Huq, or in Model U.N, like Melissa Woo; others play sports — Catherine King, Rishabh Raniwala and Huq — or are musically inclined — Faith Thomas — or both — Benjamin Spector. All have succeeded academically, earning accolades along the way.

» See inside for a list of valedictorians in Connecticut, and Q&A's with eight of them.

What have we learned? Valedictorians from across Connecticut share insights on pandemic life.

What will we miss? Sure, they studied a lot to make valedictorian. But they'll miss the fun stuff, too.

Speeches more than just talk Mother Lode columnist on the poignancy of speeches amid COVID-19. **F8**

When the world went viral, *so did we.*

Informing and guiding millions of readers on the impact of COVID-19 across Connecticut. Breaking news from the Capitol, Washington and the CDC. First-hand accounts from essential workers and responders on the front lines. In-depth interviews with local businesses and community leaders. Delivered via a dedicated e-newsletter, Heart Of The Coronavirus Crisis series, and a statewide network of newspapers, magazines and websites.

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Affiliations appear for identification purposes only.

Dear NEFAI 2020 Fellow,

Congratulations on being selected to attend this year's New England First Amendment Institute. Since 2011, we have provided this exclusive annual investigative journalism training program to more than 225 of the best and brightest journalists in the region.

You are in very good company.

Previous fellows have taken what they've learned at NEFAI and helped their newsrooms break compelling investigatory news stories.

Consider these words from former fellow Hadley Barndollar, investigative reporter for Seacoast Online, about how her newsroom benefited from what she learned at the Institute:

> "Since returning from the Institute, I've had in-depth, meaningful conversations with my leadership team about certain techniques and ways we approach stories. I instantly saw things missing from how we'd been covering long-term stories – angles we hadn't yet taken, for example, or an agency or individual we hadn't sought information from."

Barndollar (NEFAI 2019) will speak on Oct. 3 about her reporting on police Use of Force policies. She'll be on our Former Fellows panel with Casey McDermott (NEFAI 2017) of New Hampshire Public Radio and Laura Damon (NEFAI 2019) of the Newport Daily News.

In all, 36 elite reporters, editors, media attorneys and FOI experts volunteered their time this year to help you write your own success stories.

For the next week we will be working together to become stronger and more aggressive watchdogs. We will hear each other's experiences, our successes and failures, and take the lessons we learn back to our newsrooms to share with colleagues. We will fight relentlessly for information and report stories the public needs to know. We will inform our communities in new and compelling ways. We will remind our readers, viewers and listeners why watchdog journalism is needed now more than ever.

Congrats again on being selected as a New England First Amendment Institute fellow. Please let me know if there is anything we can do to help you accomplish your goals during the next week. I wish you a very productive NEFAI 2020.

Sincerely,

Justin Silverman
Executive Director

About the New England First Amendment Institute

WHAT IS NEFAI?

Founded in 2011, the New England First Amendment Institute provides intensive training for specially selected journalism fellows in the use of freedom of information laws and investigative techniques. In a rich and collegial environment, the fellows interact with acclaimed media lawyers and award-winning journalists to acquire knowledge designed to enhance their watchdog journalism skills. NEFAI 2020 will be held online from Sept. 26 to Oct. 3.

WHO IS IT FOR?

NEFAI is designed for both up-and-coming and veteran print, digital and broadcast journalists working in New England. Applicants should have at least two years of professional news reporting experience and long-term plans to stay within the profession.

WHAT DO YOU LEARN?

Though our curriculum is often changed to reflect the evolving needs of journalists, each Institute typically includes lectures and workshops that focus on the following:

- State public records and open meetings laws
- The federal Freedom of Information Act
- Database reporting skills
- How to respond to FOI request denials and rejections
- Inspiring stories from award-winning journalists

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The fellows selected for this year's Institute will attend at no cost.

SUPPORTERS

Primary support for our Institute is provided by the Academy of New England Journalists and Boston University.

Other supporters of NEFAC in 2020 include:

HEARST CONNECTICUT MEDIA GROUP

Paul and Ann Sagan

The Boston Globe

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THE ROBERTSON FOUNDATION

STAY CONNECTED

Please stay updated on NEFAI news — including speaker announcements and faculty additions — by referencing the following hashtag: #NEFAI2020. You can also connect with NEFAC in the following ways:

FiveFreedoms

www.tinyurl.com/**nefaclinkedin**

www.facebook.com/**nefac.org**

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NEFirstAmendmentCoalition

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Former Fellows

CONNECTICUT

2011
Richard Campbell
The Register Citizen
Jenna Cho
The Day
JC Reindl
The Day
Alexandra Sanders
New Haven Register
Julie Stagis
Hartford Courant

2012
Shawn Beals
Hartford Courant
Beau Berman
WTIC-TV
Alexander Goldstein
The Day
Kevin Litten
Republican-American
Erin Logan
WTNH
Fran Silverman
Hearst Newspapers

2013
Lisa Backus
The Bristol Press
Jenna Carlesso
Hartford Courant
Tina Detelj
WTNH
Jessica Glenza
The Register Citizen
Maggie Gordon
Hearst Newspapers
David Iversen
WTNH
Alec Johnson
Republican-American
Viktoria Sundqvist
The Middletown Press

2014
Jason Bagley
TruthInAdvertising.org
Kelly Catalfamo
The Day
Jennifer Swift
New Haven Register
Tess Townsend
The Day

2015
Lindsay Boyle
The Day
Suzanne Carlson
Hartford Courant
Susan Haigh
The Associated Press
Esteban Hernandez
New Haven Register
Patrick Skahill
WNPR-Connecticut

2016
Julia Bergman
The Day
Anna Bisaro
New Haven Register
Mikaela Porter
Hartford Courant

2017
Stephen Busemeyer
Hartford Courant
Jill Konopka
WVIT-Hartford
Kaitlyn Krasselt
Norwalk Hour
Martha Shanahan
The Day

2018
Skyler Frazer
New Britain Herald
Ben Lambert
New Haven Register
Barry Lytton
The Stamford Advocate
Erica Moser
The Day

Former Fellows Continued

2019
Kimberly Drelich
The Day
Meghan Friedmann
Hearst Connecticut Media Group
Jo Kroeker
Hearst Connecticut Media Group
Justin Papp
Hearst Connecticut Media Group

MAINE

2011
Susan Cover
Maine Today
Emily Guerin
The Forecaster
Jesse Nankin
Watchdog New England
Eric Russell
Bangor Daily News
2012
Will Graff
The Forecaster
Lindsay Tice
Sun Journal
2013
Matthew Curren
WGME
David Harry
The Forecaster
2014
Jon Chrisos
CBS13/Fox23
Michael Shepherd
Kennebec Journal
2015
Jordan Bailey
Courier Publications
Nate Holst
WMTW-Portland
David Sherwood
Maine Center for Public Interest Reporting
2016
Matthew Daigle
Sun Journal
Stephanie Grinnell
The Republican Journal
Kyle Jones
WMTW News
Joshua Moore
Maine Center for Public Interest Reporting
Marina Villeneuve
Associated Press
2017
Abigail Adams
Lincoln County News
Charles Eichacker
Kennebec Journal
Callie Ferguson
The Forecaster
2018
Anne Berleant
Penobscot Bay Press
Joe Glauber
WMTW-Portland
Rachel Ohm
Morning Sentinel
Amanda Post
WGME-Portland
2019
Sarah Craighead Dedmon
Machias Valley News Observer
Dan Lampariello
WGME-Portland
Patty Wight
Maine Public Radio

MASSACHUSETTS

2011
Keith Eddings
Eagle-Tribune
Jim Haddadin
Arlington Advocate
Laura Hutchinson
WWLP 22News
Lyle Moran
Lowell Sun
David Riley
MetroWest Daily News
Rory Schuler
Taunton Daily
Matthew Stout
The Enterprise
2012
Alex Bloom
The Enterprise
George Brennan
Cape Cod Times
Deirdre Fernandes
The Boston Globe
David Eisenstadter
The Transcript
Sarah Favot
Lowell Sun
Martine Powers
The Boston Globe
Patrick Ronan
Patriot Ledger
Shaun Sutner
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
Ryan Walsh
WWLP
2013
Doug Fraser
Cape Cod Times
Wes Lowery
The Boston Globe
Joshua Miller
The Boston Globe
Shawn Musgrave
MuckRock
Neena Pathak
Schuster Institute
Neal Simpson
The Patriot Ledger
Schuyler Velasco
Christian Science Monitor
2014
Sean F. Driscoll
Cape Cod Times
Beryl Lipton
MuckRock
Priyanka McCluskey
The Boston Globe
Alexa Mills
The Boston Globe
Alex Ruppenthal
Medford Transcript
Eli Sherman
Waltham News Tribune
2015
Samantha Allen
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
Jonathan Dame
GateHouse Media
Nicole Dungca
The Boston Globe
Jenna Fisher
GateHouse Media
Allison Manning
Boston.com
Jordan Mayblum
Wellesley Townsman
Jan Ransom
The Boston Globe
2016
Zeninjor Enwemeka
WBUR
Jordan Frias
Boston Herald
Phil Marcelo
Associated Press
Tom Relihan
The Recorder
Susan Spencer
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
Gerry Tuoti
Gatehouse Media
2017
Collin Binkley
Associated Press
Amanda Drane
Berkshire Eagle
Melissa Hanson
MassLive
Brad Petrishen
Telegram & Gazette
Greg Ryan
Boston Business Journal
2018
Sarah Betancourt
Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism
Michael Bonner
The Standard Times
Lisa Creamer
WBUR-Boston
Dialynn Dwyer
Boston.com
Jennifer Lu
Independent
Angela Rowlings
Boston Herald
Bridget Turcotte
The Daily Item
Grant Welker
Worcester Business Journal
2019
Amanda Burke
Fall River Herald News
Jo C. Goode
Fall River Herald News
Zoe Greenberg
The Boston Globe
Gal Tziperman Lotan
The Boston Globe
Haven Orecchio-Egresitz
Berkshire Eagle

