

MAY 28 - 31, 2025 ST. LOUIS, MO



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# ST. LOUIS UNION STATION HOTEL **ST. LOUIS, MO**

May 28-31, 2025



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## PRESENTING

Strada Education Foundation

## PLATINUM

Agency Bloomberg Philanthropies Charter School Growth Fund City Fund

## EWA wishes to thank our sponsors and supporters of the 78th EWA National Seminar.

## **RED DIAMOND**

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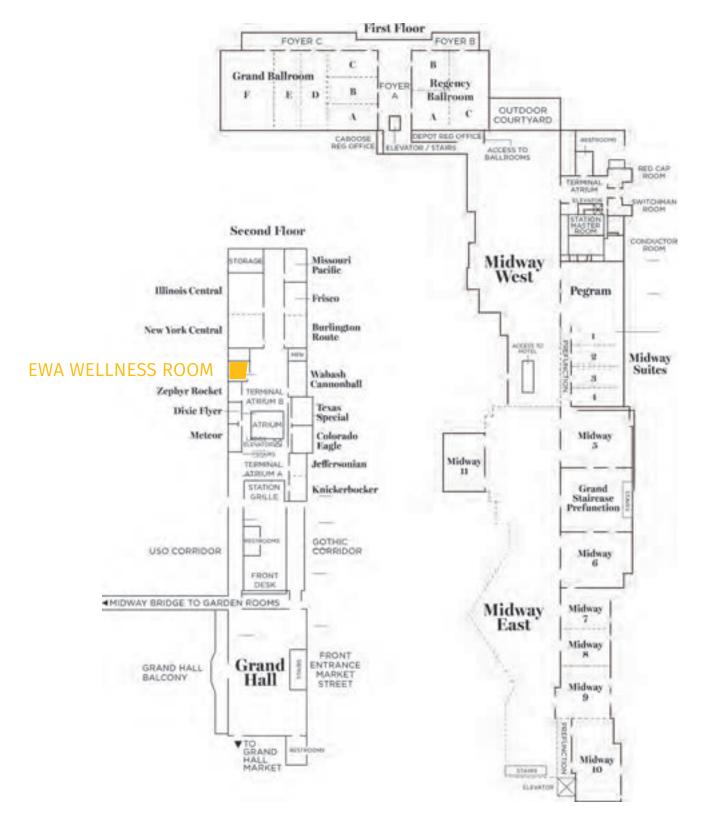
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# **Hotel Map**





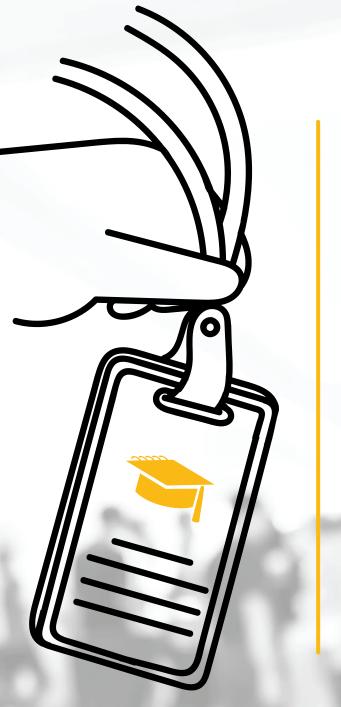


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# Don't forget your name badge!

**NATIONAL SEMINAR** 

# Glossary of Terms



A small-group discussion moderated by an individual or individuals. Attendance may be limited exclusively to journalists or open to a mixture of community members and journalists; this will be noted with each caucus description.

#### COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK

These sessions are planned by our Community Advisory Board to support our non-journalist members, including public information officers and education policymakers. This programming typically focuses on communications skills, trends, challenges and strategy, and it's open to community and journalist members.



A deep dive is a series of sessions on one topic. The panels are not necessarily sequential, but all relate to a single education issue or journalism skill.

#### HOW I DID THE STORY (HIDTS)

These sessions feature journalists talking about why and how they did a particular story or package. From ideation to publication, journalists speak to the reporting process, the challenges they faced and why they chose the sources, angles and formats they did.

# SPONSOR SESSION

Sponsor sessions are planned by organizations, companies, foundations and other partners as part of their sponsorship of the National Seminar. Sponsors have full editorial control and responsibility for the content and perspectives presented during their sessions.

# WEDNESDAY MAY 28



#### **Networking** 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

## **Registration Open**

5 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

**REGENCY C** 

## <sup>6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</sup> Welcome Reception

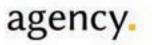
**SPONSORED BY** Agency and Charter School Growth Fund "This isn't a trick question but shouldn't every student have access to a great public education?"



Every child deserves access to a high-quality, public education. That's the mission.

From classrooms to communities, a shared vision is gaining ground: to expand education options for all students. And charter schools are a vital part of making that happen.

Better Education, Together.











On behalf of the 1.8 million members of the AFT, we are proud to support the Education Writers Association and the 2025 National Seminar, which will address new policies on immigration and diversity, equity and inclusion, and threats to the safety and civil rights of marginalized students, as well as other issues such as career pathways and school choice and their impact on students and schools.

The AFT believes in safe, welcoming and fully funded public schools and colleges that prepare and support our young people for college, career and life. We fight for freedom and opportunity for all, which only comes with a real democracy. We salute your efforts to support those who wish to fairly and equitably report on what has happened and what may come.

We stand with you as champions of great schools and colleges that fulfill the promise of public education, **good jobs** that support a middle-class life, affordable healthcare for all, the fight against discrimination and hate, and the **defense of democracy**.

The AFT is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

Randi Weingarten PRESIDENT

Fedrick C. Ingram SECRETARY-TREASURER

**Evelyn** DeJesus EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

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# THURSDAY MAY 29



#### **REGISTRATION OPEN**

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

#### BREAKFAST

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

#### **BREAKFAST CAUCUS**

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

MIDWAY SUITES 5

**GRAND BALLROOM DEF** 

**GRAND BALLROOM DEF** 

#### Networking and Community for LGBTQ+ Journalists

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot industry issues and build community with others on the education beat. Open to journalist members only. LGBTQ+ allies welcome.