NEW HAMPSHIRE

2011
Joseph Cote
Nashua Telegraph
Mark Davis
Valley News
Maddie Hanna
Concord Monitor
2012
Maggie Cassidy
Valley News
Maryalice Gill
Nashua Telegraph
Meg Heckman
Concord Monitor
Annmarie Timmins
Concord Monitor
2013
Todd Bookman
NH Public Radio
Sarah Brubeck
Valley News
Christopher Garofolo
Eagle Times
Kathryn Marchocki
NH Union Leader
Kaitlin Mulhere
The Keene Sentinel
2014
Emily Corwin
NH Public Radio
Alyssa Dandrea
The Keene Sentinel
Nora Doyle-Burr
Valley News
Peter McGuire
Forecaster Newspapers
Kerry Miller
Eagle Times
2015
Jeremy Blackman
Concord Monitor
Megan Doyle
Concord Monitor
Rob Wolfe
Valley News
2016
Peter Biello
NH Public Radio
Tim Camerato
Valley News
Meghan Foley
The Keene Sentinel
Allie Morris
Concord Monitor
Ella Nilsen
Concord Monitor
2017
Caitlin Andrews
Concord Monitor
Allison DeAngelis
Eagle-Tribune
Casey McDermott
NH Public Radio
Paige Sutherland
NH Public Radio
2018
Breanna Edelstein
The Eagle Tribune
Sierra Hubbard
The Keene Sentinel
Meg McIntyre
The Keene Sentinel
2019
Hadley Barndollar
Portsmouth Herald
Paul Cuno-Booth
Keene Sentinel
Mary McIntyre
NHPR
Leah Willingham
Concord Monitor

RHODE ISLAND

2011
Amanda Milkovits
Providence Journal
David Scharfenberg
Providence Phoenix
Karen Ziner
Providence Journal
2012
Lynn Arditi
Providence Journal
Ian Donnis
RI Public Radio
Kathleen Mulvaney
Providence Journal
2013
Bill Malinowski
Providence Journal
Mark Reynolds
Providence Journal
2014
Randal Edgar
Providence Journal
Paul Grimaldi
Providence Journal
Janine Weisman
Newport Mercury
2015
Jennifer Bogdan
Providence Journal
Alex Kuffner
Providence Journal
Steph Machado
WPRI-Providence
2016
Jacqueline Tempera
Providence Journal
2017
Kate Bramson
Providence Journal
Susan Campbell
WPRI-Providence
Derek Gomes
Newport Daily News
Diana Pinzon
WPRI-Providence
2018
Brian Amaral
Providence Journal
Parker Gavigan
WJAR-Cranston
Kim Kalunian
WPRI-Providence
2019
Jessica Botelho
WJAR-Cranston
Laura Damon
The Newport Daily News
Hannah Dickison
WPRI-Providence
Nadine Maya Sebai
The Public's Radio

VERMONT

2011
John Briggs
Burlington Free Press
Anne Galloway
Vermont Digger
Shay Totten
Seven Days
2012
Dan D'Ambrosio
Burlington Free Press
Jennifer Cleveland
Caledonian-Record
Andrew Stein
Vermont Digger
2013
Nathan Burgess
Stowe Reporter
Olga Peters
The Commons
Jennifer Reading
WCAX
2014
Taylor Dobbs
Vermont Public Radio
Abby Ledoux
Milton Independent
Allison Teague
The Commons
2015
April Burbank
Burlington Free Press
Lola Duffort
Rutland Herald
Lesley Engle
Fox44/ABC22
Courtney Lamdin
Milton Independent
2016
Jess Aloe
Burlington Free Press
Colin Flanders
The Essex Reporter and Colchester Sun
Stephanie Gorin
NBC5-Vermont
Katie Jickling
The Herald
Elizabeth Murray
Burlington Free Press
2017
Alicia Freese
Seven Days
Tommy Gardner
Stowe Reporter
Hilary Niles
Independent
Adam Silverman
Burlington Free Press
Greg Sukiennik
New England Newspapers
2018
Catherine Buni
Independent
Staci DaSilva
WFFF-Burlington
Xander Landen
VTDigger
2019
Liam Elder-Connors
Vermont Public Radio
Christopher Mays
Brattleboro Reformer
Alex Nuti-de Biasi
Journal Opinion
Orrin Schonfeld
WPTZ-Burlington
Cat Viglienzoni
WCAX-Burlington

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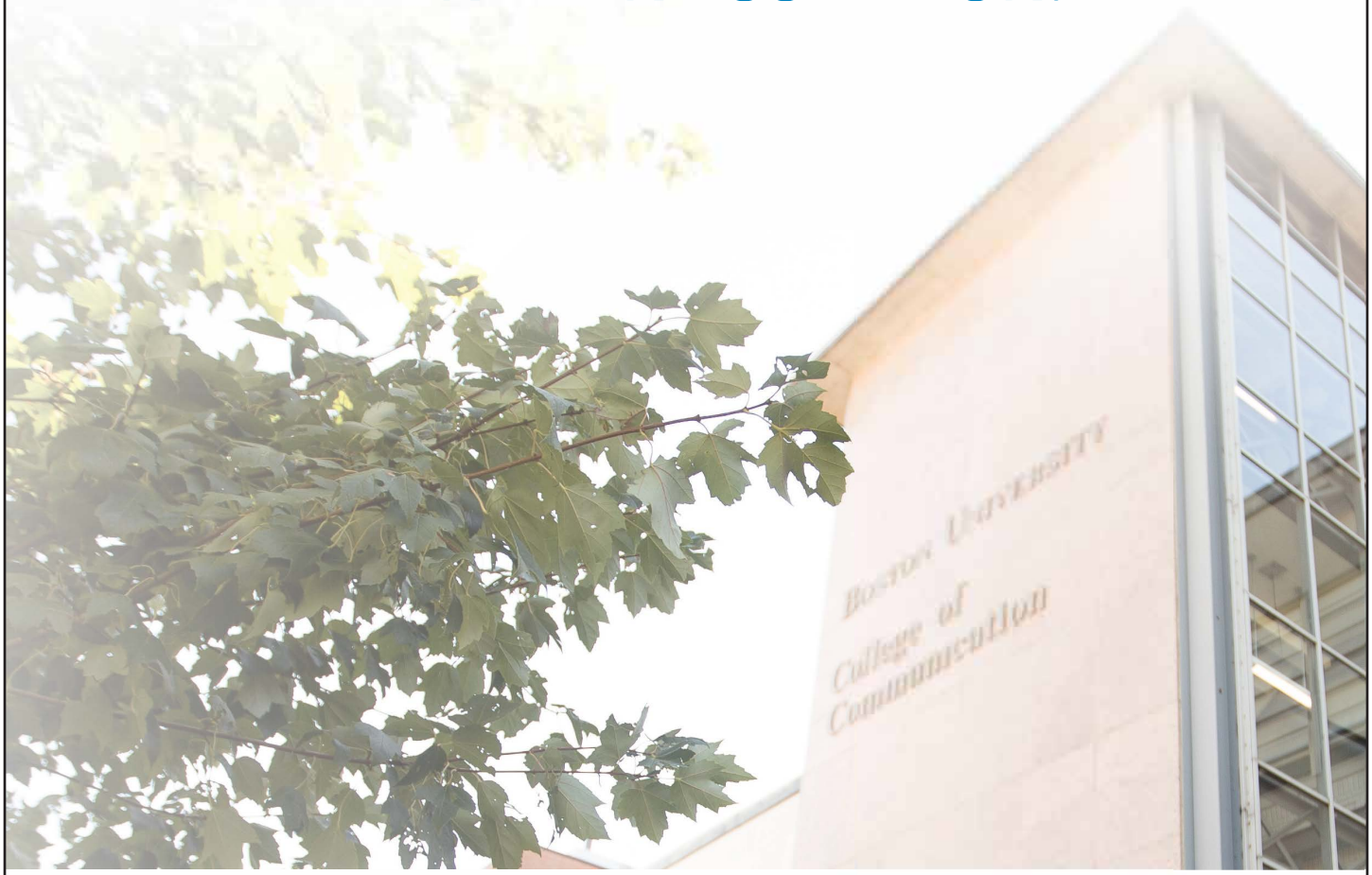

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Boston University College of Communication

NEFAI 2020 Schedule

September 26

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Keynote Address

Wesley Lowery | CBS News

Karen Bordeleau (Introduction) | NEFAC, Arizona State University

10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Panel: Tales from the Trenches
Panelists will share their practical experience in investigative work through painstaking interviewing and use of freedom of information laws to unearth corruption and bring truth to light.

Beth Healy | WBUR-Boston
Keila Torres Ocasio | Hearst Connecticut Media Group
Laura Ungar | Kaiser Health News

Walter V. Robinson (Moderator) | The Boston Globe

September 28

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Connecticut Break-Out Session

Mike Savino | WFSB-Hartford
Mary Schwind | Connecticut FOI Commission

September 29

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Web Scraping
Please create a trial account with CometDocs.com and Tabula prior to this session.

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Maggie Mulvihill | Boston University

Rhode Island Break-Out Session

Edward Fitzpatrick | The Boston Globe
3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Raymond A. Marcaccio | Oliverio & Marcaccio

Drop-In: Common Pitfalls in Accessing Documents Through FOI Requests
Drop-in sessions are an opportunity for fellows to speak with the instructors of our pre-recorded presentations and ask follow-up questions. View all presentations and related materials at nefac.org/nefai-2020.

Kyle Hopkins | Anchorage Daily News / ProPublica
Jenifer McKim | GBH Center for Investigative Reporting, Boston University
Eli Sherman | WPRI-Providence
Tim White | WPRI-Providence

September 29 (continued)

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Maine Break-Out Session

Judy Meyer | Sun Media Group
Sigmund Schutz | Preti Flaherty

September 30

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Basic Database Analysis
Prior to this session, please ensure your computer has Excel installed and confirm that the software can be opened and used. Please also install Tableau Public (free).

Brooke Williams | Boston University

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Drop-In: Tips for Staying Out of Legal Trouble: Common Issues in Defamation and Invasion of Privacy

Gregory V. Sullivan | Malloy & Sullivan

October 1

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Advanced Database Analysis

Matt Kauffman | The Hartford Courant (formerly)

2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Massachusetts Break-Out Session

Peter Caruso | Caruso & Caruso
Todd Wallack | The Boston Globe

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

New Hampshire Break-Out Session

Richard Gagliuso | Bernstein Shur
Nancy West | InDepthNH.org

October 2

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Panel: Effective Sourcing
When your FOI request languishes, your reporting continues. Developing sources, relationships, knowing how to evaluate what you get.

Cindy Galli | ABC News
Jennifer Levitz | The Wall Street Journal

Michael Donoghue (Moderator) | Vermont Press Association

October 2 (continued)

12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Drop-In: Confrontational Interviews
Drop-in sessions are an opportunity for fellows to speak with the instructors of our pre-recorded presentations and ask follow-up questions. View all presentations and related materials at nefac.org/nefai-2020.

Mike Beaudet | WCVB-Boston, Northeastern University

1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Vermont Break-Out Session

Michael Donoghue | Vermont Press Association
Lia Ernst | ACLU of Vermont

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Zoom Social for All Fellows and Faculty
Please join us for a casual gathering of all Institute participants. Learn more about the work of our fellows, faculty and speakers. This is a great opportunity to personally connect with others and have one-on-one conversations.

October 3

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Panel: Former Fellows

Hadley Barndollar | Seacoast Online
Laura Damon | Newport Daily News
Casey McDermott | New Hampshire Public Radio

Karen Bordeleau (Moderator) | NEFAC, Arizona State University

11 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Featured Speaker and Concluding Remarks

Margaret Sullivan | The Washington Post

Karen Bordeleau (Moderator) | NEFAC, Arizona State University

Pre-Recorded Sessions

Common Pitfalls in Accessing Documents Through FOI Requests

Kyle Hopkins | Anchorage Daily News / ProPublica
Jenifer McKim | GBH Center for Investigative Reporting, Boston University
Eli Sherman | WPRI-Providence

Tim White (Moderator) | WPRI-Providence

Tips for Staying Out of Legal Trouble: Common Issues in Invasion of Privacy

Gregory V. Sullivan | Malloy & Sullivan

Confrontational Interviews

Mike Beaudet | WCVB-Boston, Northeastern University

The Academy of New England Journalists

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The New England First Amendment Institute

The Academy of New England Journalists is a proud sponsor of The New England First Amendment Institute. Congratulations to the 2020 First Amendment Institute fellows, who are among the very best and brightest journalists in our six-state region.

The first-class training provided at the Institute is an investment in New England's newsrooms. There has never been a more critical time for journalists to dig deep in order to keep those in power honest and accountable to the voters and taxpayers. That's what organizations like NEFAC and the Academy are all about.

George Geers, *Chairman*
Academy of New England Journalists

Founded in 1960, the Academy of New England Journalists honors -- with the ***Yankee Quill Award*** -- those journalists from the region who have made extraordinary contributions to a free press and the welfare of their communities. Each year the Academy's Selection Committee, which is comprised of past Quill winners and representatives of New England journalism organizations, select recipients of the award.

The Yankee Quill is the highest honor bestowed on journalists in our region, recognizing the lifetime achievement of those who have had a broad influence for good, both inside and outside the newsroom.

NEFAI 2020 Featured Speakers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

WESLEY LOWERY

CBS News

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WesleyLowery

Wesley Lowery is a correspondent for "60 in 6," a 60 Minutes spinoff on the mobile app Quibi, and the author of "They Can't Kill Us All: Ferguson, Baltimore, and a New Era in America's Racial Justice Movement". Prior to joining CBS News, he was a national correspondent for the Washington Post, where he primarily covered issues of race and justice. He has twice been a member of teams awarded the Pulitzer Prize, and his work has appeared in The Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Atlantic and Sports Illustrated. Lowery attended the 2014 New England First Amendment Institute as a fellow.

MARGARET SULLIVAN

The Washington Post

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sulliview

Margaret Sullivan is the media columnist of the Washington Post, the former public editor of The New York Times, and the former editor of the Buffalo News, where she started her career as a summer intern. She was twice elected a director of the National Society of News Editors and is a former member of the Pulitzer Prize board. Sullivan is also the 2017 recipient of NEFAC's First Amendment Award and author of the recently published book "Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy".

NEFAI 2020 Faculty

HADLEY BARNDOLLAR

Seacoast Online

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hbarndollar

Hadley Barndollar is a features and investigative reporter for the USA Today-owned Portsmouth Herald and Seacoastonline.com, covering the Seacoast NH region and southern Maine. Her reporting focuses on poverty, economic inequality, education, public health and social justice. She was a 2019 finalist for New Hampshire Reporter of the Year, and is currently an Inequality in America press fellow for global humanitarian nonprofit Save the Children.

MIKE BEAUDET

WCVB-Boston,
Northeastern University

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Mike Beaudet is a journalism professor at Northeastern University in Boston and an investigative reporter at WCVB-TV, Boston's ABC affiliate. He's worked in local television news for more than 25 years. Beaudet started his career in radio covering politics at the Massachusetts State House and also made stops at television stations in Bangor, Maine, and Manchester, N.H. Before joining WCVB-TV he was an investigative reporter and anchor at WFXT-TV FOX25 in Boston. Beaudet has won numerous awards including 19 New England Emmys. His most recent Emmy came in 2020 for his contributions to a series of reports about keeping government honest. Beaudet's reporting has also been recognized repeatedly by the Associated Press and the Radio Television Digital News Association. Beaudet's research at Northeastern focuses on the future of local television news and finding new ways to grow the audience and engage younger viewers both on-air and online.

KAREN BORDELEAU

Arizona State University

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Karen Bordeleau is the director of communications and a professor of practice at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University. Bordeleau is the retired executive editor/senior vice president of The Providence Journal and is the first and only woman in The Journal's 191-year history to hold the top editor's position. She is responsible for shifting the newsroom into a "story-first" digital operation and is also credited with swinging open the proverbial doors of The Providence Journal by introducing many audience engagement initiatives — among them the award-winning Publick Occurences forums to promote civil discourse on complex topics. Under her leadership, The Journal won numerous state, regional and national reporting awards. The news organization was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist in Public Service for the Forged by Fire series in 2004, which Bordeleau co-edited. In 2014, Bordeleau was honored with the Yankee Quill — the highest individual journalism honor in New England — which recognizes a lifetime contribution of excellence in the field. In 2016, she was presented with the Judith Brown Spirit of Journalism Award, given annually to one woman who has made a significant impact on journalism in New England. In 2013, she was named one of the "Top 10 Women to Watch in the U.S. Media" by Editor & Publisher magazine. She has also been named one of Rhode Island's Most Powerful Women by Rhode Island Monthly. Bordeleau is president of the Board of Directors of the New England First Amendment Coalition, and is past president of both the New England Associated Press News Executives Association and the New England Society of Newspaper Editors. She served as a Pulitzer Prize juror in 2015 and 2016. She is past president of both the New England Associated Press News Executives Association and the New England Society of Newspaper Editors. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism cum laude from Northeastern University and a master's degree in political science summa cum laude from the University of Rhode Island.