CD Davidson-Hiers, Education Writers Association

#### **WELCOME ACTIVITIES**

9 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

# Welcome

Welcome to the 78th EWA National Seminar Kathy Chow, executive director, Education Writers Association

Eva-Marie Ayala, president, board of directors, Education Writers Association

# **Membership Meeting**

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

# **COFFEE BREAK**

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

#### **Covering Undocumented Students**

**GRAND AB** 

In these tumultuous times, how can reporters improve their coverage of issues and challenges related to undocumented students and their school communities? What do recent changes to federal immigration policy imply for journalism's best practices, and where are the opportunities to explore beyond the familiar storylines? Natalia Alamdari, Flatwater Free Press

Antero Garcia, Stanford University

Jo Napolitano, The 74

Reema Amin, Chalkbeat Chicago (moderator)

## **POSTSECONDARY PATHWAYS PART 1** Fighting Student Apathy: Career Pathways to the Rescue?

**REGENCY B** 

Teens continue to report declining interests in school and pursuing higher education. Chronic absenteeism also remains a persistent issue. Could a sharper focus on career pathways help schools better engage students? Hear from a researcher, district leader and students about their experiences with pathways programs, such as career and technical education and apprenticeships. Learn what strategies some schools are pursuing to support student learning and advancement. **Micaiah Brown**, Belleville Township High School District 201 (Illinois)

Serenity Graham, Belleville Township High School District 201 (Illinois)

**Lazaro Lopez**, Township High School District 214 (Illinois)

Jay Plasman, The Ohio State University

Mila Koumpilova, Chalkbeat Chicago (moderator)

#### Navigating Education Records: Requesting and Using FOI for Data-Driven Reporting

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

From uncovering data on school funding, teacher retention and student performance to navigating the legal complexities of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and public records laws, this session equips journalists of all levels with tools and strategies to successfully access and use education records. Panelists discuss useful records to obtain, tips for crafting requests, strategies for overcoming denials and legal considerations. **David Cuillier**, Brechner Freedom of Information Project

**Sydney Sims**, Brechner Freedom of Information Project

**Gunita Singh**, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Alex Walters, The State News at Michigan State University

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. (cont'd)

#### **Threats to Academic Freedom on Campus**

**REGENCY A** 

Colleges are confronting federal investigatory threats over what can be done and taught related to diversity, equity and inclusion programs while risking federal funding cuts if they don't police protests and certain classes. Meanwhile, some states – including Florida – have restricted what can be taught about some topics, such as systemic racism. What is the state of academic freedom on campus, and what does it mean for faculty, students and learning?

#### Will Creeley, FIRE

Miguel Luna, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Amy Reid, PEN America

Ryan Quinn, Inside Higher Ed (moderator)

#### COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK Reporters Roundtable

**REGENCY C** 

In this insightful and always popular session, print and broadcast reporters reveal to communications professionals what pitches capture their attention and what issues interest them the most in this unprecedented education landscape. Crucially, journalists also explain what **not** to do. Cheyanne Mumphrey, The Associated Press

Juan Perez Jr., POLITICO

Suzanne Perez, KMUW-FM (Kansas)

Allie Ciaramella, National Council of Teachers of English (moderator)

#### SPONSOR SESSION

#### Public School Choice: A Look at Free, Innovative K-12 Models

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

Let's talk about public school choice – wildly popular and highly effective, yet it's often misunderstood and mischaracterized. Why is public school choice working for families across the country? Join experts representing diverse public school choice options – including innovative district and charter schools – to dive into new, emerging research on this topic. Attendees leave with a deeper understanding and actionable insights for covering public school choice options. (Sponsored and organized by Agency, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Charter School Growth Fund and City Fund.) Kimberly Neal-Brannum, BELIEVE Schools

Rachel Powers, The Opportunity Trust

Curtis Valentine, Progressive Policy Institute

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Lunch

Sponsored by Strada Education Foundation

12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Remarks by Travis Reindl, Strada Education Foundation

**GRAND BALLROOM DEF** 

#### GRAND BALLROOM DEF

# EWA National Awards for Education Reporting

Category Awards Ceremony

#### **REGISTRATION OPEN**

1:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

# BREAK

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

#### Checks and Balances: State Accountability, Federal Oversight

#### **REGENCY B**

First came the Every Student Succeeds Act and COVID-19. Federal oversight waned and states relaxed accountability systems. Now the Trump administration is scaling back the data the federal government collects, including the backbone of the National Assessment of Educational Progress, a yardstick that compares student achievement nationwide. How will severe cutbacks to federal data collection impact state assessments, and what are the implications for students and schools?

#### Game Changer: Athletes Profiting From College Sports

**REGENCY C** 

From name, image and likeness agreements – and the landmark House v. NCAA settlement that includes billions of dollars in backpay to former Division I student-athletes – to conference changes, the evolving landscape of college athletics means more higher education journalists are stepping into the sports reporting arena. What trends do reporters need to know? How are universities changing to meet the needs and demands of student-athletes?

How I Did the Story: School Segregation

#### **GRAND AB**

School segregation has received increased coverage over the last year, particularly around the 70th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision. What were some of the deep and innovative ways reporters covered this historic and still-pressing topic? Journalists share how they created robust packages about one of education's most persistent civil rights issues, and they explain why they chose their sources, formats and story angles. **Peggy Carr**, (formerly) U.S. Department of Education **Dale Chu**, independent consultant

Scott Marion, Center for Assessment

Kayla Jimenez, USA Today (moderator)

Kevin Blackistone, University of Maryland

Nicole Kraft, The Ohio State University

Shannon Scovel, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Sheridan Hendrix, The Columbus Dispatch (moderator)

Lily Altavena, Detroit Free Press

Catherine Carrera, Chalkbeat Newark

Marianna McMurdock, independent journalist

Amber Payne, The Emancipator

#### **Navigating Campus Amid DEI Restrictions**

**REGENCY A** 

Federal executive orders target diversity, equity and inclusion programs and policies at colleges while more than 30 states considered – and in some cases passed – similar measures to restrict DEI in recent years. Some universities eliminated DEI positions and policies while others weighed whether and how to comply, or they are resisting through legal challenges. Panelists discuss the current DEI legal landscape, the ways schools are responding, and how it's affecting faculty and students. **Catherine Lhamon**, (formerly) U.S. Department of Education

Ted Mitchell, American Council on Education

**Sydney Testman**, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Amy Morona, Signal Cleveland (moderator)

#### COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK How I Did the Story: Communications That Drive Impact in Politicized Times

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

A spin-off from one of EWA's popular session formats, this talk is designed for communicators and storytellers working within organizations. Participants hear from in-house communications professionals who led campaigns that drove engagement and impact through storytelling. They also detail what led to successful outcomes despite working within a challenging political environment. Amy Bartner, Lumina Foundation Lauren Roth, Orange County Public Schools Wendy Roundtree, Jarel Communications Daria Hall, Fenton (moderator)

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

# **COFFEE BREAK**

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Community College 101**

#### **REGENCY B**

About 40% of college students in the U.S. attend community college, institutions that enroll a large number of historically underrepresented students. But these schools are not often covered as much as other colleges. Here's a how-to guide on diving into the intricacies of community colleges. How are they funded? Who is really going to community college? How can you access first-generation students, student parents and other learners who fall under the "new majority"? Thomas Brock, Community College Research Center

Katie Glass, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College

Ivan Hernandez, Student Senate for California Community Colleges

Miranda Dunlap, independent journalist (moderator)

#### Digital Safety in Difficult Times: Protecting Yourself (and Your Information)

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

In this hands-on workshop, digital safety experts demonstrate how to "dox" your own digital footprint, set up preventative measures to protect your safety and privacy, and respond to online threats and abuse.

#### Early Childhood Education Reporting: Cost, Access and Equity

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

Early education and child care emerged as a critical public policy issue during the COVID-19 pandemic, even though the sector had been on the verge of collapse for decades. Explore federal, state and local initiatives aimed at strengthening early learning programs. Enhance your understanding of the significant challenges facing the system, including access, cost and equity.