The value of
journalism
isn't measured
in dollars;
it's measured
in change.

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The Boston Globe

NEFAI 2020 Faculty

PETER J. CARUSO, SR.

Caruso & Caruso

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PeterAndover

Peter J. Caruso, Sr., has represented the media in some of the most high-profile court cases in Massachusetts history since 1977. Caruso has represented print professionals in a vast spectrum of media litigation, including defamation, media and Internet law, newspaper access, advertising acceptance, news reporting, copyright and publications law. A Massachusetts Bar Fellow and a member of the American Bar Association and its Forum on Communications Law, Caruso has argued cases before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, and the U.S. Court of Appeals. Caruso has also represented media organizations throughout New England, including the New England Newspaper Association and the New England Press Association, and was media counsel in the Willie Horton, Pam Smart, and Alan Eagleson cases. Caruso has been inducted into the New England Newspaper Hall of Fame.

LAURA DAMON

Newport Daily News

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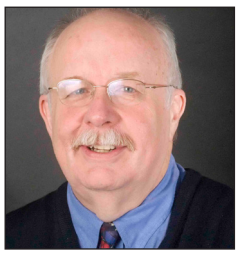
LauraDamonNDN

A Rhode Island native, Laura Damon's a 2013 graduate of the University of Rhode Island, where she earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and anthropology. In December 2018, she earned her Master of Arts in history with a specialization in anthropology and archaeology while simultaneously working as a reporter for the Newport Daily News, where she's been since April 2017. Damon is interested in crime scene investigation and criminal analysis, and took on the crime and breaking news beat for her publication. She has on-site bioarchaeology experience; in the summer of 2017, she inventoried and analyzed ancient human bones as part of the Maya Research Program in Blue Creek, Belize, to determine sex of the individuals, age-at-death and pathologies. Damon is also interested in forensic archaeology. When she's not working, she enjoys reading (especially true crime books), lifting weights, and studying to become a single-engine airplane pilot.



MICHAEL DONOGHUE

Vermont Press Association

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FreepsMikeD

Michael Donoghue is an award-winning news and sports writer. He worked for more than 40 years at the Burlington Free Press and now is a freelancer. He was selected as the 2013 New England Journalist of the Year by the New England Society of News Editors and in 2015 received the Matthew Lyon First Amendment Award. Donoghue served as an adjunct professor and adviser for three decades after being recruited by the Journalism Department at St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vt. Donoghue has served as an officer, including executive director, with the Vermont Press Association since 1979. He is a former board member for the New England Press Association and has served continuously as state chairman of Project Sunshine in Vermont since it was started by the Society of Professional Journalists in 1990. Donoghue is often credited as being a driving force behind the improvement to Vermont's open government (public records and meetings) legislation. He has made his own successful legal arguments to judges about both keeping courtrooms open and not sealing court documents. Donoghue and the Free Press have been honored for his work on a local, state, regional and national level. Donoghue was selected in 2007 as the winner of the Yankee Quill Award, the top lifetime honor for print and electronic journalism in New England. He has been inducted into five Halls of Fame, including as a charter member for the New England Press Association's Hall of Fame and as a charter member for the Society of Professional Journalists/National Freedom of Information Coalition Hall of Fame. The New England First Amendment Coalition's annual Freedom of Information Award is named after Donoghue. He currently serves as first vice president of the coalition.

LIA ERNST

Senior Attorney, ACLU of Vt.

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Lia Ernst is a senior staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont, where she litigates civil liberties, civil rights, and open government cases; advocates before state and municipal governmental bodies on ACLU legislative priorities; and educates community groups on protecting and exercising their rights. Before coming to the Vermont affiliate, Ernst had been a legal fellow at the ACLU of Massachusetts and a legal intern at the ACLU of Michigan. She also clerked for two years with U.S. District Court Judge Julian Abele Cook Jr. in Detroit and for one year with Judge Norman H. Stahl of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston. In between, she was an associate attorney at a Michigan law firm outside Detroit, focusing on criminal defense and attorney ethics. Ernst is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and holds a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Wisconsin. Her undergraduate degree is from Swarthmore College, where she majored in biology. She served two years in the Peace Corps in Guinea, West Africa, after college.

EDWARD FITZPATRICK

The Boston Globe

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FitzProv

Edward Fitzpatrick is a Boston Globe staff writer covering Rhode Island. He worked for 16 years at the Providence Journal, including eight years as the political columnist and five years as the courts reporter. He is a member of the New England First Amendment Coalition Board of Directors. He worked as director of media and public relations at Roger Williams University, where he launched a First Amendment blog and taught journalism. He was a reporter at the Hartford Courant and the Albany Times Union, and he was the city editor at The Saratogian. He is a Rhode Island native who graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in magazine journalism and political science.

RICHARD C. GAGLIUSO

Bernstein Shur

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Richard Gagliuso has years of experience representing the media in issues like libel and privacy claims, efforts to gain access to public records and proceedings, and the myriad legal issues that may arise during the newsgathering and reporting process. Gagliuso's expertise and decades of knowledge of the law and specific industry practices makes him an effective and reliable advocate, both inside and outside the courtroom. He regularly serves as a mediator or arbitrator in construction and other business disputes. He is a member of the Construction and Commercial Mediation and Arbitration Panels of the American Arbitration Association, and a member of the Panel of Neutrals of the New Hampshire Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire.

CINDY GALLI

ABC News

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mustangalli

Cindy Galli is Chief of Investigative Projects for ABC News in New York. She oversees a team of award-winning network correspondents and producers specializing in investigations ranging from government fraud and waste to corporate corruption and consumer issues. Galli also heads up collaborative investigative projects between ABC News and network affiliates around the country. She serves on the Board of Directors for Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE), where she has been a member since 1994. A longtime consumer investigative reporter, her work has garnered regional and national awards over 25 years of reporting. Galli got her start with ABC's San Francisco station, KGO-TV, before joining the investigative team at "Inside Edition" in New York and later moving to ABC News in 2011.

BETH HEALY

WBUR-Boston

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HealyBeth

Beth Healy is a senior investigative reporter for WBUR. She was part of the team's series, "Dying on the Sheriff's Watch," examining poor health care and deaths at Massachusetts county jails. Healy joined WBUR in 2019 after 19 years at the Boston Globe, where she was a member of the award-winning Spotlight Team from 2017 - 2019 and 2004 - 2008. While there, she was part of the six-part investigative series and podcast, "Gladiator: Aaron Hernandez and Football Inc.," based on the life and death of the NFL star — a finalist for IRE's Award for Sports Investigations. She was also on the team that wrote Debtors' Hell, a Pulitzer finalist. While at the Globe, she worked in the Business section for nearly a decade covering the financial beat and reporting on major stories such as the financial crisis and numerous frauds. She also investigated the transit system's pension fund and the abuse of immigrant domestic workers, among other stories. Before the Globe, Healy held reporting roles at the Boston Herald, Crain's Chicago Business and The Boston Business Journal, and made numerous radio appearances on WBUR, NPR, and other stations.

KYLE HOPKINS

Anchorage Daily News

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Kyle Hopkins is an investigative reporter and editor for the Anchorage Daily News, currently working with the news nonprofit ProPublica on a two-year investigation into sexual violence and the Alaska criminal justice system. The project recently received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. Born in Sitka, Alaska, Kyle attended high school in Skagway and received a journalism degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

MATT KAUFFMAN

The Hartford Courant (formerly)

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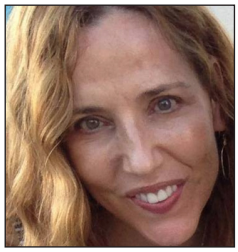
MatthewKauffman

Matthew Kauffman recently retired from The Hartford Courant after a 32-year career. Assigned to the paper's investigative desk, he worked on longer-term projects, specialized in computer-assisted reporting and served as an adviser to the Courant's reporting staff on freedom of information issues. In 2007, Kauffman was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for a series he co-authored on mentally ill troops sent to war. He has also received the Polk Award, the Selden Ring Award, the Worth Bingham Prize, the Stephen A. Collins Memorial Freedom of Information Award, and was named a "Master Reporter" by the New England Society of Newspaper Editors.



JENNIFER LEVITZ

The Wall Street Journal

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jenniferlevitz

Jennifer Levitz is a national reporter who covers general news, economics, politics and daily life in New England and beyond from The Wall Street Journal's Boston bureau. She was on the team that was a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer public-service award for a series highlighting the cancer-spreading risk of a common medical procedure. She worked previously as a reporter for the Providence Journal, where she was on a Pulitzer finalist team for coverage into the causes of the Rhode Island nightclub fire. She is a native of Maryland's Eastern Shore. She is co-author of "Unacceptable," a new book about the nationwide college-admissions scandal.