#### Public Dollars, Private Schools: How to Report on School Choice

#### **GRAND AB**

Providing public dollars for private schooling is gaining momentum state by state. Before journalists can look at the debate on vouchers, they need to look closely at the measures states are implementing. Follow the money. Examine the accountability measures. Investigate the transparency of the rules. Panelists guide reporters on how to effectively look at new school choice laws. **Davis Erin Anderson**, Freedom of the Press Foundation

Tat Bellamy-Walker, PEN America

**Emily Richmond**, Education Writers Association (moderator)

**Shantel Meek**, The Children's Equity Project at Arizona State University

Danila Crespin Zidovsky, Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative

Moriah Balingit, The Associated Press (moderator)

Liz Cohen, 50CAN/Johns Hopkins University

Eli Hager, ProPublica

Jacob Sanchez, Fort Worth Report (moderator)

#### **SPONSOR SESSION**

#### A Science of Reading Policy Blind Spot: The Real Key to Literacy for All

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

Can science of reading reforms solve the reading crisis? This panel challenges conventional wisdom by revealing the critical intervention that transformed a struggling district: high-dosage tutoring. A superintendent, a university researcher and a longtime literacy advocate confront uncomfortable truths about literacy inequity, exposing why traditional instruction alone perpetuates opportunity gaps. Learn what it takes for all students to excel at reading and the tools they need to succeed. **(Sponsored and organized by Ignite Reading.)**  Amanda Neitzel, Johns Hopkins University

Kareem Weaver, FULCRUM

Jermall White, Little Rock School District

Jessica Sliwerski, Ignite Reading (moderator)

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Site Visit

#### 7645 MAGNA DR. STE. 1, BELLEVILLE, IL 62223

The CAVE

Participants tour The Center for Academic and Vocational Excellence in Illinois' Belleville Township High School District 201. The center, which opened in 2022 and is already expanding its footprint and offerings, provides programs in a variety of fields – including aviation, welding, community health, early childhood education and more. Explore the facility; see live demonstrations, and learn about the district's efforts to put students on the path to a career. Space is limited.

#### **CAUCUSES** 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

#### **Burnout in Journalism**

#### **GRAND AB**

Join us for a presentation and discussion on what burnout is, what it isn't and conversation on how the profession can better support journalists facing the syndrome. *This session is open to journalists and community members.* 

Alanna Dvorak, Poynter Institute

#### Covering a Geographic Beat: Rural, Urban, Suburban

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

This caucus provides reporters with the tools and insights needed to navigate the complexities of covering varying geographic areas. From demographic shifts to debates over discipline and curriculum reform, resource acquisition and sourcing, dive into the critical issues shaping different educational approaches in different geographies. These conversations, open to journalists and community members, occur separately in the same room. Maximum room capacity: 50 people.

Samantha Hernandez, Des Moines Register – Rural

Benjamin Herold, independent journalist – Suburban

Samantha Smylie, Chalkbeat Chicago – Urban

# Covering Disasters on the Education Beat

#### **REGENCY A**

Learn how education reporters can prepare to cover disasters – and how school districts think through emergency communications. *This conversation is open to journalists and community members*.

#### Elisa Tomich, Parkway School District

**CD Davidson-Hiers**, Education Writers Association (moderator)

#### Journalists and Indigenous Education

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

This caucus provides reporters with the tools and insights needed to navigate reporting on Indigenous communities, education and other topics. *This session is open to journalists and community members.* 

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton, Tulsa World

#### Networking and Community for Black Journalists

#### **REGENCY B**

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot issues in the industry and build community with others on the education beat. *This session is open to journalists only.* 

Torsheta Jackson, Mississippi Free Press

#### The 19th Class of EWA Reporting Fellows

MIDWAY SUITES 11

This is a closed, invite-only meeting.

#### SPONSOR SESSION What Stories Can Students Best Tell?

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

Youth voices can be a powerful tool in your journalism and a great way to engage with your audience. This session explores ways to bring students – and teachers – into the process. Leaders from NPR's Student Podcast Challenge, PBS News Student Reporting Labs and The Bell's student newsroom talk about how to work with schools and students to create unique and compelling content. **(Sponsored and organized by SXSW EDU.)**  Steve Drummond, NPR Student Podcast Challenge

Janet Woojeong Lee, NPR Student Podcast Challenge

Christine Zirneklis, PBS News Student Reporting Labs

Sabrina DuQuesnay, The Bell

Mira Gordon, The Bell

Taylor McGraw, The Bell

Jadelyn Camey, The Bell

**Miriam Townsend**, McKinley Classical & Leadership Academy (St. Louis)

5:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

# BREAK

#### **EVENING ACTIVITIES**

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

## Networking Reception

Sponsored by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

**REGENCY C/FOYER B** 

# The solution to the literacy crisis, starts at the bottom.



High-dosage tutoring that builds the foundation for a **lifetime of confident reading** 

"Ignite Reading offers a scalable solution to improving early literacy outcomes in diverse educational settings."

 An Evaluation of Ignite Reading Virtual Literacy Tutoring in Massachusetts, Center for Research and Reform in Education at Johns Hopkins University







# FRIDAY MAY 30



**REGISTRATION OPEN** DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

BREAKFAST GRAND BALLROOM DEF 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

#### **BREAKFAST SESSION** MIDWAY SUITES 5

8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

# Under Watch: Reporting on Threats to International Students

International college students face mounting pressures from the Trump administration with each day bringing a wave of breaking news. Students are afraid. Regulations are constantly changing. Amid the uncertainty, how will colleges navigate long-lasting challenges? Journalists explore best reporting practices, including tips for sourcing, ethical considerations and fresh story angles.

**Deirdre Fernandes**, The Boston Globe

Ashley Mowreader, Inside Higher Ed

**Jeffrey Young**, independent journalist

**Sarah Brown**, The Chronicle of Higher Education (moderator)

9 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

## **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

#### A Holistic Guide to Covering Inequities in Math Education

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

Math achievement and the inequities therein have proven difficult to solve. In the years following the COVID-19 pandemic, math scores plummeted. Experts and educators continue to debate the solution. Should instruction be more conceptual or focus more on procedures? Should classrooms mix students of different levels, or should more advanced students be separated? A classroom teacher, a policy expert and an education expert discuss the questions journalists should be asking in their coverage. of Mathematics
Sarah Powell, The University of Texas at Austin

Latrenda Knighten, National Council of Teachers

**Shane Wiggan**, Orange County Public Schools (Florida)

Daniel Mollenkamp, EdSurge (moderator)

#### Guiding Light: Lessons From the Historic and Modern-Day Black Press

**GRAND AB** 

The Black press has a long tradition of historically informed reporting and framing issues as matters of civil rights, race and democracy. Journalists and an archivist discuss how and why traditions of the Black press can be a guide to producing truly accurate first drafts of history in pursuit of democracy.

Halimah Abdullah, The Emancipator

Brandon Nightingale, Howard University

Brandon Tensley, Capital B

**Nicole Carr**, *independent journalist* (moderator)

#### How Much Does College Really Cost?

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

In the past couple of years, coverage of college affordability has largely focused on the student debt crisis and the recent FAFSA debacle. But what else should reporters know about college affordability? How much do students typically pay for college, and how do often-underreported costs, such as housing and food, create barriers for students? The panel explores FAFSA and how well students, counselors and families are prepared to review financial aid packages and pay for school.

**POSTSECONDARY PATHWAYS PART 2** 

#### Quantity Versus Quality: Investigating Dual Enrollment's Growth

**REGENCY A** 

Dual enrollment has grown rapidly in recent years. As more students take these courses, reporters must take a closer look at these programs to assess their quality and benefits. This session covers the goals of dual enrollment and how it differs from other college-level opportunities in high school, such as Advanced Placement classes. It also explores challenges with transferring credits and making these courses accessible to underrepresented student groups.

#### **Telling Climate Stories on the Education Beat**

**REGENCY B** 

Climate change is reshaping schools. Extreme weather threatens learning, school infrastructure and student mental health. Meanwhile, school districts and colleges are taking steps to reduce their climate footprint and prepare students for a workforce altered by climate change. Experts and a student advocate discuss how climate change impacts schools at a time when the topic is increasingly politicized.

SPONSOR SESSION: Reimagining and Revitalizing American Career Education

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

A panel looks at the massive benefits to students, schools, states and industry amid the new wave of career and technical education (CTE) and apprenticeship programs rolling out around the country. AFT President Randi Weingarten joins a recent high school graduate and apprentice electrician in rural Ohio, a manager of pathbreaking CTE initiatives in Pennsylvania and the national CEO of a five-state program, CareerWise. **(Sponsored and organized by the American Federation of Teachers.)**  **Catherine Brown**, National College Attainment Network

Phillip Levine, Brookings Institution/Wellesley College

**Melanie Storey**, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Zach Schermele, USA Today (moderator)

Maria Bucio, Chicago Public Schools

John Fink, Community College Research Center

Alex Perry, College in High School Alliance

Megan Menchaca, Houston Chronicle (moderator)

**Darien G. Clary**, Austin Independent School District (Texas)

Tanish Doshi, BASIS Oro Valley (Arizona)

Laura Schifter, The Aspen Institute

Caroline Preston, The Hechinger Report (moderator)

Autumn Anderson, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Chase Dumolt, apprentice electrician

Noel Ginsburg, CareerWise

Randi Weingarten, American Federation of Teachers

Patrick O'Donnell, The 74 (moderator)

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

# **COFFEE BREAK**

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

# A Solutions Journalism Approach to Covering the Impact of Guns on Children

**GRAND AB** 

School shootings capture media coverage, but the majority of children killed and injured by guns are hurt outside of school. Evidence-based, solutions-focused violence prevention coverage can supplement traditional education coverage and help the newsroom tackle how a major public health issue is impacting children and families. Journalists and experts offer subject-matter expertise and recommendations for reporting. John Diedrich, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

Woodie Kessel, University of Maryland

Anthony Williams, Jefferson County Family Resource Center

Alaina Bookman, AL.com (moderator)

#### How I Did the Story: Undercovered Higher Ed Topics

**REGENCY A** 

Journalists share insights and the backstories to their in-depth reporting on undercovered and overlooked angles to postsecondary education – including Tribal colleges, rural community colleges and the rollback of affirmative action. Ruchika Erravandla, Northeastern University

Matt Krupnick, independent journalist

Rebeca Pereira, The Concord Monitor

Denali Sagner, The Philadelphia Inquirer

**Daarel Burnette**, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (moderator)

#### How Teachers Translate the Science of Reading Into Practice

#### **REGENCY B**

A flurry of legislation around the science of reading means many states now require evidence-based instruction, and schools have adopted new curricula. But neither guarantees changes in classroom practices – that depends on teachers, and whether they're given the training and support needed to make a meaningful shift. Prepare to cover the implementation phase of this work by learning about the challenges, the importance of coaching and what high-quality professional development looks like. **Erica Boyce**, PS 132Q The Ralph Bunche School (New York)

Kymyona Burk, ExcelinEd

Jasmine Rogers, DC Reading Clinic

Emily Hanford, APM Reports (moderator)

#### Lessons From the Principal's Office

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

Low expectations. Limited resources. Too few local opportunities. The obstacles that discourage and prevent students from succeeding in school are countless. Three principals share their stories of overcoming such challenges and creating a culture of high expectations to put students on the path to academic growth and success.

#### **COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK** Dealing With Misinformation and Disinformation

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

Misinformation and disinformation can lead to misunderstandings and significant harm, derailing evidence-based policy efforts and threatening public trust. Hear from experts about how to identify and address misinformation and disinformation as well as how they've navigated situations when faced with public outcry based on halftruths, alternative facts and outright lies.

#### SPONSOR SESSION Getting Behind the Headlines: What Is College Worth?

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

This session highlights perspectives on the value of postsecondary education, questions many students and families are asking and evaluates what can be done to ensure that more students realize a return on their educational investment. *(Sponsored and organized by Strada Education Foundation.)* 

Adam Clemons, Piedmont High School (Alabama)

Abida Jafari, Hazelwood East Middle School (Missouri)

Lauren Norwood, Burke Elementary School (Illinois)

Trisha Powell Crain, Alabama Daily News/Alabama Public Television (moderator)

Griffin Colaizzi, More in Common

David Park, Learning Heroes

Alee Quick, News Literacy Project

Blair Mann, Data Quality Campaign (moderator)

Mushtaq Gunja, American Council on Education Jordan Matsudaira, American University Ruth Watkins, Strada Education Foundation Katherine Knott, Inside Higher Ed (moderator)

11:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM DEF

Lunch

Sponsored by Agency, Bloomberg Philanthropies and City Fund

Remarks by Marlon Marshall, City Fund

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**REGISTRATION OPEN** 

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

#### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

#### 10 Commandments Posters and Bible Mandates: Covering Religion and Public School

**GRAND AB** 

More than ever before, religion is playing a stronger role in public schools in several states. Some states have passed laws to allow – or even mandate – the posting of the 10 Commandments. Others are permitting "Bible-infused" curricula. The U.S. Supreme Court is considering a lawsuit to allow a religious charter school. What actions step over the legal line, and how should reporters cover this trend?

Mark Chancey, Southern Methodist University

Keisha Russell, First Liberty Institute

Linda K. Wertheimer, independent journalist and author of "Faith Ed"

Andrea Eger, Tulsa World (moderator)

#### **Covering Challenges to Transgender Rights**

**REGENCY B** 

The Trump administration has issued several policies that target transgender people. The policies attempt to ban schools from teaching topics related to gender identity, bar transgender girls from women's school sports and restrict transgender care for minors. Meanwhile, hundreds of similar state laws have passed since 2021. What is the current legal landscape for trans rights, and how can reporters best center trans youth safely?

#### Education Research 101: Where to Find It, How to Use It

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

How can reporters make the most of education research, especially given recent changes to the availability of some federal databases? Also, get a tutorial on a brand-new resource – designed specifically for education journalists – to help reporters easily find and incorporate research into the reporting process.

# Mental Health on Campus: Is It Helpful to Call It a 'Crisis'?

**REGENCY A** 

While recent studies show some signs of improvement in student mental health, historically high rates of depression and anxiety remain a top concern for experts, students, families and schools. But is the "crisis" narrative, which drives many stories on student mental health, helping or hurting? What does research say about which student populations are more likely to struggle, and which are less likely to receive support? And how is campus counseling evolving to meet a rising demand for services?