RAYMOND MARCACCIO

Oliverio & Marcaccio, LLP

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Raymond A. Marcaccio is the co-founder of Oliverio & Marcaccio LLP. Marcaccio enjoys a varied practice in trial and appellate advocacy, as well as conducting sensitive internal investigations concerning misconduct, discrimination and sexual harassment. He has been representing the news media for over 20 years in all facets of media law, including pre-publication review, access to public records and meetings, and defending

against defamation claims. Marcaccio is a recipient of the Public Justice Achievement Award from the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. This national award is given out annually to lawyers who have made a significant contribution in the field of civil rights. He was appointed by the governor to serve on the Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline, which oversees the conduct of all members of the judicial branch for the State of Rhode Island.

CASEY McDERMOTT

New Hampshire Public Radio

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Casey McDermott covers politics and policy, with a focus on data and accountability reporting. Prior to joining NHPR, Casey worked at The Concord Monitor and held internships at ProPublica, the Student Press Law Center and the Chronicle of Higher Education. She studied journalism and sociology at Penn State but spent most of her days (and nights) in the newsroom of the independent student newspaper, The Daily Collegian.

JENIFER McKIM

GBH Center for Investigative Reporting

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jbmckim

Jenifer McKim is a senior reporter with the GBH Center for Investigative Reporting and a clinical instructor of investigative journalism at Boston University. She specializes in social justice issues including criminal justice, child welfare and consumer debt. She has won numerous awards, including the national Edward R. Murrow Award, a Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, and the Freedom of Information Award from the New England First Amendment Coalition. She was a finalist for the 2005 Pulitzer Prize in Public Service. Before joining center in 2013, McKim worked as a staff writer at The Boston Globe, the Orange County Register in Southern California and the San Juan Star in Puerto Rico. She is a fellow of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University.

JUDY MEYER

Sun Media Group

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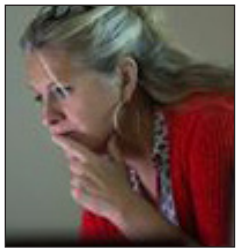
Judith Meyer is executive editor of the Sun Journal, Kennebec Journal, the Morning Sentinel and seven weekly newspapers owned by the Sun Media Group. She serves as vice president of the Maine Freedom of Information Coalition and is a member of the Right to Know Advisory Committee to the Legislature. A journalist since 1990 and former editorial page editor for the Sun Journal, she was named Maine's Journalist of the Year in 2003. She serves on the New England Newspaper & Press Association Board of Directors and was the 2018 recipient of the Judith Vance Weld Brown Spirit of Journalism Award. A fellow of the National Press Foundation and the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism, she attended George Washington University, lives in Auburn with her husband, Phil, and is an active member of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine.



MAGGIE MULVIHILL

Boston University

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maggiemulvihill

Maggie Mulvihill is a veteran investigative and data journalist, journalism educator, news entrepreneur and impassioned defender of our right to know. Her data journalism students have been honored with 10 regional or national journalism awards since 2011 as well as being named finalists for the prestigious Livingston Award for Young Journalists. An attorney, Mulvihill is also a Faculty Affiliate at the Rafik B. Hariri Institute for Computing and Computational Science & Engineering and co-founder of the New England Center for Investigative Reporting. In 2014, Maggie founded BU's summer workshops, Data + Narrative: Data-Driven Storytelling. She serves on the Steering Committee of the Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press, the board of the New England First Amendment Coalition, was a 2004–2005 fellow at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University and was a 2014-2016 member of the Federal Freedom of Information Act Advisory Committee.

KEILA TORRES OCASIO

Hearst Conn. Media Group

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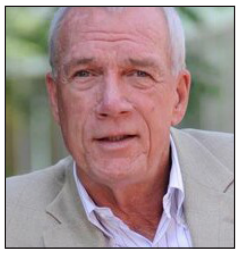
Keila Torres Ocasio is the investigations editor for Hearst Connecticut Media Group. She grew up in Bridgeport and started her career as reporter for the Connecticut Post in 2008. She has since worked as a reporter, columnist and editor for different Hearst Connecticut newspapers. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree in Global Media and Communications from the University of Bridgeport.



WALTER V. ROBINSON

The Boston Globe

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WalterVRobinson

Walter V. Robinson is Editor At Large at the Boston Globe, where his high impact stories about local, national and international events have graced the front page since 1972. He is also the Edith Kinney Gaylord Visiting Professor in Investigative Journalism at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, and Journalist in Residence at Northeastern University. Robinson led the Boston Globe Spotlight Team that won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for its investigation of the sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests. The Spotlight Team's groundbreaking investigation exposed a decades-long cover-up that, in Boston alone, shielded the crimes of nearly 250 priests. Eighteen years later, the team's work continues to spark similar disclosures across the country and around the world. Spotlight's investigation was made into the 2015 Academy Award-winning film, "Spotlight," starring Michael Keaton as Robinson. After leading the investigative team for seven years, he left the Globe in 2007 to become Distinguished Professor of Journalism at Northeastern University. In 2014, he returned to the newspaper. In the mid-1970s Robinson covered politics and government for the Globe, and went on to cover the White House during the Reagan and first Bush Administrations. He covered the presidential election

in 1984 and was the newspaper's lead reporter for presidential elections in 1988 and 1992. In 2000, he did investigative reporting on that year's candidates. In 1990 and 1991, Robinson was the paper's Middle East Bureau chief during the first Persian Gulf War. In 1992, Robinson became the Globe's city editor, and then for three years the metro editor.

MIKE SAVINO

WFSB-Hartford

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Reporter_Savino

Mike Savino is a reporter for Channel 3 Eyewitness News in Connecticut, joining the station and its I-Team in May. Prior to that, he covered local and state politics and state and federal courts for the Record-Journal in Meriden, the Journal Inquirer in Manchester and the Chronicle in Willimantic. Savino is also president of the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information, the top lobbying organization for open government and transparency in that state. He is also a past president of the Connecticut chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, and is currently on the SPJ's national FOI Committee.

SIGMUND SCHUTZ

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Sigmund D. Schutz represents the news media in First Amendment matters, defamation and privacy, state and federal freedom of information, newsgathering and cyber law. As a partner at PretiFlaherty, LLP and media law counsel for the Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram for nearly 20 years, Schutz has served as counsel in many precedent setting public access cases in Maine. These have included access to transcripts of 911 calls, the right to attend jury selection in criminal cases in Maine state court, access to "draft" settlement agreements to which the State of Maine is a party, access to dash cam police cruiser video, and access to records of closed law enforcement investigations. Schutz writes the Maine chapters in the Media Law Resource Center's 50-state guide to media libel law and privacy law and the Maine Chapter in the Open Government Guide published by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

MARY SCHWIND

Connecticut FOI Commission

mary.schwind@ct.gov

Mary E. Schwind is Managing Director and Associate General Counsel at the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, an independent public agency that enforces the provisions of Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act. She began working at the Commission in 1997. In her role as managing director, she oversees the adjudication of hundreds of formal complaints per year. Previously, Schwind worked at both the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission and the Office of the Massachusetts Secretary of State, Public Records Division. Schwind is a graduate of Fordham University and Suffolk University Law School and is admitted to the bars of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and the District of Columbia.

ELI SHERMAN

WPRI-Providence

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Eli_Sherman

Eli Sherman is an award-winning journalist. He joined Target 12 in 2019, having previously worked as an investigative reporter for GateHouse Media. Sherman also covered economics for Providence Business News and worked as a metro reporter for the Waltham News Tribune. He's won first-place awards from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers (SABEW), The Alliance of Area Business Publishers, the New England Newspaper & Press Association and The Rhode Island Press Association.

GREGORY V. SULLIVAN

Malloy & Sullivan

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Gregory V. Sullivan has served as general counsel for the Union Leader Corporation for the past 40 years. He has represented Union Leader and many other media organizations regarding First Amendment issues in federal and state courts. Sullivan also currently serves on the New Hampshire Supreme Court's Committee on the Judiciary and the Media, as well as the Committee for Public Access to Courts, and is president of the Hingham, Mass.-based media law firm, Malloy & Sullivan. Sullivan has argued before the New Hampshire Supreme Court in several landmark First Amendment and public access cases.

LAURA UNGAR

Kaiser Health News

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Laura Ungar, Midwest Editor/Correspondent, covers health issues out of Kaiser Health News' St. Louis office. She has been a journalist for nearly three decades, including for The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, USA Today, the Hartford Courant in Connecticut and The News Journal in Delaware. She has covered health for more than half her career, writing about issues ranging from cancer disparities to lead in water to the largest HIV outbreak in rural America. She has won more than 50 national, regional and local journalism awards from organizations such as Investigative Reporters and Editors, the Association of Health Care Journalists, the Society of Environmental Journalists and the National Headliner Awards.