#### COMMUNITY MEMBER TRACK What's Hot and What's Not in Education Communications

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

A long-standing favorite session at the National Seminar! Are op-eds still worth it? Does your organization need a podcast? Are Bluesky and Threads viable alternatives to X? Is TikTok still a thing? What social media listening tools are best? Do I really need to know about ChatGPT? How are changes to legacy newsrooms impacting your comms strategy? What topics are trending, and what's now old news? Tat Bellamy-Walker, PEN America

Jessica Heiser, Imprint Legal Group

Brian Munoz, St. Louis Public Radio

Kae Petrin, Chalkbeat (moderator)

Matt Barnum, The Wall Street Journal

**Constance Lindsay**, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Doug Harris, Tulane University

Melissa Taboada, The Boston Globe (moderator)

Sara Abelson, Temple University

Ben Locke, Togetherall

Eric Wood, Texas Christian University

Kelly Field, independent journalist (moderator)

Cassaundra Moore, Washington University (St. Louis)

Carlos Ignacio Zavala, Whiteboard Advisors

Emmeline Zhao, The 74

**Dorie Turner Nolt**, *Dorie Turner Nolt Consulting* (moderator)

#### SPONSOR SESSION: Effective Literacy at Scale: State and District Reading Reforms

#### **MIDWAY SUITES 6**

Speakers explore scalable strategies, shifts in instructional practice, and innovative partnerships necessary to drive reading achievement for all students across state and district systems. Attendees gain takeaways on stories related to aligning high-quality curriculum, educator support and community engagement to advance literacy outcomes from early grades to high school. (Sponsored and organized by the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies.)

Emily Freitag, Instruction Partners

Heather Peske, National Council on Teacher Quality

Kiffany Pride, Arkansas Department of Education

#### 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

# **COFFEE BREAK**

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

#### POSTSECONDARY PATHWAYS PART 3 Finding the Humanities in a Career Pathways World

#### **REGENCY A**

As career education grows more popular in the postsecondary education space, what is the future of humanities degrees and liberal arts colleges? Will the humanities only be accessible to the privileged? Panelists discuss the shifts in what students expect from higher education and the value of studying the humanities today. Find out how some colleges are adapting to help students be job-ready, and see the practical application of the humanities.

#### Scott Muir, National Humanities Alliance Ange Muyumba, Washington University (St. Louis) Stephanie Shonekan, University of Maryland Korie Dean, The News & Observer (moderator)

#### From Access Issues to Fresh Ideas: Tackling Common Ed Beat Challenges

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

In a series of roundtable discussions, journalists talk through challenges frequently faced on the education beat. They offer strategies for gaining access to classrooms, documents and school officials. Speakers share tips for generating fresh story ideas, along with finding students and thoughtfully incorporating their voices into your reporting. Get guidance on balancing daily beat pressures with enterprise projects and on navigating the reporter-editor relationship. Jenny Brundin, Colorado Public Radio

Larry Gordon, EdSource

Kristen Griffith, The Baltimore Banner

Asher Lehrer-Small, Houston Landing

Alia Wong, The Associated Press

#### How to Shoot Powerful Video for Your Stories

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

Back by popular demand and revised to be more hands-on this session helps you hone your video skills. Get your hands on some apps; shoot some video and learn from Emmy award-winning veteran broadcast journalists. Put away your notepad, and come ready to laugh, learn and leave with tips you can use, whether working on your own or with a photographer. See how small cameras can help you aim for the heart and make your stories more powerful.

#### Special Education: Telling Compelling Stories in a Changing Landscape

**REGENCY B** 

A student with learning disabilities graduated high school never learning to read. Parents were forced to sign nondisclosure agreements while seeking solutions for their children's special needs. Trans students welcomed a Biden administration rule inclusive of gender dysphoria, but it prompted a broader attack on rights. Journalists who covered these stories share their reporting strategies and challenges. A legal expert also describes how major changes at the federal level may impact students with disabilities. Mike Castellucci, Michigan State University

Mark Muller, NBC Universal Local

Wayne Carter, NBC Universal Local (moderator)

Alice Abrokwa, University of Virginia

Jessika Harkay, The Connecticut Mirror

Mandy McLaren, The Boston Globe

Marta Jewson, The Lens (New Orleans) (moderator)

# What's Really Happening in Social Studies Classes?

**GRAND AB** 

As more local, state and federal policies and laws aim to restrict school discussion of race, racism and LGBTQ+ issues, research shows that some educators say they have curtailed their lessons on those topics while others say they will continue to teach their curricula regardless of any new constraints. But what do social studies lessons typically look like across the nation today, and what challenges – beyond restrictive laws – do history teachers often face?

Tina Ellsworth, National Council for the Social Studies

**Brian Knowles**, Power Builders Curriculum and Pedagogies

Nick Kryczka, The Newberry Library (Illinois)

Marianna McMurdock, independent journalist

Sarah Schwartz, Education Week (moderator)

#### **SPONSOR SESSION** When the People Choose, Vouchers Lose

**MIDWAY SUITES 6** 

Whether it's dismantling the U.S. Department of Education under the pretense of giving states more control or threatening to pull funding over DEI initiatives, the endgame is clear: privatization. The push for school vouchers continues, despite overwhelming rejection by voters and sparse evidence that they improve student outcomes. This panel spotlights the ongoing resistance to vouchers led by parents, educators and voters. **(Sponsored and organized by the National Education Association.)** 

Jennifer Berkshire, author

Kevin Dailey, Ballyshannon Middle School (Kentucky)

Becky Pringle, National Education Association

Arthur Jones II, ABC News (moderator)

4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

# BREAK

4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

# **Site Visit**

GARY M. SUMERS WELCOME CENTER University in, 1 Wrighton Way Washington, St. Louis, MO 63105

#### Access Points: Going Beyond a Campus

What is the role of a university? They not only educate students and provide research hubs for scholars but can be a vital part of a local community. Washington University professors, students and deans discuss the evolving role of a college during a campus tour. Speakers discuss initiatives that bolster the local economy, connect with adult learners and address health care needs. The tour is 75 minutes. Space is limited.

#### **CAUCUSES** 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

#### Covering Children and Families

**REGENCY A** 

Journalists network and share resources for expanding coverage of children and families in education reporting. *This conversation is open to journalists and community members.* 

Marie Holmes, independent journalist

#### Disabilities and Education Reporting

**REGENCY B** 

How do educators talk about disability within education? How can journalists include disability in their reporting, no matter the angle? Break into the topic, network, identify reporting angles and build community in this caucus. *This conversation is open to journalists and community members.* 

Kenya Hunter, The Associated Press

#### Networking and Community for Asian American Journalists

**MIDWAY SUITES 5** 

Journalists with shared and intersectional identities are invited to network, troubleshoot issues in the industry and build community with others on the education beat. *This session is open to journalists only.* 

Aisha Sultan, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

#### Networking and Community for Latinx Journalists

MIDWAY SUITES 7 & 8

Join this caucus to network, share resources and build community on covering Latinx communities. *This* conversation is open to journalists and community members.

Maritza Félix, Conecta Arizona

Beatriz Limón, Arizona Luminaria

#### Student Journalists Are Education Reporters

GRAND AB

Student journalists discuss the challenges of university-level reporting. Students discuss the obstacles they face and what solutions would help them as they consider entering the profession. *This conversation is open to journalists and community members.* 

Tarryn Nichols, University of Florida

Azia Ross, Howard University

**Steph Machado**, *The Boston Globe* (moderator)

5:45 p.m. – 6 p.m.

#### **EVENING ACTIVITIES**

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Networking Reception GRAND STAIRCASE PREFUNCTION/MIDWAY EAST

**SPONSORED BY** American Federation of Teachers

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

## Networking Reception

**SPONSORED BY** Carnegie Corporation of New York MIDWAY SUITES 9 & 10



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# SATURDAY MAY 31



#### **REGISTRATION OPEN**

7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

DEPOT REGISTRATION OFFICE

**GRAND BALLROOM DEF** 

BREAKFAST 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

> From tip sheets to webinar recordings, find a variety of reporting resources at ewa.org to understand ongoing and urgent education issues.

### **DEEP DIVES** 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

# **Investigating Urgent Issues and Trends in Higher Education**

#### **REGENCY B**

Higher education is a busy beat these days. These sessions explore ongoing and new issues in higher education, including the landscape of campus protests and free speech, college finances amid threats to funding and the impending enrollment decline. Sessions explore strategies for in-depth reporting, expert analysis on emerging trends and story ideas.

#### 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

# The Age of Protest, Identity and Culture on College Campuses

Over the last decade, Black students and other students of color led college protests, demanding a reckoning of racial injustice and an inclusive environment. But recently, many schools implemented restrictive policies after students protested the Israel-Hamas war. Colleges are now under federal pressure to more forcefully police protests. How has the history of student activism informed protests of today? What approaches can reporters take to diversify sources and build better trust with them? Lauren Brown, independent journalist

Adam Harris, New America

**Francisco Vara-Orta**, Investigative Reporters and Editors

#### BREAK 10 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.

#### 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. College Closures: Finding the Red Flags

Colleges are facing financial challenges, and dozens have closed or merged in the past year. Some universities have undergone mergers and consolidations. How can journalists find red flags indicating the school they cover may be in financial trouble? Plus, learn how to better center students, report on solutions to the budgetary crisis and make sense of how recent threats to federal funding may put further pressure on college finances. **Ricardo Azziz**, Strategic Partnerships in Higher Education

Robert Kelchen, University of Tennessee

**Grenita Lathan**, Springfield Public Schools (Missouri)

**Eric Kelderman**, The Chronicle of Higher Education (moderator)

#### BREAK 11:15 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

#### 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Who Is (and Isn't) Going to College: Using Data In Reporting

The "demographic cliff" has been a looming concern for postsecondary education for nearly 20 years. There's more to the story than the fact that fewer students are attending college. What kinds of enrollment stories can reporters uncover using data? The session gives reporters practical tips on how to source, pull and organize data as they cover crucial issues affecting enrollment – including attacks on DEI and student debt. **Colleen Falkenstern**, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

**Nicole Smith**, Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University

**Ira Porter**, The Christian Science Monitor (moderator)

### **DEEP DIVES** 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

# Tools, Tips and Tricks: Enhancing Your Reporting With Data

#### **GRAND AB**

There's much data on the education beat – test scores, graduation rates, discipline, spending, curriculum, student demographics, teacher pay and more – that can point reporters toward countless stories. Data can be used to identify trends, call out disparities, dispel myths or highlight successes. Learning to incorporate data into your reporting is an essential skill. Hear about useful data sources and tools, practical tips, best practices and story ideas.

#### 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

#### Essential K-12 Data Sources – and How to Mine Them for Stories

Getting data for a story is just the first step. Next comes the harder part: understanding and analyzing it. Researchers and think tanks have developed tools to help make sense of education data. They share data from different sources, allow for comparisons and make it easier to examine data across jurisdictions or demographic groups. Hear from experts about databases that can be used to tell stories on segregation, academic recovery and more. Jay Carter, Urban Institute

Sean Reardon, Stanford University

**Denise-Marie Ordway**, *The Journalist's Resource* (moderator)

#### BREAK 10 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.

#### 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Taking a Data-Driven Approach to Education Reporting

Journalists with expertise in crunching and wrangling data to tell compelling stories share their tips. Understand how to incorporate data into your everyday reporting routines. Get advice on what to do when the data doesn't exist or is incomplete. Learn about disappearing federal data and preservation efforts. Hear about data sources education reporters should regularly request and examine, and understand the stories they can point you toward.

Corey Mitchell, The Conversation (moderator)

**Part 1** - 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Francisco Vara-Orta, Investigative Reporters and Editors Irene Casado Sánchez, Big Local News

Daniel Willis, EdSource

#### BREAK 11:15 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

**Part 2** - 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Christopher Huffaker, The Boston Globe Kae Petrin, Chalkbeat

Marina Villeneuve, The Hechinger Report

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**GRAND BALLROOM DEF** 

# **Grab & Go Beverage and Snack**

# For 20 years DQC has advocated to ensure that data works for people.

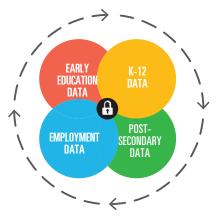


No two students have the same path to and through school and work. Each has their own strengths and goals that inform the education and workforce options they pursue. And each deserves to achieve success on the path they've chosen.

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For more information, go to dataqualitycampaign.org.



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# National Awards for Education Reporting WINNERS & FINALISTS

78TH NATIONAL SEMINAR

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# **2024 Awards Finalists**

#### BEAT REPORTING

**EDUCATION-ONLY Jackie Mader** The Hechinger Report

Linda Jacobson The 74

Mila Koumpilova Chalkbeat Chicago

#### LARGE (40+ NEWSROOM FTE) Alec MacGillis ProPublica

Mandy McLaren

The Boston Globe

Hannah Natanson The Washington Post SMALL (<40 NEWSROOM FTE) Wvatt Massev Spotlight PA

**Molly Minta** Mississippi Today and Open Campus

Asher Lehrer-Small Houston Landing

#### **DATA REPORTING & VISUALIZATION**

Jacquelyn Elias, Brian O'Leary, Megan Zahneis, Adrienne Lu and Julia Piper

The Chronicle of Higher Education What Professors Actually Earn

Sarah Karp, Nader Issa, Kate Grossman, Becky Vevea, Jesse Howe, Justin Myers, Angela Massino, Alex Keefe, Lauren FitzPatrick, Fernanda Veles, Thomas Wilburn, Candi Meriwether, Amy Qin, Anna Savchenko and Steven Arroyo WBEZ Chicago, Chicago Sun-Times & Chalkbeat Chicago

Covering Chicago's First School Board Election

#### Moriah Balingit, Sharon Lurye, Daniel Beekman, Carly Flandro, Valeria Olivares and Alaina Bookman

The Associated Press, The Seattle Times, Idaho Education News, The Dallas Morning News & AL.com

America's Child Care Crisis Is Holding Back Moms Without College Degrees

### **INVESTIGATIVE & PUBLIC SERVICE**

#### **EDUCATION-ONLY**

**Jasper Smith** The Chronicle of Higher Education Once a Beacon. Now a Burden.

#### Sarah Butrymowicz, Fazil Khan, Meredith Kolodner, Gail Cornwall, Sara Hutchinson, Hadley Hitson, Madeline Mitchell, Amanda Chen, Tazbia Fatima, Tara García Mathewson and Nirvi Shah

The Hechinger Report, Montgomery Advertiser and Cincinnati Enquirer, Suspended for...What?