TODD WALLACK

The Boston Globe

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twallack

Todd Wallack is an investigative reporter for The Boston Globe's Spotlight Team, specializing in data journalism, public records and financial reporting. Wallack was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2013 for his work covering the deadly outbreak of meningitis traced to a specialty pharmacy in Framingham. He has won a number of other awards, including first place from the national

Education Writers Association and Association of Health Care Journalists, as well as a "Laurel" from the Columbia Journalism Review. Wallack, a graduate of Northwestern University, has worked for The Boston Globe since 2007. He has spent much of his career as a business reporter and previously worked for the San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Herald, Boston Business Journal, Network World, and the Dayton (Ohio) Daily news. He lives with his wife in Somerville, Mass.

NANCY WEST

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nancywestnews

Nancy West founded the nonprofit New Hampshire Center for Public Interest Journalism in April of 2015. West is the executive editor of the center's investigative news website InDepthNH.org. West has won many awards for investigative reporting during her 30 years at the New Hampshire Union Leader. She has taught investigative journalism at the New England Center for Investigative Reporting's summer program for pre-college students at Boston University. West is passionate about government transparency.

TIM WHITE

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Target 12 investigative reporter Tim White joined the 12 News team in September 2006. White is the recipient of four New England Emmy Awards for investigative reporting. He was honored for a 2010 series of stories probing government waste in Rhode Island. He won his second Emmy for 2012 coverage of Providence's troubled pension system. A 2014 probe into a lack of accountability at a local fire district led to his third Emmy honor. A 2016 investigation that raised questions as to where a powerful state representative actually lived resulted in the politician's indictment and was White's fourth Emmy win. White's documentary "The Mafia Tapes," on the 30th anniversary of an infamous 1989 mob induction ceremony, was the recipient of two Regional 2020 Edward R. Murrow Awards. White is a co-author of "The Last Good Heist," the untold story of a daring heist on a secret bank of safe deposit boxes used by members of the New England mob and their associates. A half-hour documentary on the Bonded Vault heist was also nominated for an Emmy. White and the Target 12 investigative team have also received several New England Associated Press Awards, including for their coverage of a drug ring in the Providence Police Department. In 2015, White won a regional Edward R. Murrow award for investigative reporting.

White is the executive producer and host of WPRI 12's long-running weekly current affairs program "Newsmakers." He has moderated many live candidate debates and plays a key role in the station's campaign coverage. In 2013, the Washington Post selected him as one of the state's top political reporters. Prior to joining 12 News, White worked in the Boston television market, most recently as managing editor at WBZ-TV, the city's CBS affiliate. White received two Associated Press Awards for breaking news at WBZ and was also part of a team honored with several National Edward R. Murrow Awards, including for coverage of the 2006 New Hampshire floods and the tragic 1999 "Worcester Warehouse Fire" that claimed the lives of six firefighters. White also ran WBZ's award-winning political unit during his time as managing editor.

BROOKE WILLIAMS

Boston University

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reporterbrooke

Brooke Williams is an investigative journalist and professor who specializes in data-driven reporting and storytelling. As a visiting associate professor of the practice at Boston University, she teaches data journalism and other courses to undergraduate and graduate students. Williams currently is a contributor to The Intercept, where she and her co-reporters are utilizing machine learning to examine federal prosecutors nationwide. Her work has contributed to a Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting, a George Polk Award and a Gerald Loeb Award, among many others. As a contributor to The New York Times in 2015, Williams co-authored the investigative series Think Tanks Inc. A year earlier, she was on a team that published a data-driven investigation on the front page of Sunday's New York Times. She built a database and co-reported and co-authored that investigation, which was part of a package of stories that won the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting. Previously, Williams was an investigative journalism fellow for three years at Harvard University Law School. Williams began her career in January 2002 as a writer at the Center for Public Integrity, where she co-authored Harmful Error: Investigating Americas Local Prosecutors, The Buying of the President 2004 and Windfalls of War, an investigation into defense contracts that won a George Polk Award. She spent about five years on the watchdog team at the San Diego Union-Tribune, where she and her colleagues were finalists for the Livingston Award for Young Journalists for stories examining how the city mishandled public land. In 2007, after wildfires ravaged San Diego County, her collaborative, prize-winning investigation into contractors the city hired to haul away debris resulted in a federal criminal probe and taxpayer settlement. In 2009, the year it launched, she joined the nonprofit investigative journalism group, inewsource.

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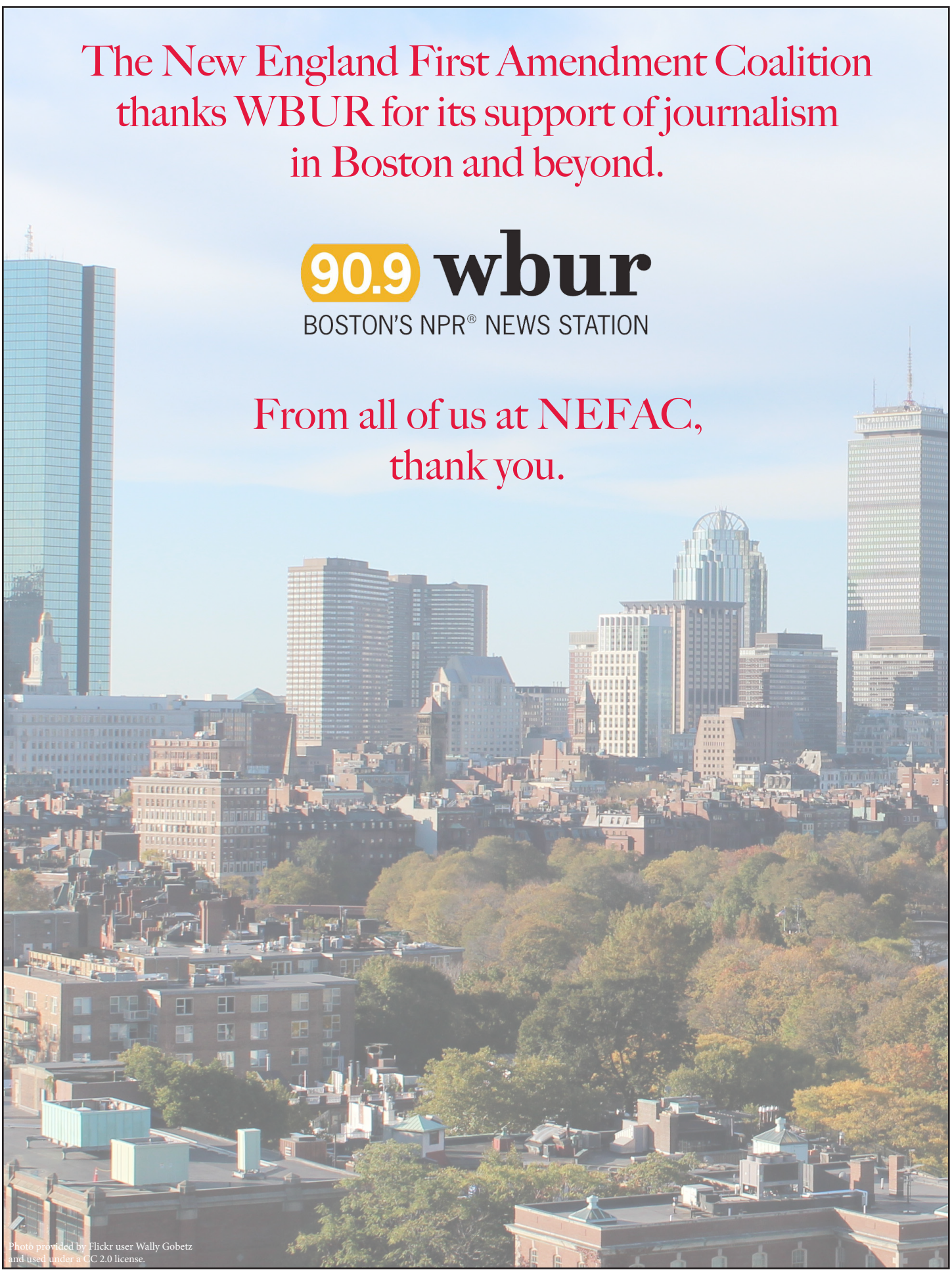

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NEFAI 2020 Fellows

DEVIN BATES
Local 22/44

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batesreports

Devin Bates has been an evening reporter with Local 22 & Local 44 since June 2018, and his work has brought him all across Vermont covering politics, breaking news, and uplifting stories from our communities. Bates feels very fortunate to be in a beautiful state doing what he loves. He's excited to continue his career and keep building relationships with colleagues and Vermonters.

OLIVIA BELANGER
The Keene Sentinel

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OBelangerKS

Olivia Belanger is the health reporter for The Keene Sentinel in Keene, N.H. Prior to joining The Sentinel's reporting team in August of 2019, Belanger spent a year in Watertown, New York, as the health, nonprofit and education reporter for the Watertown Daily Times. Belanger is a New Hampshire native, growing up in North Conway and then graduating from Keene State College with a bachelor's in journalism.