Thomas Peele, Daniel J. Willis, Emma Gallegos, Justin Allen, Yuxuan Xie, Mallika Seshadri, Lasherica Thornton and Monica Velez **FdSource** 

Calling the Cops

#### LARGE (40+ NEWSROOM FTE)

Mara Klecker, Jeffrey Meitrodt and MaryJo Webster Minnesota Star Tribune Failing Grades

Jenn Abelson, Jessica Contrera and Nate Jones The Washington Post

Abused by the Badge

#### Chris Quintana, Kenny Jacoby, Lamar Salter and Alexa Juliana Ard

USA TODAY Post-Grad Football Lures Players With a Second Shot at Glory. They Rarely Get It.

#### SMALL (<40 NEWSROOM FTE)

Emiliano Tahui Gómez, Keri Heath and Tony Plohetski Austin American-Statesman A Fatal Field Trip

#### Joshua Bowling

Searchlight New Mexico 'The Finer Things in Life': How a Small-Town University 'Wasted' Hundreds of Thousands of Taxpayer Dollars

Concussions, Bruises, Bite Marks: San Antonio Special Education Teachers Say They Often Get Hurt at Work

### PODCAST

#### Jon Marcus and Kirk Carapezza The Hechinger Report and

GBH Boston College Uncovered Nimah Gobir, Carlos Cabrera-Lomeli, Chris Hambrick, Ki Sung, Kara Newhouse, Beth LaBerge and Seth Samuel MindShift/KOED Community Schools in California

#### Ilya Marritz, Kristin Nelson, Katya Rogers, Emily Botein, Jazmin Aguilera, Regina De Heer, Jared Paul, Brendan Dalton and Jennifer Munson The Boston Globe and WNYC

The Harvard Plan

**Camille Phillips** Texas Public Radio

### FEATURES

#### BROADCAST

#### Dylan Peers McCoy, Nicole Cohen and Janet Woojeong Lee WFYI and NPR He Has a Badge and a Gun — and He Investigates School Truancy

Wayne Carter, Mark Muller and John Stone

NBC Universal Carter in the Classroom - Features

#### Howard Bryant, Nicole Noren, Jessica Foster, Rayna Banks, Jena Janovy, Chris Buckle, John Mastroberardino, Jessi Dodge and Lyndsey Armacost FSPN

The Walkout: A Florida Baseball Team's Battle – Against Itself

#### EDUCATION ONLY

Kate Hidalgo Bellows The Chronicle of Higher Education The Traumatized Campus

#### Kavitha Cardoza, Caroline Preston and Valeria Fernandez

The Hechinger Report, palabra and AL.com A Superintendent Made Big Gains With English Learners. His Success May Have Been His Downfall.

#### Mila Koumpilova

Chalkbeat Chicago 'The Kids Everyone Forgot'

#### LARGE (40+ NEWSROOM FTE) Talia Richman

The Dallas Morning News The Show Went On

#### Jennifer Berry Hawes and Liz Moughon

ProPublica Segregation Academies: Decades After Desegregation, Private Schools Still Divide

#### Jeremy Schwartz

ProPublica and The Texas Tribune She Campaigned for a Texas School Board Seat as a GOP Hard-Liner. Now She's Rejecting Her Party's Extremism.

#### SMALL (<40 NEWSROOM FTE) Colin Hogan

The New Bedford Light The Students the Reading Wars Forgot

#### Liz Rosenberg, David Dayen, Jandos Rothstein and Gerard Edic Freelance New York City's Last Dictatorship

#### Natalia Alamdari

Flatwater Free Press Marco's Journey: As others sleep, a Nebraska high schooler survives the graveyard shift

#### **STUDENT JOURNALISM**

#### Katelynn Winebrenner, Laura Shaughnessy, Khushboo Rathore, Max Schaeffer and Caroline Pecora

University of Maryland, Philip Merrill College of Journalism Child Care: Missing in Maryland Sarah Yousseff, Roury Fitzpatrick, Ashley Carr, Alexis Schmidt, Brianna Schmidt, Ethan Rodriguez, Steve Dixon, Shawn McCarthy, Jayden Joseph, Oswaldo Nunez, Zion Williams, Ash Prasai, Annie Marchese, Sukey Hayden and Joe Book

PBS News Student Reporting Labs Run, Hide, Fight: Growing Up Under the Gun

#### Alex Walters, Owen McCarthy and Theo Scheer The State News Inside the Nassar Documents

#### NEWS

#### BROADCAST

Ray Rogowski, Chris Papst, Jed Gamber and Anthony Durso Fox45 Baltimore

Hiding in the Hallways

Liz Willen, Meredith Kolodner, Marina Villeneuve, Nick Perez, Soledad O'Brien, Tristan Nash, Rose Arce, Bonnie Bertram, Sandra McDaniel and Amari Leigh

The Hechinger Report and Retro Report Affirmative Action Backlash

Lisa Kurian Philip, Esther Yoon-Ji Kang, Amy Qin, Alex Keefe, Natalie Moore and Steven Arroyo WBEZ Chicago

Illinois For-Profit Colleges

#### EDUCATION-ONLY

Jackie Mader The Hechinger Report The Dark Future of American Child Care

#### Olivia Sanchez, Nirvi Shah, Meredith Kolodner, Joanna Hou and Laura Pappano

The Hechinger Report Affirmative Action Backlash

#### Mark Keierleber

The 74 The Rise and Fall of AllHere: From Al Innovator to Indicted CEO

#### LARGE (40+ NEWSROOM FTE)

#### Aliyya Swaby and Paige Pfleger

ProPublica and WPLN News Crackdown on Student Threats: Tennessee's Harsh Punishment of Kids

Hannah Natanson, Sarah Blaskey, John Woodrow Cox, Teo Armus, Laura Meckler and Shawn Boburg The Washington Post Apalachee: The Making of an

Sarah Karp and Nader Issa WBEZ Chicago

Alleged School Shooter

#### The Leadership Crisis at Chicago Public Schools

#### SMALL (<40 NEWSROOM FTE)

Tamica Jean-Charles Charlottesville Tomorrow Local Head Start Provider Closes Due to Major Federal Violations

#### Nuria Martinez-Keel

Oklahoma Voice Oklahoma Quietly Lowering Testing Rigor

#### Amber Payne, Jamil Smith, Cristal Balis, Alex LaSalvia, Melissa Clavijo, Tami Nguyen, Yuchen Hong, Sabira Khalili, Mattew Rushford and Sixun Ren

The Emancipator and Northeastern University Media Innovation Studio

The Supreme Court Ended Affirmative Action for Higher Education. The Impact Could Be Felt for Years to Come.

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PAST WINNERS

### 2023

**Talia Richman** The Dallas Morning News

# 2022

Mike Hixenbaugh NBC News Digital

# 2021

**Erica L. Green** The New York Times

# 2020

**Bianca Vázquez Toness** *The Boston Globe* 

### 2019

Sonali Kohli Los Angeles Times

# 2018

**David Jesse** Detroit Free Press

### 2017

**Bethany Barnes** The Oregonian

# 2016

**Erin Einhorn** Chalkbeat Detroit

# 2015

**Patrick Wall** Chalkbeat New York

# FRED M. HECHINGER PAST WINNERS of GRAND PRIZE for Distinguished Education Reporting

## 2023

#### Brandi Kellam, Louis Hansen & Gabriel Sandoval

*Virginia Center for Investigative Journalism at WHRO/ProPublica* 

# 2022

Jodi S. Cohen and Jennifer Smith Richards ProPublica and Chicago Tribune

# 2021

Laura Bauer & Judy Thomas The Kansas City Star

2020 Ian Shapira

The Washington Post

### 2019

Jennifer Smith Richards, Jodi Cohen and Lakeidra Chavis Chicago Tribune/ ProPublica Illinois

2018

Hannah Dreier ProPublica New York Magazine The New York Times Magazine

2017 John Woodrow Cox

The Washington Post

Brian Rosenthal Houston Chronicle

# 2015

Cara Fitzpatrick, Lisa Gartner, and Michael LaForgia Tampa Bay Times

2014 Nikole Hannah-Jones ProPublica

# 2013

Julie Snyder, Ben Calhoun, Alex Kotlowitz, Linda Lutton, Robyn Semien, and Ira Glass WBEZ / This American Life

# 2012

David Jackson, Gary Marx, Alex Richards, and Scott Strazzante Chicago Tribune

# 201

Daniel Golden and Oliver Staley Bloomberg News

2010

Daniel Golden, John Hechinger, and John Lauerman Bloomberg News

2009 Bob Hohler The Boston Globe

# 2008

Blake Morrison and Brad Heath USA TODAY

# 2007

Martha Irvine and Robert Tanner The Associated Press

2006 Jean Rimbach and Kathleen Carroll The Bergen Record

# 2005

Linda Lutton, Kati Phillips, and Jonathan Lipman Daily Southtown

# 2004

**Joshua Benton, Holly Hacker, and Herb Booth** The Dallas Morning News

# 2003

Christine Willmsen and Maureen O'Hagan The Seattle Times

2002

**Eric Eyre and Scott Finn** *Charleston Gazette* 

# 2001

**Patrick Healy** The Boston Globe

# 2000

Kenneth Weiss Los Angeles Times

# 1999

**Tim Simmons** Raleigh News and Observer

1998 Deb Kollars

**Deb Kollars** The Sacramento Bee

# 1997

Jacques Steinberg The New York Times

# 1996

**Robert Frahm and Rick Green** *The Hartford Courant* 

1995

**Dudley Althaus** Houston Chronicle

# 1994

Neil A. Borowski, Laura Bruch, Thomas Ferrick, Craig McCoy, Dale Mezzacappa, John Woestendiek, and Martha Woodall The Philadelphia Inquirer

# 1993

**Stephen Henderson** The Lexington Herald-Leader

# 1992

**Kimberly J. McLarin** *The Philadelphia Inquirer* 

1991

Theresa Churchill, Ron Ingram, and Carol Alexander Herald & Review (Decatur, Illinois)

# 1990

Ann Carnahan and Tony Pugh The Rocky Mountain News

# 1989

Emily Sachar New York Newsday

1988

**Team of 14 reporters** Chicago Tribune

### 1987

**Emily Sachar** New York Newsday

1986 Ricardo Gandara

Ricardo Gandara Albuquerque Tribune

### 1985

Janet Groat Macon Telegraph & Tribune (Georgia)

### 1984

**Cindy Goodaker** *The Oakland Press* (Pontiac, Michigan)

## 1983

**Robert Frahm** Journal Times (Racine, Wisconsin)

# 1982

Fred Anklam and Nancy Weaver Clarion Ledger (Jackson, Mississippi)

# 1981

Mary Bishop, Thomas Ferrick, Jr., and Donald Kimelman The Philadelphia Inquirer

1980

**Rena W. Cohen** *The Daily and Sunday Herald* (Arlington Heights, Illinois)

1979

**Staff of 10 writers** *Charlotte Observer* 

## 1978

**Stanley Moulton and Laurel Sorenson** Daily Hampshire Gazette

1977

**Lou Antosh** Philadelphia Bulletin

# 1976

James Worsham and Marguerite Del Guidice The Boston Globe

1975

**Jonathan Neumann** Daily Hampshire Gazette (Northampton, Massachusetts)

### 1974

James Nolan and Linda Stahl Courier Journal (Louisville)

1973

977

William Grant Detroit Free Press

John Matthews

Washington Star

# 2024 Awards Judges

Jenny Abamu Freelance

Larry Abramson Retired

**Melanie Asmar** Chalkbeat Colorado

**Jill Barshay** The Hechinger Report

Alexandra Baumhardt Oregon Capital Chronicle

Kalyn Belsha Chalkbeat

**Jillian Berman MarketWatch** 

**Dan Berrett** The Chronicle of Higher Education

Liz Bowie The Baltimore Banner

Vicky Camacho Freelance

Lauren Camera Freelance

**Nick Chiles** Georgia State University

Leah Clapman PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs

**Nicole Cohen** NPR

**Gail Cornwall** Freelance

**Trisha Crain** Alabama Daily News

Wayne D'Orio Freelance

**Martha Dalton** The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**Janel Davis** The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**Nichole Dobo** The Hechinger Report

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**Margaret Downing** Houston Press

Hannah Dreier The New York Times

**Danielle DuClos** Cap Times

Sami Edge The Oregonian

**Erin Einhorn** Freelance

**Ben Felder** Investigate Midwest

**Emmanuel Felton** The Washington Post

**Deirdre Fernandes** Boston Globe

Vince Filak University of Wisconsin-Department of Journalism

**Jason Gonzales** Chalkbeat

Larry Gordon EdSource

Erica Green The New York Times

**Kristen Griffith** The Baltimore Banner

**Kate Grossman** WBEZ

Alicia Guzman New Mexico Spotlight

**Holly Hacker** KFF News

Lynnell Hancock Columbia Graduate School of Journalism

Louis Hansen Virginia Center for Investigative Journalism at WHRO

Jessika Harkay CT Mirror

**Beth Hawkins** The 74

Sara Hebel Open Campus

Lori Higgins Chalkbeat

Tawnell Hobbs The Wall Street Journal

**Meghan Irons** Boston University

Laura Isensee Freelance

**David Jackson** Injustice Watch

**Kenny Jacoby** USA Today

> Sarah Karp WBEZ

Mark Keierleber The 74

Brandi Kellam Freelance

Sonali Kohli URL Media

Mila Koumpilova Chalkbeat

**Olivia Krauth** Insider Louisville

Matt Krupnick Freelance

**Yanick Rice Lamb** Howard University

Frank LoMonte CNN

Annie Ma The Associated Press

**Rob Manning** Oregon Public Broadcasting

Annie Martin Orlando Sentinel

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