DUSTY CHRISTENSEN
Daily Hampshire Gazette

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Dusty Christensen is a staff writer at the Daily Hampshire Gazette in Northampton, Mass. He covers the city of Holyoke, and previously wrote about education for the newspaper. In 2019, his reporting on past abuses at the world-famous Clarke School for the Deaf was named a finalist in investigative reporting by the New England Newspaper & Press Association, and his months-long series chronicling a financial crisis at Hampshire College was a finalist in education reporting. In 2018, Christensen was one of the founding organizers of the staff union at the Daily Hampshire Gazette, the Pioneer Valley NewsGuild, and has since worked as an organizer helping other journalists unionize their newsrooms. Previously, Christensen worked as a producer at WNYC radio in New York City, a fact-checker at The Nation magazine and a freelance reporter who wrote everything from Ukraine's nuclear industry to U.S. retirees gentrifying small indigenous villages in Ecuador. Prior to journalism, Christensen served as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural western Ukraine. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia and of the global journalism master's program at New York University, where he was a Foreign Language and Area Studies fellow. A lover of languages, Christensen has learned and reported in several over the years.

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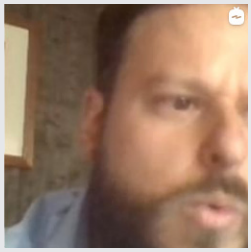

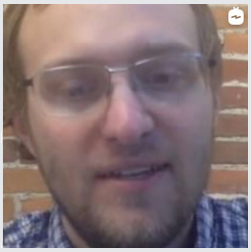

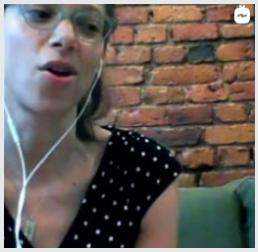

VERNAL COLEMAN

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Vernal Coleman is a reporter on The Boston Globe's quick-strike investigations team. He joined the Globe in 2019 after working as an accountability reporter with the Seattle Times' Project Homeless, a special unit dedicated to spotlighting what is working, and not working, in the government's response to Seattle region's worsening homelessness epidemic. His writing has appeared in the Seattle Times, New Jersey Star-Ledger and several alt-weeklies.

TATIANA FLOWERS

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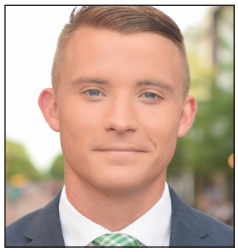
TATIANADFLOWERS

Tatiana Flowers is a reporter for Hearst Connecticut Media Group covering human services at Greenwich Time. She recently finished the Hearst Journalism Fellowship, where she and a team of young reporters won the 2020 New England First Amendment Coalition FOI Award and an IRE award for their work exposing child sex abuse at the hands of staff, volunteers and participants at Boys & Girls Clubs across America. Before moving to Connecticut, Flowers worked as a temporary newsperson at the Associated Press' Denver bureau, covering general assignments. Flowers is a graduate of Penn State University and CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, a school that led her to reporting assignments in Israel and Morocco.



TOM GARRIS

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Tom Garris is the weekend evening anchor and weekday reporter at NBC5 News (WPTZ-TV) in Burlington, Vt., and Plattsburgh, N.Y. He started with the station nearly three years ago, first as a reporter/photographer. Garris has worked to hone his reporting skills, covering everything from politics and government to high-profile court cases to inspiring features. While much of his work has been reporting news of the day, he's worked to tell longer-form stories when possible. One looked back at a cold case involving a girl who has been missing for 15 years. Another explained the process of the Vermont attorney general securing money for residents from companies that have done wrong, like Volkswagen's diesel emissions scandal.

JESSICA HILL

Cape Cod Times

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Jessica Hill is a news reporter with the Cape Cod Times covering the towns of Mashpee and Falmouth in Massachusetts. She recently joined Gannett's New England fact checking team, verifying viral posts on Facebook. Before joining the Cape Cod Times staff, she worked for a couple of other small newspapers on the Cape, writing investigative pieces as well as daily news coverage. She is a recent graduate of the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University where she was awarded the White House Correspondents Association Scholarship.

JENNIFER HUBERDEAU

The Berkshire Eagle

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Jennifer Huberdeau is the editor of Up-Country Magazine and features digital editor at The Berkshire Eagle, both publications of New England Newspapers, Inc. She first joined The Eagle as its online editor in 2014, following its merger with The North Adams Transcript. Most recently, she was part of a team that covered the controversial sale of some 22 artworks by the Berkshire Museum, including two Norman Rockwell paintings, donated by the artist. The sale was challenged in the courts by the Rockwell family, the state attorney general and community members. Prior to joining The Eagle, Huberdeau was the lead reporter and digital editor of the North Adams Transcript, from 2005 to 2014. While at The Transcript, her beat included city hall, cops and courts, healthcare, education, breaking news and municipal meetings. She is an alumna of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Care Fellowship and has won several awards from the New England Newspaper & Press Association. She is a graduate of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and holds a bachelor's degree in English/Communications with a concentration in journalism.

MADELINE HUGHES

The Eagle-Tribune

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Madeline Hughes is a reporter with The Eagle-Tribune working to cover southern New Hampshire. She came to New Hampshire from Vermont where she wrote for the Vermont Community Newspaper Group's six newspapers. Hughes graduated from St. Michael's College in 2017. During college, she studied journalism in Morocco and served as her school's Executive Online Editor.

ALEXANDER LaCASSE

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Alexander LaCasse is an investigative and political reporter with Seacoastonline, covering the Seacoast region of New Hampshire. He regularly contributes enterprising feature stories on a variety of topics including state and local politics, criminal justice issues, environmental contamination from PFAS, and climate change and its economic impacts. LaCasse won first place for the New Hampshire Press Association's 2019 First Amendment Award for his coverage of the arrest of an Exeter man on a "criminal defamation of character" charge for comments he posted online criticizing the town's police chief. The law is now currently subject of a federal lawsuit brought by the ACLU of New Hampshire, challenging the statute's constitutionality. A 2015 graduate of Northeastern University, where he studied abroad in Greece and Spain, LaCasse was a team member of an investigation into debt claim abuses in the Mas-

sachusetts District Court system, which was published in The Boston Globe. He also has work published in the Christian Science Monitor as a member of its Social First Team as an intern. In addition to his print journalism work, LaCasse has been a technical producer for iHeart Media in Portsmouth, N.H., and Denver, Colo. At Northeastern, LaCasse broadcasted men's varsity basketball games and hosted a weekly talk show, "The Granite Lounge," on 104.9 WRBB. LaCasse is from Stratham, N.H., and a 2010 graduate of Exeter. He currently resides in Newmarket, N.H., and excels at regularly losing golf balls during his leisure time.

MADELEINE LIST

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Madeleine List has been covering the city of Providence for the Providence Journal for over two years. She previously worked at the Cape Cod Times where she covered multiple beats. List earned her degree in journalism and Spanish from the University of Maryland. In 2018, she was selected as a John Jay/Harry Frank Guggenheim Criminal Justice Reporting Fellow and this year won first place in the social issues feature story category at the New England Newspaper & Press Association awards for her story on racial disparities in maternal health. List is fluent in Spanish and loves covering stories about social issues.

LUCIA MAFFEI

Boston Business Journal

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Lucia "Lucy" Maffei is a business reporter based in Boston. Her work has been published in the Boston Business Journal, BostInno, NPR.org and TechCrunch. Currently, she's the Technology Reporter for the Boston Business Journal covering tech, startups, venture capital and innovation in Greater Boston. She's passionate about the intersection between language and technology and has reported throughout the United States as well as in Italy, her home country. Born and raised in Pisa, the city of the "Leaning Tower," Maffei started her journalism career at the local paper Il Tirreno before receiving her Master of Science in Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 2016. Last year, Maffei's scoop for the Boston Business Journal on Wayfair's CEO saying he'd like prospective employees to be 'non-political' was followed and linked back by local and national news outlets such as The Boston Globe, Boston.com, Business Insider, Boston Magazine and Forbes. When she's not breaking news, Maffei can be found in the Boston's Fenway area cultivating her photography skills, reading the latest contemporary fiction or enjoying her last-one-seriously cup of espresso.

SAMANTHA MERCADO

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Samantha Mercado is a local news reporter with Patch.com covering the suburbs west of Boston. She previously worked in broadcast news as a producer with Fios1 News. She has written on topics spanning reproductive rights, immigration and travel and her byline can be found in Bust, The Journal News and The Hook Magazine. Mercado studied magazine writing with a concentration in global perspectives and graduated in 2017 from Stony Brook University in Long Island, N.Y. As an early-career journalist, Mercado is eager to get her feet wet in long-form writing and investigative reporting.

ANNA MERRIMAN

Valley News

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Anna Merriman is a cops and courts reporter with the Valley News. In the past she worked as an editor with Vox for Curbed Philly, a reporter at NJ.Com and a reporter at the Chronicle Telegram in Elyria, Ohio. She grew up in Vermont and moved back to the area when her husband got a job at Dartmouth. She loves being back in the area and taking her cat, Bubbles, on hikes in the woods.

DASIA MOORE

The Boston Globe

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Dasia Moore is a general assignment reporter for The Boston Globe's metro desk. She covers social justice movements and the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on Massachusetts' public health response. Prior to joining the Globe in April 2020, Moore worked as a researcher and writer for Quartz, based in New York, where she covered emerging technology. She began her career in journalism as a news associate for Katie Couric Media, launching and writing Couric's daily email newsletter, Wake-Up Call. Moore graduated from Yale University with a degree in ethics, politics, and economics. She is originally from the Carolinas and is happy to call Somerville, Mass., her new home.

CHRISTOPHER ROSS

Addison County Independent

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redfloatboat

Before joining the Addison County (Vt.) Independent as a reporter in 2018, Christopher Ross was a stay-at-home dad, freelance editor, DJ, actor, theater director, graduate student at the Bread Loaf School of English and the third or fourth worst Texas Hold 'Em player in the state. Putting all of his creative and professional focus into one job seems to have settled him down somewhat. In addition to providing local community news about five towns and their school district, Ross covers agriculture, energy, the environment and Middlebury College. He also writes features for the Arts + Leisure section and proofreads portions of the newspaper. Sometimes he writes stories that don't really fit into any of those categories, like the one he's working on as he writes this brief bio, about a local family whose neighbor used a psychic to find their missing dog. In February he was honored by the New England Newspaper & Press Association with the 2019 Rookie of the Year award for weekly papers, which he owes entirely to his news editor, John McCright, his publisher, Angelo Lynn, and fellow reporters John Flowers, Andy Kirkaldy and Megan James. Ross grew up in Richmond, Va., studied creative writing at Bard College and suspects both of those things have contributed to his being the slowest reporter in the newsroom.

Thank You

Paul and Ann Sagan

The New England First Amendment Coalition thanks Paul and Ann Sagan for all their support of the First Amendment and free press.

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After completing an MFA, Ross moved to Wiesbaden, Germany, to become a rock star. When that didn't work out, he fell in love and moved to Brooklyn to become a husband and a novelist. In 2004 he and his wife moved to Vermont and promptly had a daughter, whose genius they find utterly, delightfully baffling. Ross is looking forward to meeting other NEFAI fellows and further developing his journalism skills.

MOLLY SHELLY

Morning Sentinel

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Molly Shelly is a general assignment reporter for the Morning Sentinel newspaper in Waterville, Maine. After earning a bachelor's degree in journalism from Temple University in May 2019, Shelly moved from Philadelphia to Waterville to begin working for the Sentinel. Since joining the reporting staff, Shelly has covered all types of stories including elections, breaking news, human interest pieces and investigative work. In her spare time, Shelly enjoys painting, watching the Sopranos and exploring Maine's natural beauty.

TERRENCE STACKHOUSE

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Every night growing up, Terry Stackhouse would go to bed with a radio beside him. Without it, he couldn't sleep. It was tuned into news broadcasts out of Portland, Maine. As a little kid, he found comfort in knowing there was a group of people who were also awake keeping an eye on the world. He felt like the anchors and reporters were speaking directly to him. As a reporter, Stackhouse aims to share stories that might help someone feel like they're not alone. His goal is to inspire empathy and make viewers feel closer to the communities they call home. Stackhouse returned to Maine in May of 2020 after spending four years working in Albany, N.Y. At Spectrum News, he served as a reporter, anchor and eventually Executive Producer of Capital Tonight, a nightly newscast focused on politics. Prior to working in Albany, he worked at WABI TV5 in Bangor as a reporter and anchor.

SHIRA STOLL

NBC 10 Boston

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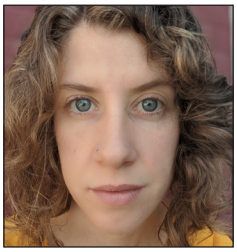
ShiraStoll

Shira Stoll is a regional emmy-winning digital video producer at NBC10 Boston and NECN, based in Brookline, Mass. Prior to moving to the Boston area in December 2019, Stoll was a staff multimedia specialist at the Staten Island Advance newspaper working on short documentaries and features. She spent two years sharing the stories of Holocaust survivors in New York City, a project that continues to be used as a resource for NYC public schools to teach the Holocaust. Stoll holds both a master's and a bachelor's degree from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. While in graduate school at SU, she worked as an Instructional Associate where she taught video, photography, audio editing and video editing to graduate and undergraduate journalism students. She also was a student at the 2015 Eddie Adams Workshop XXVIII. Stoll was awarded a 2019 New York Emmy for Where Life Leads You: Stories of Staten Island's Holocaust Survivors and has received two other New York Emmy nominations. Her work has also been recognized by the New York Publishers Association, the New York State Associated Press Organization and the NPPA Northern Short Course. Outside of work, Stoll can be found at a plant store, practicing yoga or working on her ongoing mission to find the best pizza in Massachusetts.



ANDREA SWIEDOM

Sun Media Group

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Andrea Swiedom is a Maine native who recently graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a B.A. in English and Creative Writing. She now writes for Sun Media's weekly publications, the Franklin Journal and the Livermore Falls Advertiser. Before working as a reporter, Swiedom primarily worked in the food industry as a private chef on a sailing yacht and as a manager at a Maine brewery. She pursues an independent, food-related journalism project called The Recipe Commons which explores the connection between family recipes and migration. Swiedom spends her free time hiking, cooking and researching her goal of kayaking the Inside Passage. She plans on working in the journalism field for a couple of years before returning to school to study environmental humanities. With additional work experience and education, Andrea hopes to pursue investigative writing related to climate change and diminishing natural resources.

JULIA TALIESIN

Somerville Journal

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JuliaTaliesin

Julia Taliesin is a journalist, photographer, and videographer working in the Boston area. She currently serves as the sole multimedia journalist for the Somerville Journal. As a 2018 graduate of Simmons University, she is early in her career and taking every opportunity to learn. At the Somerville Journal, she has reported on everything from the city's leading approach to COVID-19 to how local businesses are navigating the pandemic. Her passion lies in investigative journalism, and she feels most at home digging through public records and databases. She has traveled throughout Europe and to Ecuador and Kenya, and hopes to someday bring her journalism skills international. Outside of work, she enjoys a good true crime documentary, dystopian novel, and pint of Ben and Jerry's ice cream.

TIFFANY TAN

Bennington Banner

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tiffgtan

Tiffany Tan covers the criminal justice beat for the Bennington Banner, where she has written about the opioid epidemic as well as food insecurity and homelessness. She is also covering the 2020

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for its generosity and continued support of the First Amendment, the public's right to know and the education of journalists throughout New England.

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Thank you.

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census. A native of the Philippines, she worked in China and Singapore before moving to the United States in 2015. She previously was a reporter at the Rapid City Journal (S.D.), where she got a crash course in covering federal, state and Native American law enforcement and courts. She started her journalism career as a television writer and producer in Manila. She speaks Tagalog, Mandarin Chinese and Ilonggo.

PETER YANKOWSKI
Hearst Conn. Media Group

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Peter Ellis Yankowski is a breaking news reporter for Hearst Connecticut Media based in Danbury. During his time at Hearst, he was one of seven journalists who uncovered dozens of cases of sexual abuse tied to Boys & Girls Clubs of America, for which the team was awarded the New England First Amendment Coalition's 2020 Michael Donoghue Freedom of Information Award. After that project was published last year, Yankowski moved from his position as staff reporter at The Ridgefield Press, a weekly newspaper, to the breaking news desk at the NewsTimes in Danbury. While there he investigated the proliferation of military equipment on loan to local police departments through the Department of Defense, and covered a slew of local crime and other stories in the city and surrounding towns. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he covered daily reports of conditions inside the state's nursing homes and other long-term care facilities hit hard by coronavirus; including interviewing families of victims and workers inside the homes. Yankowski graduated from Sarah Lawrence College with a bachelor's degree in liberal arts in 2013. When he's not chasing down breaking news or pursuing long investigative projects, he can most often be found crisscrossing the state on his motorcycle— or repairing it.

How You Can Support NEFAC

The New England First Amendment Coalition provides a unique opportunity for you to help keep government accountable and journalism thriving. NEFAC was formed in 2006 by a group of journalists concerned that citizens, to say nothing of reporters, are routinely denied access to the work of government. Our founders saw a need for a unified, region-wide organization that would speak in one robust voice throughout New England. With the support of individuals like you, NEFAC is making strides.

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Notes

Notes

Notes

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of **religion**, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of **speech**, or of the **press**; or the right of the people peaceably to **assemble**, and to **petition** the government for a redress of grievances.

First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution