



**Ryan Seacrest**  
The Luminary  
Award



**Byron Allen**  
The Impact Award



**Jennifer Lee**  
The Distinguished  
Storyteller Award  
(Film)



**Tanya Tucker**  
The Distinguished  
Storyteller Award  
(Music)



**Marla Gibbs**  
The Legend Award

**2022**  
FIFTEENTH  
ANNUAL



NATIONAL  
& ARTS  
& ENTERTAINMENT  
JOURNALISM AWARDS

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15TH ANNUAL

National **Arts & Entertainment** Journalism Awards



Lisa Richwine

### A Message From the Press Club President

Welcome to the Los Angeles Press Club's 15th annual National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards.

We are thrilled to host our celebratory gala to recognize some of the best reporting on everything from the latest movies and TV shows to diversity in Hollywood, conditions on sets and other important issues.

The NAEJ contest has exploded from 111 entries when it began in 2008, to approximately 1,700 this year, a new record.

Alongside top-notch journalists, tonight we honor a lineup of luminaries who have made an impact on television, animation, music and the media business.

Allen Media Group founder Byron Allen rose from stand-up comedian to media mogul. Filmmaker Jennifer Lee upended traditional fairy tales. Actor Marla Gibbs brought to life one of TV's funniest and most enduring characters. Singer/songwriter Tanya Tucker returned to the road with new music 50 years after her signature hit "Delta Dawn."

We hope you enjoy this evening's festivities, the upcoming holiday season, and the rest of 2022 before you tune in to watch tonight's other honoree, TV host Ryan Seacrest, ring in the New Year!

Lisa Richwine,  
President



**Awards for Editorial Excellence in 2021,  
Honorary Awards for 2022**



**The Impact Award**  
*For Influential  
Contributions to Culture  
and Society*  
**BYRON ALLEN**



**The Luminary  
Award**  
*For Career Achievement*  
**RYAN SEACREST**  
Introduction by  
Ellen K.



**The Legend Award**  
*For Lifetime Achievement  
and Contributions to  
Society*  
**MARLA GIBBS**  
Introduction by  
Kym Whitley  
Interview by George  
Pennacchio

**Los Angeles Press Club**

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**The Distinguished  
Storyteller Award**  
*For Excellence in Storytelling  
Outside of Journalism  
(Film)*  
**JENNIFER LEE**  
Introduction by  
Josh Gad



Derrek Kupish

**The Distinguished  
Storyteller Award**  
*For Excellence in Storytelling  
Outside of Journalism  
(Music)*  
**TANYA TUCKER**  
Introduction by  
Kathlyn Horan

*In Loving Memory of Angela Lansbury*

**Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022  
Grand Ballroom  
Sheraton Universal Hotel  
Universal City**



*Featuring comic  
Alonzo Bodden*

**Bloomberg**

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## Schedule of Events

For all finalists see pages 44-53

4:30 p.m. RED CARPET RECEPTION

5:00 p.m. COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION

6:00 p.m. DINNER AND PROGRAM

8:00 p.m. SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

### AWARDS PRESENTATION

STUDENT  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
BLOGS  
FEATURE

### ANGELA LANSBURY TRIBUTE

FEATURE

### THE LUMINARY AWARD for Career Achievement

**Ryan Seacrest**

CELEBRITY NEWS  
PERSONALITY PROFILES

### THE IMPACT AWARD for Influential Contributions to Culture and Society

**Byron Allen**

ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW  
DESIGN  
DOCUMENTARY  
NON-FICTION BOOK

### Alonzo Bodden

BUSINESS  
INVESTIGATIVE  
NEWS

### THE DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD – FILM for Excellence in Storytelling Outside of Journalism

**Jennifer Lee**

COLUMNIST  
COMMENTARY  
CRITIC

### THE DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD – MUSIC for Excellence in Storytelling Outside of Journalism

**Tanya Tucker**

WEBSITE & PUBLICATION  
JOURNALIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

### THE LEGEND AWARD for Lifetime Achievement and Contributions to Society

**Marla Gibbs**

Please pick up your certificates and silent auction goods on your way out.



# CONGRATULATIONS RYAN SEACREST

ON YOUR LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS!

LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB  
LUMINARY AWARD FOR  
CAREER ACHIEVEMENT RECIPIENT

From your *American Idol* family at:

*Fremantle*

19



# Finalists: JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

## PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Fernanda Ezabella, *Folha de S.Paulo***

# of years as a journalist: 21  
Alma Mater: PUC-SP (Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo)



Fernanda Ezabella



Meg James



Gerrick Kennedy

**Meg James, *Los Angeles Times***

# of years as a journalist: 35  
Alma Mater: University of Colorado, Boulder, and Columbia University's School of Journalism

**Gerrick Kennedy, *Freelance***

# of years as a journalist: 17  
Alma Mater: Ohio State University



Brent Lang



Chris Willman

**Brent Lang, *Variety***

# of years as a journalist: 18  
Alma Mater: Brown University

**Chris Willman, *Variety***

# of years as a journalist: 40  
Alma Mater: USC, Cal State Long Beach

## ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Jem Aswad, *Variety***

# of years as a journalist: 30+  
Alma Mater: Syracuse University



Jem Aswad



Jim Farmer



Simi Horwitz

**Jim Farmer, *ArtsATL.org***

# of years as a journalist: 38  
Alma Mater: University of Georgia

**Simi Horwitz, *Freelance***

# of years as a journalist: 25+  
Alma Mater: Hunter College (CUNY)

**Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast***

# of years as a journalist: 30  
Alma Mater: University of Aberdeen, Scotland



Tim Teeman



Elizabeth Wagmeister

**Elizabeth Wagmeister, *Variety***

# of years as a journalist: 12  
Alma Mater: UC Santa Barbara

## BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Dayna Devon, *KTLA***

Alma Mater: University of Texas, San Antonio



Dayna Devon

**Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1***

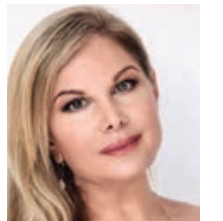
# of years as a journalist: 30  
Alma Mater: Sacramento State University



Giselle Fernandez

**Deborah Zara Kobylt, *Deborah Kobylt LIVE***

# of years as a journalist: 25+  
Alma Mater: Rutgers University



Deborah Zara Kobylt

**Lisa McRee, *Spectrum News 1***

# of years as a journalist: 35  
Alma Mater: University of California, San Diego



Lisa McRee

**Rollo Ross, *ReutersTV***

# of years as a journalist: 26  
Alma Mater: Newcastle University, UK



Rollo Ross

## PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times***

# of years as a photographer: 24  
Alma Mater: San Jose State University  
Photo credit: Kent Nishimura



Jay L. Clendenin

**Phil Ige, *KTLA***

# of years as a videographer: 24  
Alma Mater: Cal State Long Beach



Phil Ige

**Andy Riesmeyer, *KTLA***

# of years as a videographer: 11  
Alma Mater: Santa Monica College



Andy Riesmeyer

**Paul Sanchez, *KTLA***

# of years as a videographer: 19  
Alma Mater: Utah Tech University



Paul Sanchez

**Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1***

# of years as a videographer: 3  
Alma Mater: University of Wisconsin, Madison



Andy Schlachtenhaufen

## Remembering

# Angela Lansbury

National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards Are  
Dedicated to the Actress and Legend Award Recipient



The world said goodbye this year to the unparalleled Angela Lansbury. She died on Oct. 11 at the age of 96 at her home in Los Angeles.

Tonight's 15th annual National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards are dedicated to her.

Jeff Lunden wrote on NPR that although she will be remembered best for "Murder, She Wrote," Lansbury had a distinguished career in movies and on Broadway after, "getting the acting bug as a teen playing Audrey in a student production of *As You Like It*."

Lansbury and her mother fled England to escape the Blitz and moved to the United States. They settled in Los Angeles where Lansbury studied acting. She soon appeared in *Gaslight*, *National Velvet* and *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, earning two Academy Award nominations and a Golden Globe award.

Lansbury was gutsy, giving up her MGM contract in the 1950s to focus on the stage, where she starred in *Mame*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Gypsy*, winning a Tony for each.

Decades later, when asked in an interview by Alec Baldwin if she would ever retire, she responded, "No, I don't think so. I always say, you got to keep moving, and that is what I am trying to do."

She connected with audiences, chilling viewers with her portrayal of Mrs. Iselin in *The Manchurian Candidate*. She was a beloved figure as Jessica Fletcher in her 12-season "Murder, She Wrote" run.

At the age of 91, Lansbury received the Los Angeles Press Club's Legend Award. In our tribute, we quoted the Alec Baldwin interview in which she said her stage roles propelled her to feel that "you, the audience, are there and we are together in this."

Her memory will live on.



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**LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB**

LAPressClub.org

# Another Busy Year for the Los Angeles Press Club

*In 2022 In-Person Events Returned, and Advocacy for Journalists' Rights Was Stronger Than Ever*

Nothing can stop the power of the press, and not even a lingering pandemic can thwart the Los Angeles Press Club. In 2022 we hosted a packed schedule to support serious journalism and our 1,000 members.

The last in-person National Arts and Entertainment Journalism Awards was in 2019, when we honored filmmaker Quentin Tarantino, activist Tarana Burke and actress Ann-Margaret, among others. The 2020 and 2021 NAEJ events were virtual.

In June, however, we gathered together again on a warm summer night to celebrate the Southern California Journalism Awards. It was an incredibly moving evening as Pulitzer Prize-winning *Los Angeles Times* photographer Marcus Yam talked about the responsibility he feels to face danger in order to tell important stories. KTTV news anchor Christine Devine discussed



Top: Quentin Tarantino accepts The Distinguished Storyteller Award from Robert Kovacik at 2019's 12th NAEJ Awards gala. Above left: George Pennacchio holds the Legend Award for Ann-Margret at the NAEJ Awards gala. Earlier this year, the 64th SoCal Journalism Awards was held where Marcus Yam gave a speech that drove home the dangers of being a photojournalist in war-torn countries when he accepted the Daniel Pearl Award; Jamie Masada, owner of the Laugh Factory, was given the Bill Rosendahl Public Service Award for his philanthropy and activism toward the community.



Top: Joseph M. Quinn Award winner Bill Whitaker makes his way to the stage amidst a full house.

At far left: Whitaker with Rita Moreno, who introduced him, and Robert Kovacik.

Left: LAPC treasurer and chair of the Press Rights Committee, Adam Rose, gives a report on the fight for press protection.

Below: Susan E. Seager, the Guardian Awardee, emphasized the need to continue the fight for First Amendment rights; and at the 12th NAEJ Awards gala, Rosanna Arquette introduced the Impact Awardee Tarana Burke, who launched the "Me Too" movement.

the needs of foster children. Laugh Factory founder Jaime Masada told the audience about his passion for bringing smiles to people's faces.

Also that night, acting and singing legend Rita Moreno made clear her affection for "60 Minutes" correspondent Bill Whitaker in a heartfelt introduction to his inspiring remarks about his storied career. Additionally, First Amendment attorney Susan Seager warned journalists that press rights remain at risk, and she called on the media to keep fighting for protections.

Throughout the year, the Press Club did just that. The push was led by Adam Rose, a board member and chairman of the club's Press Rights Committee.

After celebrating the 2021 passage of a state law strengthening journalist protections, we unfortunately documented new instances of police officers mistreating members of the media who were trying to cover public demonstrations. The club spoke out about those cases, and continued working with a coalition of journalism groups that met with Los Angeles Police Department Chief Michel Moore to push for training



## Year in Review

reform and accountability for officers who violate press freedom.

Other highlights included the graduation of our fourth class of Foot in the Door fellows. The program offers a stipend and mentoring to journalists from historically underrepresented groups in the effort to help kick-start their careers.

Press Club members also attended an event at Bloomberg's Century City offices to hear from authors Felix Gillette and John Koblin about their book, *It's Not TV: The Spectacular Rise, Revolution, and Future of HBO*.

All of this was accomplished with just one full-time staff member—our incredible Executive Director Diana Ljungaeus—and a host of volunteers who generously gave their time.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, and please join us for more in 2023.



Top: Giselle Fernandez and Robert Kovacik salute the audience at the 65th SoCal Journalism Awards dinner.

From left: Danny Trejo accepted his Visionary Award; Ben Mankiewicz, right, was introduced by brother Josh, when he accepted the Luminary Award at the 12th NAEJ gala in 2019; David Ono won Television Journalist of the Year and Marcus Yam also won Photojournalist of the Year while Christine Devine, with husband Sean McNabb, (below left) was presented the President's Award at the 65th SCJA gala.

Below, right: Press Club members attended an event at Bloomberg offices to hear Felix Gillette and John Koblin speak about their book about HBO.



## WE JOIN IN CELEBRATING THE 2022 NAEJ AWARDS

*We proudly congratulate Luminary Award recipient **Ryan Seacrest**, whose incredible talent and contributions help evolve the content landscape and mediums in extraordinary ways.*





# Ryan Seacrest's live wire

# ACT



THE CONSTANTLY BUSY AND ENGAGING HOST, PRODUCER AND PHILANTHROPIST RECEIVES THE PRESS CLUB'S LUMINARY AWARD BY REBECCA FORD

If you want to find Ryan Seacrest, you don't have to look far. Often labeled the "busiest man in Hollywood," the 47-year-old TV host, radio personality and producer can be heard on the airwaves daily and seen on television morning and night. His tireless work ethic and charismatic, inquisitive personality have solidified him as one of the most recognizable faces and voices working in Hollywood today.

Currently, he is co-hosting and co-executive producing ABC's morning show "Live with Kelly and Ryan," for which he won an Emmy for outstanding talk show host. Since joining the show in 2017, he tapes live five days a week opposite co-host Kelly Ripa, then hops to another studio to host the KIIS-FM syndicated radio show "On Air With Ryan Seacrest," which he's been MCing since 2004. Once a week, he also hosts the countdown radio show "American Top 40 With Ryan Seacrest."

Seacrest is often delving into deep conversations with movie stars, musicians and politicians, and it's his ability to guide these cultural figures into deep, authentic conversation—often in a short amount of time—that sticks with viewers.

"I try to give my undivided attention to whomever I am talking to. Because when you do, you know what? They respond. They truly deliver genuine emotion or a relatable story," he wrote in *The Hollywood Reporter* in 2012.

Tonight, the Los Angeles Press Club is presenting Seacrest with the Luminary Award, which honors a member of the entertainment community for lifetime achievement and contributions to society.

Growing up in the Atlanta suburb of Dun-



Right: Seacrest has been broadcasting his show "On Air With Ryan Seacrest" from KIIS-FM for almost 20 years. Seacrest has won an Emmy while co-hosting the "Live with Kelly and Ryan" morning show on KABC, shown with Jake Gyllenhaal and co-host Kelly Ripa.



woody, Seacrest became interested in being a radio host at a young age, making cassette tapes of himself pretending to be a radio host and idolizing Rick Dees and Casey Kasem. In high school, he landed an internship at a local radio station. When a DJ called in sick, Seacrest filled in, and secured a weekend overnight shift at WSTR that lasted the rest of his high school days.

"I remember thinking, 'Everything I do from this point on is a step,'" he told *Details* in 2007. "If I'm scrubbing the break room, I'm closer to the studio room. And if I'm in the studio room, I'm closer to the microphone. If I'm closer to the microphone... I really got the psychology of it—that everything is connected."

He attended the University of Georgia to study journalism, but left at 19 to pursue his broadcasting career in Los Angeles. In 2002, he landed the co-hosting gig of a new FOX reality competition called "American Idol." By the second season he was the sole host, and as the show became a record-breaking hit, Seacrest became a household name. He remained the host of the series through its initial run that ended in 2017 and returned for the revival in 2018.

"You can't imagine the show without Ryan,"



Seacrest credits "American Idol" for giving him his big break, spurring his motivation to do more.

Co-hosting "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve" in 2005 led to his becoming the current executive producer and host of the show. At left they are presenting the 30 Greatest Women in Music.

The Ryan Seacrest Foundation has built Seacrest Studios in 10 pediatric hospitals nationally, enabling them to explore multimedia outlets and create content to broadcast throughout the hospital.

Running the Ryan Seacrest Foundation involves a board and management team that includes his mother Connie Seacrest, sister Meredith Seacrest Leach, and father Gary Seacrest.

Ed Sheeran is presented a ginger-haired gingerbread guitarist at the iHeartRadio Jingle Ball in 2017.



Simon Fuller, creator of “American Idol,” told *Forbes* in 2010. “I’ve always said he is the unsung hero of ‘American Idol.’ He’s the glue.”

Looking back, Seacrest considers “American Idol” to be his big break.

“When it started, we realized it was something significantly special and unique,” he told *GQ* in 2015. “What it did for me was motivate me to do more. I saw it as an opportunity to expand my businesses because I now had access to get the meeting that I didn’t have before the success of that show.”

He began co-hosting “Dick Clark’s New Year’s Rockin’ Eve” in 2005, and continues to ring in the new year with audiences to this day as an executive producer and host of the holiday special. He hosted “E!’s Live from the Red Carpet” at major awards events like the Oscars and the Golden Globes for 14 years. His other hosting gigs have taken him around the world and in front of a variety of audiences. They include: “The Today Show”; an NBC late-night show at the Summer Olympics in Rio; a correspondent for the 2012 London Olympic Games; the Walt Disney World Christmas

Day Parade; the 2007 Primetime Emmy Awards; and game shows ranging from “Million Second Quiz” on NBC to “Knock Knock Live” on Fox.

His work behind the camera is just as varied. His Ryan Seacrest Productions, which he launched in 2006, made the incredibly popular reality series “E!’s Keeping Up With The Kardashians” and its spinoffs, along with Netflix’s “Insatiable,” NBC’s “Shades of Blue” starring Jennifer Lopez, and the Emmy Award-winning series “Jamie Oliver’s Food Revolution” for ABC.

Seacrest also dedicates time to his philanthropic work as the chairman of the Ryan Seacrest Foundation. Working closely with his sister Meredith Seacrest Leach, who serves as Executive Director and COO, the foundation has built 10 broadcast media centers—known as Seacrest Studios—in pediatric hospitals nationwide, with plans for two more to open in 2023.

“The wonderful part about working for so many people for so many years is that I have the means and resources to give back and help out,” he said of his philanthropic work to *Variety* in 2015. “I have a responsibility to do it. It’s part of who we as human beings should be.”

Despite these many off-air endeavors, it’s Seacrest’s abilities in the live space that best show off his skills. “There is a rush and a pace to live broadcasting that is just not there on tape,” Seacrest told *The Hollywood Reporter*. “I think I’m a little bit better live than on tape. I don’t know, maybe I just relax too much.”

Like many of the men Seacrest looks up to—including Dick Clark, Larry King and Merv Griffin—he has the ability to make what he does look effortless, and exudes a warm energy that makes everyone feel like a friend and an equal. As he told *GQ* in 2015, “The legacy that I hope to leave is that people think of me as their friend on the radio, their friend on TV, who made it look pretty easy and was a source or a conduit for escapism.”



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Latham is proud to support the **Los Angeles Press Club** and congratulates its clients **Ryan Seacrest and Byron Allen** on their amazing achievements.

LW.com



# Turning **Comedy** Into **Business & Opportunity**

BYRON ALLEN, WHO HAS KICKED OPEN DOORS FOR BLACK ENTREPRENEURS AND BUILT A MEDIA EMPIRE, RECEIVES THE PRESS CLUB'S IMPACT AWARD

BY JOHN GITTELSON

**B**yron Allen started work as a comedian, but his career is no joke.

Allen is the founder, chairman, CEO and sole owner of Allen Media Group, a Century City-based conglomerate started in 1993 and now worth about \$4.5 billion. Tonight he receives the Los Angeles Press Club's Impact Award for Influential Contributions to Culture and Society. The prize honors his fearless and relentless pursuit of opportunity for Black entrepreneurs.

"I hope to make the world better and more inclusive," Allen, 61, said in an email. "My goal is to create the world's largest media company."

Allen Media's vast holdings include 27 local television stations in 21 U.S. markets; 12 networks, including the Weather Channel in English and Spanish, Pets.TV, Comedy.TV, Recipe.TV and Cars.TV; a syndication group that produces 70 shows out of studios in Culver City; a motion picture production arm that made a series of shark-themed horror films as well as "Chappaquiddick," the 2018 film about Teddy Kennedy's fateful car accident; and the Griot, a media network focused on African-American news and culture.

He's not slowing down.

He bid \$4.5 billion this year to buy the National Football League's Denver Broncos, though he did not get the team. Now he is eyeing the NFL's Washington Commanders.

"Don't play the game," Allen said during an interview on Bloomberg Television in April. "Own the game."

Allen is focused on media, not just because of his roots in entertainment, but because he sees the industry as a wellspring of power and influence.

"The most powerful person in the world isn't the President of the United States," he said on a Bloomberg TV interview with basketball legend Chris Paul. "The most powerful person in the

world is the person who controls media. Because we control what you hear, what you see, what you think."

He sued the biggest cable TV carriers—Comcast, AT&T and Charter Communications—for discrimination, contending they discriminated against Black-owned broadcasters like himself. The cases were settled out of court.

"The greatest trade deficit in America is the trade deficit between white corporate America and Black America," he said during a February interview with "CBS News Sunday Morning."

Last year, Allen and a group of Black media entrepreneurs including Ice Cube took out a full-page ad in the *Detroit Free Press* accusing General Motors and its CEO, Mary Barra, of "systemic racism" for failing to spend more ad dollars with Black-owned media.

"He's kicking open doors so that the future generation has



Allen may have played baseball growing up, but his sights were set on being an executive from when he was 5 or 6 years old, according to his mother, Carolyn Folks, at right.



From his offices in Century City, Allen's business and philanthropic interests stretch his spheres of interaction from entertainment to finance. Clockwise from top right: Norman Lear, Warren Buffet, Jamie Foxx, and Babyface.

those opportunities," Marcus Collins, a marketing professor at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business, told the *Detroit Free Press* after Allen took on GM.

Allen was born in 1961 in Detroit. His father worked for Ford Motor Co. His mother, Carolyn Folks, who is now an executive producer with Allen Media, was a 17-year-old hair stylist. Her precocious son showed ambition early on.

"I can remember that he was playing executive when he was like 5 and 6 years old," Folks told CBS. "He had an office and his office was in the basement."

His parents split up in 1968 and Allen moved with his mother to Los Angeles, where she enrolled in an entertain-

ment program at UCLA. She couldn't afford child care, so he often went to class with her. After graduation, she arranged an internship at NBC and bought her son along.

The NBC lot teemed with soap opera and sitcom productions and stars: Bob Hope, Merv Griffin, "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson," Redd Foxx shooting "Sanford and Son," Gabe Kaplan in "Welcome Back, Kotter."

Allen, in typical fearless fashion, once asked Kaplan how to get started as a comic. He was told to try out at open mic night at the Comedy Store in West Hollywood. He was 14 and the club owner worried she'd lose her liquor license if



Clockwise, from far left: In younger days as a comic, hanging with Whoopi Goldberg; invited by Jimmie Walker at age 14 to join a writers' room, which included up-and-comers Jay Leno and David Letterman; demonstrating his roller skating skills; at 18, Allen became the youngest standup in the show's history when he was asked to fill the guest spot on the "Tonight Show with Johnny Carson."

she let Allen perform, but she gave him a break as long as he promised to leave immediately after his set.

He spent the day of the show writing gags and tried not to get too nervous when he took the stage. After the appearance, he got a call from comedian Jimmie Walker, star of TV's "Good Times," and an invitation to join a writers' room that included a couple of up-and-comers named Jay Leno and David Letterman.

In 1979, Allen landed the most coveted gig for a comedian of that era—a guest spot on Carson's stage. At 18 he became the youngest standup in the show's history. He enrolled at USC but didn't graduate, going straight into show business, spending years touring as an opening act for stars including Lionel Richie, Kenny Rogers, Dolly Parton, Whitney Houston and Smokey Robinson.

Increasingly, his role models weren't the stars, but the people who hire the talent and write the checks. One was Motown founder Berry Gordy.

"I've watched him go after his dreams with passion, hard work, and a relentless drive to succeed," Gordy said of Allen in a 2021 statement to the *Detroit Free Press*. "With a fire in his belly, he created his own opportunities."

Allen started his company at his dining room table. His first show, "Entertainers with Byron Allen," was a once-a-

week hour-long series of celebrity interviews that went into syndication in 1993. It still airs almost three decades later.

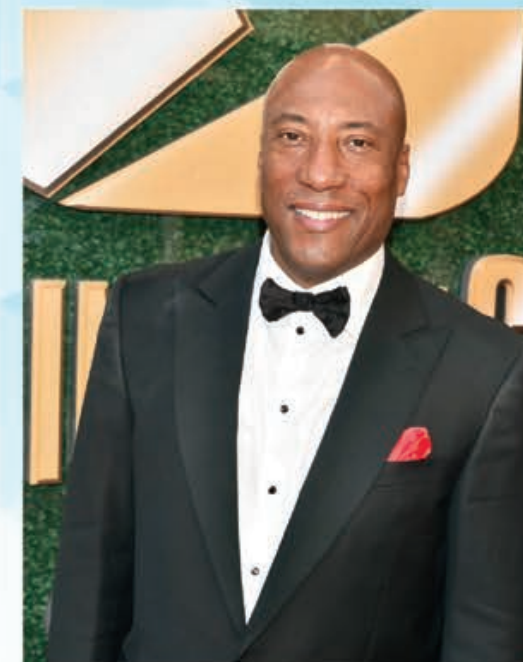
It was slow to make money. Allen spent his days "smiling and dialing" TV stations to carry the show and line up advertisers. He almost lost his home to foreclosure, but persistence paid off and he grew his business through new productions and acquisitions.

"Byron is a media pioneer," said Howie Mandel, a frequent guest on Allen Media Group's "Funny You Should Ask" syndicated series. "As a creator and an entrepreneur, Byron always finds new and interesting ways to break the mold of how the entertainment industry works."

Allen's next breakthrough came with the \$300 million acquisition of the Weather Channel in 2018. It is one of the most-watched broadcasts when hurricanes, blizzards, heat waves and floods strike. Allen knew it was a big deal, telling Bloomberg Television that it showed Black entrepreneurs aren't confined to "the Negro leagues." He added, "We don't just do business in our neighborhood. We do business in every neighborhood."

Allen is married to TV producer Jennifer Lucas, with whom he has three children: Chloe, Olivia and Lucas. He hopes his kids will one day join his business.

His advice to any aspiring entrepreneur is, "Start where you are. Start now. And find a need and fill it!"



## BYRON ALLEN THE IMPACT AWARD 2022

For Influential Contributions to Culture & Society

Everyone at Allen Media Group & The Weather Channel proudly congratulates our amazing Founder, Chairman & CEO, Byron Allen for this prestigious LA Press Club honor.

We are humbled to be in the company of such distinguished colleagues: Marla Gibbs, Jennifer Lee, Tanya Tucker and Ryan Seacrest, and we congratulate them for their achievements and honors.



[allenmedia.tv](http://allenmedia.tv)



# Let's Talk About Jennifer Lee

DISNEY CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER OPENS THE DOOR FOR NEW VOICES, PUSHING INCLUSIVENESS AND CULTURAL AUTHENTICITY. TONIGHT, SHE RECEIVES THE PRESS CLUB'S DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD

BY CHRIS PALMERI

**W**hen Jennifer Lee was asked to help her graduate school friend Phil Johnston write *Wreck-it-Ralph*, a video-game-themed animated movie for the Walt Disney Co., it was supposed to be an eight-week gig.

That call opened a new door for Lee, who is now the chief creative officer of Walt Disney Animation Studios, and one of the key people behind the company's *Frozen* and *Zootopia* franchises.

With 2013's *Frozen*, Lee became the first woman both to direct a major Disney animated picture and to deliver a film for any studio that surpassed \$1 billion at the box office. She has since been part of a creative renaissance at Disney, which celebrates its 100th birthday next year. In her current role, she has championed a diverse group of talent on and off the screen.



For those achievements, Lee tonight is receiving the Los Angeles Press Club's Distinguished Storyteller Award for Storytelling Outside of Journalism.

"Jennifer upended fairy tales with *Frozen* and broke barriers for women in animation and in Hollywood," said Press Club President Lisa Richwine. "Her creative storytelling has had a lasting impact on the industry and on audiences around the world."

Lee, 51, was born in Rhode Island, and described herself as a "5-year-old disheveled mess," in an online chat last year. "I was a creative kid, who couldn't sit still and focus and had too many interests. I was too curious."

She majored in English at the University of New Hampshire, before heading to New York to work as a graphic artist and designer of audiobooks for Random House. Giving the commencement speech at her alma mater years later, Lee told students they need to trust in themselves and put their insecurities behind them.

"Self-doubt is consuming and cruel, and my hope today is that we can all collectively agree to ban it," she said. "Please know, from here on out, you are enough and, dare I say, more than enough."

Lee put doubt behind her when, as a young mother-to-be, she quit her career in publishing to pursue a degree in screenwriting at Columbia University. Her early screenplays won awards and put her on a path to Hollywood, "flying to Los Angeles with my breast pump," as she told the *LA Weekly*.

Then came the call from Disney. There, she joined the creative team for *Frozen*, helping shift the story from a battle of good vs. evil, based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*, to one that empha-



It Go" went from being a YouTube phenomenon to the bane of many parents' ears. It reached the point that Lee would jokingly apologize for the soundtrack.

"A year ago, I'd meet people who, when they found out who I was, they'd say, 'Oh, we love the songs!'" she told the *Hollywood Reporter* in 2014. "Now they're like, 'Yep, we're still listening to those songs.' I've gone from, 'Thank you,' to, 'Sorry!'"

The 2016 film *Moana* began a shift at the studio, Lee has said. Disney began working even more closely with local musicians and artists, as well as oceanologists, to tell the story of a Pacific Island girl who sails off on a dangerous mission to help her people.

Lee had two films released in 2018: the *Wreck-it-Ralph* sequel *Ralph Breaks the Inter-*

**Far left:** In 2012, Jennifer Lee and Phil Johnston arrive at the premiere of *Wreck-It Ralph*, the film project that started her on a new path.

**Top:** Lee poses with Anna, Olaf and Elsa at the 2019 premiere of *Frozen 2*, accompanied by actor Alfred Molina, pictured at left, whom she married in 2021.



Top left and left: Did an interest in drawing and playing with dolls lead her into a future career in animation and storytelling?  
Above: Lee and producer Clark Spencer, attend the world premiere of *Encanto*, in November 2021.

net, where she served as executive producer; and the live-action children’s science-fiction fantasy *A Wrinkle in Time*, which she co-wrote. That same year, Lee was put in charge of Disney’s famed animation studio after longtime head John Lasseter left amid allegations of improper behavior at work.

Her promotion turned out to be well-timed, as 2019’s *Frozen II*, which Lee also wrote and directed along with Chris Buck, took in even more money than its predecessor: \$1.45 billion globally.

“When I took this role, one of the first things I said is, ‘I want us to tell the stories of the world, but by the people of the world,’” she said in an interview last December with Australia’s ACMI.

Lee has made inclusiveness and cultural authenticity a hallmark of the studio’s work in films such as last year’s *Encanto*, about a Colombian family with magical powers.

A so-so performer in theaters in the midst of the pandemic, *Encanto* exploded in popularity when it was released on the Disney+ streaming service. Its soundtrack, featuring the irresistible song “We Don’t Talk About Bruno,” by Hamilton composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, ranked No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100, becoming only the second song from a Disney animated film to reach the top spot on the chart.

“Jennifer Lee’s done an incredible job at

Disney animation, just in terms of hiring more people of color, more women into leadership roles,” Charise Castro Smith, one of two screenwriters on *Encanto*, told Bloomberg TV earlier this year. “I know there’s a lot of movies that are going to be coming out or that are in the pipeline that are going to be examples of that change.”

In 2021, Lee remarried, to actor Alfred Molina, in a ceremony presided over by Jonathan Groff, who voiced Anna’s love interest, Kristoff, in *Frozen*.

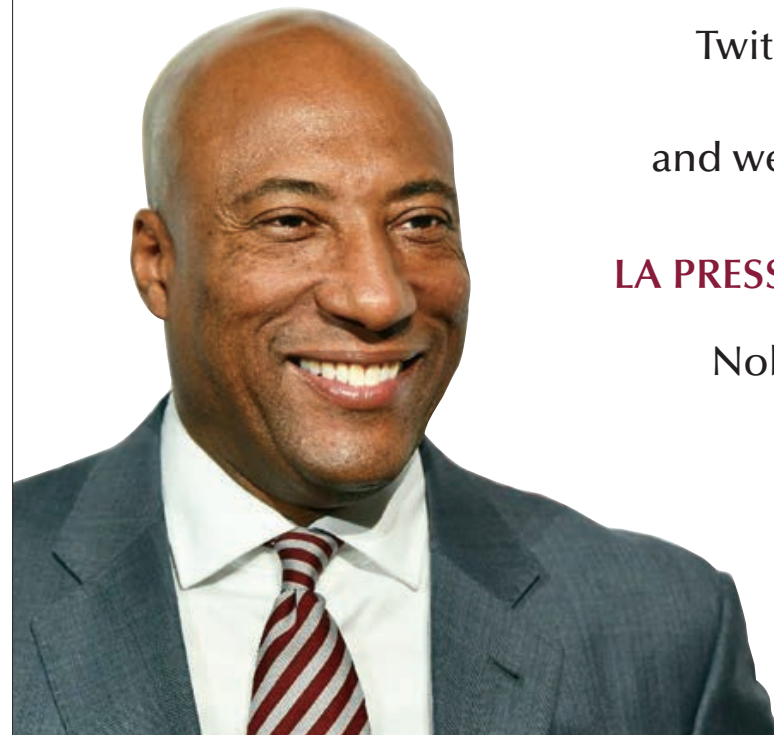
Lee continues to write and produce films, even as she oversees the studio’s overall work. Output is expanding, as the company now produces content for Disney+ as well as for theaters. The studio’s 61st animated film, *Strange World*, was released on Nov. 23. Its diverse cast includes comedian Jaboukie Young-White as a gay son looking for adventure beyond his father’s farm.

Today, the studio’s creative team is far more diverse than when Lee started, with nearly half of its writers being women.

“Talent is universal, but access is not,” Lee told attendees at an *Encanto* screening last year. “We’ve got to find the talent. We’ve got to create the access. The expansion of all kinds of diversity in our studio has exploded and should.”

With Lee at the helm, expect the explosion to continue.

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In a year defined by public service journalism, the Los Angeles Times is honored to stand among distinguished colleagues, all of whom are dedicated to a free press, informed citizenry and serving their community. We are proud of all the NAEJ Award honorees and grateful to the L.A. Press Club for recognizing this vital work.

**Los Angeles Times**  
The state of what’s next.



# We're Still HEARING From Tanya Tucker

THE UNBRIDLED COUNTRY MUSIC STAR RECEIVES THE PRESS CLUB'S  
DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD

BY CHRIS WILLMAN

**T**anya Tucker has been a press darling for 50 years. This is not much of a tipoff to her actual age, since she first captivated the world when she was just 13, with the 1972 release of the smash "Delta Dawn." Two years later, she made history as the first female country star to appear on the cover of *Rolling Stone*, with an extreme close up and a still famous cover line that had the magazine's editors effectively channeling her eternally brash attitude: "HI, I'M TANYA TUCKER, I'M 15, YOU'RE GONNA HEAR FROM ME."

People sometimes talk about headlines that did or didn't age well. This one did. Enough so that Tucker still brings it up sometimes in her highly unscripted concert patter. Making a comeback appearance at L.A.'s Troubadour a few years ago, as she headed toward the very first Grammy Awards in her half-century career, she held up the 1974 issue and thought back on what it meant to her at the time.

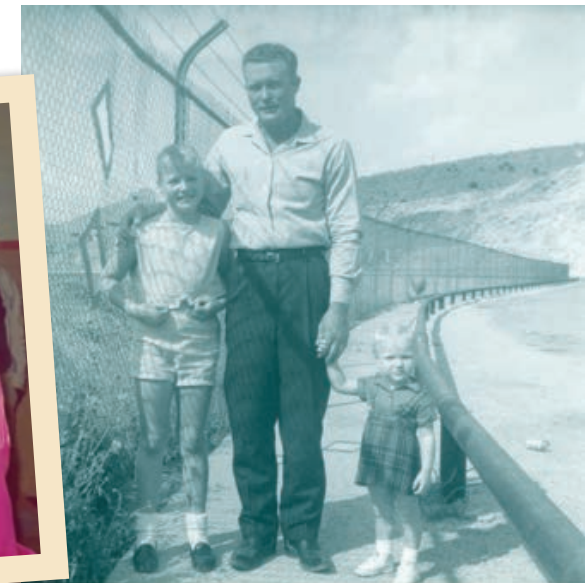
"I was 15, and I really didn't know what it meant to be on the cover," she said, candidly adding, "I still have never read the damn thing!"

She continued, "But it's kind of cool, when I think about it. I think they need to have a recap: '45 years later, I'm Tanya Tucker and you're still hearing from me.'"

Tonight Tucker is receiving the Los Angeles Press Club's Distinguished Storyteller Award for Excellence in Storytelling Outside Journalism,

though not because she's the queen of sound bites (but in a room full of journalists, can it hurt?). Things pop out of her mouth that could be well-practiced laugh lines or could be spontaneously brilliant quips. As someone who was making the tabloids too often in the 1980s, Tucker did go to the Betty Ford Center, but she assured me once in an interview, "I talk too much to be an alcoholic."

Tucker also described herself to me as having been "boy-crazy." Yet there was something in the toughness that she represented, as one of the few female exemplars of country music's outlaw movement, that had just enough androgyny that a young woman named



Early photos show Tucker with her parents and sister, making appearances, and with a Grammy music award.



Brandi Carlile could relate to as she was growing up as a Tucker-worshiping gay teen. Rather than taking exception to that observation, Tucker happily embraced it—she said at a joint appearance with Carlile that the reason she doesn't wear skirts is because she doesn't want her balls to show. And, as she told me about how tough it was for her initially to submit to Carlile's direction, when the younger singer co-produced Tucker's Grammy-winning *While I'm Livin'* album: "If she can lead me, she's got to be damn good. If somebody asks me to dance, I say, 'The only way I'm gonna dance with you is if you let me lead.'"

You get your share of those telling one-liners in the new Sony Pictures Classics documentary *The Return of Tanya Tucker—Featuring Brandi Carlile*. It is directed by Kathlyn Horan, who will present the singer with her award at tonight's gala.

This film is mostly about the making of the *While I'm Livin'* album, with heavy dollops of historical context. Though Horan says it shouldn't be the cinematic end-all to Tucker's story, remarking, "She should have, like, a 20-part series on her life, whether it's as a documentary or scripted."

For all of Tucker's gift for improvisational comedy in conversation, there's serious business being attended to here. In song, Tucker is one of country music's all-time most moving storytellers, on top of being one of its most mirthful personalities. Additionally, on the new album, Carlile and her collaborators wrote songs for Tucker that were firmly rooted in the biographical details of her upbringing, and subsequent decades, touching on the separation, loss and melancholy in her story, as well as some of the fun stuff that makes her such a beloved pop-culture icon. (Carlile and

Tucker's music career started at an early age and by age 13, was signed to a record contract with a hit single, "Delta Dawn."



you Wanda Jackson and Connie Smith did, but that sassy toughness that's like Loretta Lynn after a bottle of Scotch, that's Tanya Tucker. That's where Miranda Lambert, Kacey Musgraves, Maren Morris, Gretchen Wilson and I get it from. And we'd forgotten. But I think most of us are more than open to being reminded, and that's why the record's so fucking good, and that's why the documentary might even be better."

She adds, "This record was called *While I'm Livin'* because I'll be God-damned if we're not going to tribute her while she's living."

Tucker has received many awards during her career but an early one was given by Victor Musical Industries of Japan for her performance on the best-selling single, "Mr. Sunshine."

Above, right: Across the street from Billy Bob's in Ft. Worth, Texas, in 1983.

Below, right: Tucker is in a recently released documentary, *The Return of Tanya Tucker—Featuring Brandi Carlile*.

Shooter Jennings are said to have completed a follow-up album with Tucker, due in 2023, that might lean more to her rowdier side.)

"When Tanya started talking about why she hadn't made a record in 17 years, it's because any time she did music or got an accolade, it really brought her closer to her parents," says Carlile (Tucker's father was her manager). "When they died, she felt like there was more love behind her in her life than there was ahead of her. And me and Shooter set out to prove to her that, while we're not her mom and dad, the people in the world that listen to country music and love American roots music love her unconditionally, and that there's more love ahead of her than behind her."

Continues Carlile, "She's influenced a whole corner of country music that no one else has even touched. She would tell

benefit from Tucker having started her recording career at 13 is that we have 50 years of classic catalog to enjoy, with decades more of it to come, assuming the appreciation Tucker has received helps her stay this super-charged. Of course, if Tucker had had her way, she'd be celebrating even more than 50 years in the biz. As she once told me, "Hell, I was pissed I didn't get started earlier. I came to Nashville when I was 9 and said, 'I need to get out there now!'"

By now, we know we want to still be hearing from Tucker when she's 90.



Derrek Kupish



# KUDOS.

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# A Groundbreaker and a Legend

ACTRESS MARLA GIBBS RECEIVES  
THE PRESS CLUB'S  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BY ALEX BEN  
BLOCK

In early 1974, Marla Gibbs was working in a United Airlines call center, but her real passion was acting. She had appeared in low-budget movies, taken acting classes and done local theater. Yet the big roles she desired eluded her.

That winter she had gone on auditions for "The Jeffersons." The Norman Lear production was a twist on a top hit of the era, "All In The Family," though this bigot was a nouveau riche African American. Gibbs got nowhere.

Gibbs had recently gotten a New York-based agent, Ernestine McClendon. She was a former actress, comic and activist who represented top African-American performers, including Morgan Freeman.

"She was upset because none of her actors, who were all Black actors, really got work," recalls Gibbs. "We go in, she said, and it's like a revolving door. They're in and they're out. Nobody takes time with them."

So McClendon wrote an open letter complaining about discrimination to *The Hollywood Reporter*, which published it.

After that, recalls Gibbs, "Everybody started seeing us. When I went into Norman Lear's office this time, they talked to me and I did an interview. And the casting person liked everything I did. She took me over to the producers. I did the same thing I did in her office and they liked it. So by the time I got home, I had the job."

Gibbs was cast as the Jeffersons' maid, Florence Johnston. She appeared in the first episode, delivering asides and retorts, mostly to the stuffed-shirt lead, George Jefferson, played by Sherman Hemsley.

Gibbs was a guest player at first. She appeared in the fifth episode and the eighth, before becoming a regular. In her second season, at the insistence of a show producer, she finally quit her job with United Airlines.

She and the show were a hit, running for 11 seasons through 253 episodes, and in TV syndication forever.

"Marla brought to life one of the funniest characters in television history with her portrayal of Florence Johnston on 'The Jeffersons,'" says Los Angeles Press Club President Lisa Richwine. "Her work still makes people laugh decades later. That's a true mark of a legend."

It's a fitting description, as tonight the Press Club is honoring Gibbs with the Legend Award for Lifetime Achievement and Contributions to Society.

Although "Good Times" and "Sanford and Son" were already on TV with Black casts, "The Jeffersons" was the first show to deal with many complex social, political and racial issues, including inter-racial marriage, the KKK, alcoholism, gun control and adult literacy.

"We were the first progressive Black cast," says Gibbs.

Her role was to not be rich. "I was the one that



Clockwise from above: The cast from "The Jeffersons"; Marla Gibbs has been on many covers of *Jet* magazine; she appeared in "Hot in Cleveland"; daughter, Angela, has followed in her steps as an actor, writer and director.

Marla Gibbs with sons, Dorian, Joey, and daughter, Angela.



worked for other people. They told me what to do," says Gibbs. "So the masses recognized who I was."

Playing Florence Johnston launched Gibbs into the role of a much-loved star who has kept working for almost half a century. While raising three children, running a jazz club, a theater and a restaurant, she has remained in demand

as an actress even in her 91st year. She recently appeared on a soap opera and is booked for another role on "Grey's Anatomy."

It was after "The Jeffersons" was abruptly cancelled (and a spinoff fizzled) that Gibbs found her second hit sitcom. Her daughter Angela persuaded her to star in a play called "227" at her Gibbs Crossroads Theater in Los Angeles, where



Clockwise from above: Gibbs appeared in the 1993 movie *Meter Man*; a woman of many talents, she sang with the Joe Williams Big Band; moved her Crossroads Arts Academy into the former Leimert Park Theatre in Los Angeles, renaming it Vision Theatre; Gibbs sang the theme song to the series "227", shown above right with Hal Williams, her show husband. Gibbs also owned a jazz club in South Central LA called Marla's Memory Lane for several years until it closed in 1999.

she served as artistic director. The play followed the lives of a group of black women in an apartment building in 1950s Chicago.

Lear came to the final performance, leading to an NBC series reset in contemporary L.A. Gibbs starred as outspoken housewife Mary Jenkins, who had a tart tongue and loved to gossip.

The show almost never got on air. Gibbs had things she wanted, including a character to play her husband, and she did not want to own the 227 building, feeling the landlord would detract from her every-person image.

When she was told the network saw things differently, Gibbs walked.

"Well, let me stop talking to them because they're ridiculous," Gibbs recalls thinking. "So I had a meeting with them and Norman, and when I told Norman how I felt, he said, 'It's clear I should have had you at that meeting.'"

Gibbs also wanted to be a producer but Lear said actors couldn't produce because the time involved and work demands were different. Instead, Gibbs became an uncredited executive producer, casting her protégé Regina King and discovering Jackée Harry. She also punched up jokes and even helped edit the show.

The recipe worked, as "227" lasted five seasons and continues in reruns.

Gibbs celebrated Lear on his 100th birthday TV special, and he repays the compliment. "Marla Gibbs, the performer and friend, has so delighted and informed me over the years," he says. "I am convinced she has added time to my life."

What is the secret of Gibbs' success? She says whether it is acting in comedy or drama, it is always about finding the truth of the story or the scene.

"If it's about somebody, you can't know the truth 'cause you don't know them and you don't know their truth," says Gibbs. "Most of the time it's not about a real person. So you have to bring the truth of that character. It's whether or not you can feel the character, what the character portrays. That's the truth."

Her philosophy and dedication to her craft has earned Gibbs numerous honors, including seven NAACP Image Awards, five Emmy nominations and a Golden Globe nomination. Now she is adding the Legend Award.

"Every award is appreciated," says Gibbs. "People don't have to give an award, but the work is its own reward. The award is not as important as the work. But I appreciate the award because it means people are saying, 'We like what you do,' and you can always appreciate that."

Gibbs will soon share her life and philosophy in her autobiography. She will simultaneously release a CD of her performing jazz songs. She plans to tour and sing at each performance.

What does she want as her legacy? She says she hopes to be remembered as, "A person who loved and recognized that we were all one, and loved everybody and acted like they loved everybody."



# CONGRATULATIONS

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& ESPECIALLY TO OUR GOOD FRIENDS**

*Byron Allen* – IMPACT AWARD

*Marla Gibbs* – LEGEND AWARD



# The Veritas Award Finalists

THE STANDOUTS FOR THE LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB PRIZE HONORING FILMS INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

The Veritas Award has become a Los Angeles Press Club fixture. Once again this year, many strong contenders are vying for the prize.

It all started with *Spotlight*. The Tom McCarthy-directed feature about the *Boston Globe's* investigative reporting team was the first movie to receive the award, which honors films based on or inspired by true stories and real people. *Spotlight* shows how a group of reporters uncovered one of the biggest sex scandals in the Catholic church. Weeks after taking home the Veritas Award in 2016, *Spotlight* won the Oscar for Best Picture.

In 2017, the club's members honored *Hidden Figures*, celebrating female empowerment with the true story of three brilliant African-American women pushing the envelope at NASA in the 1960s. Subsequent winners were *The Post* in 2018, *Green Book* in 2019 (it also won the Oscar for Best Picture), *Bombshell* in 2020 and *The Trial of the Chicago 7* in 2021. The 2022 prize went to *King Richard*.

Movies based on true events have become increasingly popular and commercially successful in recent years. The Press Club is proud of its role in honoring filmmakers seeking to better our world and widen our horizons. The LAPC 1,000 members are deciding the 2023 Visionary Awardee. Voting starts in January.

Want to vote? Become a member!

The 10 finalists for the 2023 Veritas Award are, in alphabetical order:

*Corsage*: A fictional account of one year in the life of Empress Elisabeth of Austria. On Christmas Eve 1877, Elisabeth, once idolized for her beauty, turns 40 and is officially deemed an old woman. She starts trying to maintain her public image. Writer/director Marie Kreutzer. IFC Films.

*Elvis*: The life of Elvis Presley from his childhood to becoming a star in the 1950s, while maintaining a complex relationship with his manager, Colonel Tom Parker. Writers: Baz Luhrmann, Sam Bromell, Craig Pearce, Jeremy Doner. Director: Baz Luhrmann. Warner Bros.

*Emancipation*: A runaway slave forges through the swamps of Louisiana on a tortuous journey to escape



plantation owners. Writer: Bill Collage. Director: Antoine Fuqua. Apple TV+.

*The Fabelmans*: Growing up in post-World War II Arizona, young Sammy Fabelman aspires to become a filmmaker. He discovers a shattering family secret and explores how the power of film can help him see the truth. Based on Steven Spielberg's own experiences. Writers: Steven Spielberg, Tony Kushner. Director: Steven Spielberg. Universal Pictures.

*The Good Nurse*: An infamous caregiver is implicated in the deaths of hundreds of hospital patients. Writers: Charles Graeber, Krysty Wilson Cairns. Director: Tobias Lindholm. Netflix.

*The Inspection*: A young, gay Black man, rejected by his mother and with few options for his future, joins the Marines, doing whatever it takes to succeed in a system that would cast him aside. Writer/director: Elegance Bratton. A24.

*She Said*: *New York Times* reporters Megan Twohey and Jodi Kantor break one of the most important stories in a generation. Their reporting helped ignite a movement and shattered decades of silence around the subject of sexual assault in Hollywood. Writers: Rebecca Lenkiewicz, Megan Twohey, Jodi Kantor. Director: Maria Schrader. Universal Pictures.

*Thirteen Lives*: A rescue mission is assembled in Thailand where a group of young boys and their soccer coach are trapped in a system of underground caves that are flooding. Writers: William Nicholson, Don McPherson. Director: Ron Howard. MGM.

*Till*: In 1955, after Emmett Till is murdered, his mother vows to expose the racism behind the attack, while working to have those involved brought to justice. Writers: Michael Reilly, Keith Beauchamp, Chinonye Chukwu. Director: Chinonye Chukwu. United Artists Releasing.

*The Woman King*: A historical epic inspired by true events that took place in the Kingdom of Dahomey, one of the most powerful states of Africa in the 18th and 19th centuries. Writers: Dana Stevens, Maria Bello. Director: Gina Prince-Bythewood. TriStar Pictures.



# Pushing Journalism Forward

## The Los Angeles Press Club Offers a Variety of Grants, Fellowships and Scholarships

**Y**ou know the Los Angeles Press Club for gala events such as tonight's National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards, and summer's Southern California Journalism Awards. But that is just the start.

In addition to recognizing the best in local journalism, the Press Club works to make that journalism possible, and to help the next generation of journalists in a variety of mediums. That happens in numerous ways.

Here are four opportunities for journalists from across Los Angeles. Additional information about each of the grants, fellowships and scholarships is at [lapressclub.org](http://lapressclub.org).

### Foot in the Door Fellowship

The Press Club's Foot in the Door Fellowship is focused on building connections for a new generation of journalists. The program pairs five journalists, from communities historically excluded from the media, with newsroom veterans who provide one-on-one mentoring for six months. The Press Club also introduces the Fellows to other working journalists who offer advice on covering beats and breaking into the industry.

Professionals who would like to serve as mentors, take informational calls, contribute monetarily or pass along an entry-level job posting can email [info@lapressclub.org](mailto:info@lapressclub.org). This year's mentors were Tonya Mosley of NPR; Shana Nys Dambrot of *L.A. Weekly*; Jim Rainey of the *Los Angeles Times*; Emily Elena Dugdale of *KPCC/LAist*; and Catalina Villegas of *Spectrum News 1*.

The Foot in the Door Fellowship Committee consists of Nic Cha Kim of *KCET*; Brittany Levine Beckman of the *Los Angeles Times*; Villagas and Dugdale. The next Fellowship round will kick off in February. Applications are open on the Press Club's website.

### Rappleye Investigative Grant and Reporting on Systemic Racism Grant

In the effort to allow journalists to do important work, the Press Club continues to fund two timely programs: the Charles M. Rappleye Investigative Journalism Award, and the Reporting on Systemic Racism Grant.

The Rappleye prize, which ranges from \$1,000 to \$5,000, is awarded twice a year to a working journalist or team in need of resources, whether financial or in-kind. More than one grant may be awarded in a given period. Applicants with an urgent need may receive interim grants outside the regular award cycle.

The grant is named for the late Los Angeles editor and journalist Charles Rappleye, and aims to support next-level investigative research for ongoing projects. Rappleye was known for his work at *L.A. Weekly* and *L.A. CityBeat*, as well as his non-fiction books, including *Sons of Providence: The Brown Brothers, the Slave Trade, and the American Revolution*. He also co-founded, with his wife Tulsa Kinney, *L.A.'s* respected art magazine *Artillery*.

The two most recent recipients of the Rappleye Award are Molly O'Toole and Donnell Alexander.

The Press Club also funds reporting that focuses on effective responses to institutional racism, including works that critically assess alternatives to racist structures and practices. Up to four grants of \$2,500 are awarded twice yearly. The first three winners were announced last year. Another two were awarded this year, to Gabbriel Schivone and Aitana Vargas.

The Press Club has teamed up with the Solutions Journalism Network to offer a specialized workshop for those selected to receive funding.

Eligibility for both awards is open to all journalists, with preference given to those working in and/or writing about Southern California and the wider Southwest.

### Tony Ross Scholarship

Richard Ross has partnered with the Press Club to create the Tony Ross Scholarship, named for his late son, Anthony Darrow Ross.

Richard Ross graduated from USC Law School in 1959. After the unexpected death of his wife, Lorrie, the following year, he left a promising career in entertainment law and took a position as a Deputy District Attorney, which allowed him more time to be with and care for his 8-month-old son Tony.

Tony was an intelligent, creative and charismatic young man who had a strong interest in journalism. He worked as a reporter and then as an editor for his high school newspaper, and won various journalism awards. He served as the news anchor for his school's TV station and had a summer internship as a reporter with KCOP-13. He attended Wesleyan University and planned to embark upon a career in journalism, but during his sophomore year, after a series of personal losses, Tony took his own life.

Richard changed careers, earning a doctorate in clinical psychology and serving as a Hearing Referee in the Mental Health Department of Los Angeles Superior Court. He is affiliated with the Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center and has contributed to their programs, offering support to other survivors of suicide, as well as their ongoing efforts in suicide prevention.

Richard, who is retired, established the scholarship to support young people interested in journalism. He believes nothing is more important to the survival of our democracy than a free and inquiring press.

Two \$5,000 scholarships are awarded each year to student journalists in Southern California.

## INTRODUCING

# The A-Mark Grant for Reporting on Misinformation and Disinformation

The Press Club Joins With Santa Monica Organization for Awards of Up to \$2,000

**T**he rise of digital media has unleashed a flood of inaccurate, misleading or outright fabricated information across all news platforms. In the past two years alone, we've seen the spread of lies about the 2020 election, falsehoods perpetrated during the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-change denialism and conspiracy theories that single out specific individuals or minority groups with baseless and damaging claims.

A critical antidote to this problem is serious, persistent and fearless journalism that exposes and counters these untruths, and the people and organizations that perpetuate them. The Santa Monica-based, nonpartisan A-Mark Foundation has joined with the Los Angeles Press Club to award the A-Mark Prize for Reporting on Misinformation and Disinformation. Grants of up to \$2,000 will be given to local journalists.

The goal is to facilitate stories that expose the larger problem of fake news, explore specific instances of misinformation and disinformation in social and news media, and hold perpetrators of misleading news accountable. The work can

take on a specific instance of media manipulation, examining its perpetrators and its impact. Or it can explore possible solutions to the problem, or individuals or groups active in either perpetrating or solving it.

Applicants must live and work in Southern California, and the grants are only open to freelancers or journalists with part-time work. (Recipients need not be a member of the L.A. Press Club). Applicants should be a writer, photojournalist, videographer, TV journalist, radio journalist or podcaster. The proposals can include reported opinion columns.

Stories can be told in any number of formats, including shorter pieces; longer take-outs; investigative series; mobile-friendly content; TV news segments or public affairs programming; radio pieces and podcasts; data visualizations and interactive maps.

The total amount available in this round of grants is \$5,000. Half of the grant will be paid upfront and the rest when the project is published.

The deadline to apply is May 1, 2023. Full information on the grant and how to apply is at [lapressclub.org](http://lapressclub.org).

## Congratulations to tonight's winners. BEING A JOURNALIST IS TOUGH. WE CAN HELP!



The 8 Ball Emergency Fund for Journalists  
Helping Southern California journalists since 1954.

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for that incredible gift. It's not just money you're giving. It's a roof over my head, food, and some peace. The work that you do is invaluable and life-impacting."

—from a 2019 grant recipient

If you're a Los Angeles journalist and need help with a financial emergency, or if you can help with a donation, visit our website.

[www.8BallJournalists.org](http://www.8BallJournalists.org)

# Finalists for LAPC Book Award

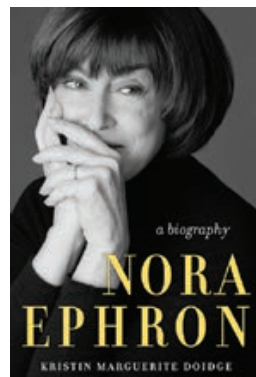
## A LOOK AT THE FIVE CONTENDERS FOR THE NON-FICTION PRIZE

As part of the National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards, the Los Angeles Press Club honors some of the newest books. Here are the five finalists for the non-fiction prize.

Entertainment and the arts make great subjects not only for news stories, features, and documentaries, but also for books. The finalists featured in our “non-fiction book” category are gifted authors represented by prestigious publishers. They provide in-depth insight into different domains of pop culture, music, and theater, satisfying our craving for well-researched, entertaining writing, and allowing us to indulge in our favorite obsession.

**Kristin Marguerite Doidge**  
**Nora Ephron: A Biography**  
Chicago Review Press

Nora Ephron was one of the most popular, accomplished and beloved writers in American journalism and film. This is the first comprehensive portrait of the Manhattan-born woman who forged a path of her own, earning accolades and adoration from critics and fans. Doidge explores the tremendous successes and disappointing failures Ephron sustained in her career as a popular essayist turned screenwriter turned film director. It is based on rare archival research and interviews conducted over eight years.



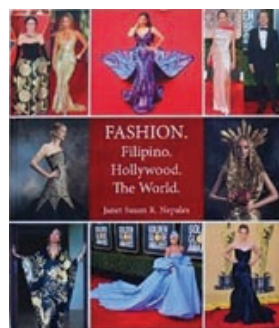
**Alessandra Mattanza**  
**Banksy**  
Prestel/Random House

The most wide-ranging and up-to-date volume available on the enigmatic and controversial graffiti artist, this deeply researched and highly personal tribute explores how Banksy continues to defy accepted wisdom about artistic success, growing only more famous even as he sticks to his anti-establishment platform. The book includes an interview with Banksy.



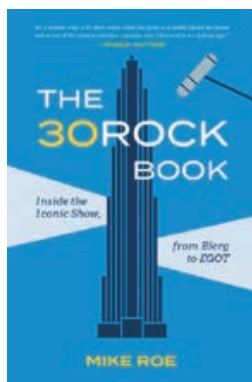
**Janet Susan R. Nepales**  
**Fashion. Filipino. Hollywood. The World.**  
Queen-B Multi-Media Productions

This is the first book by award-winning journalist Nepales. It pays tribute to fashion and designers with text and a compilation of photos. Published by Bessie Badilla and edited by Ruben V. Nepales, the tome features spreads of fashion, including red carpet photos of top stars, talents and celebrities, mostly taken by Hollywood photographer Sthanlee B. Mirador.



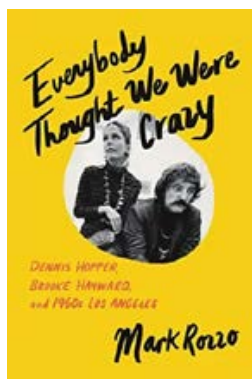
**Mike Roe**  
**The 30 Rock Book**  
Abrams Books

This book includes more than 50 interviews with those who worked on the hit “30 Rock,” published for the show’s 15th anniversary. It combines cultural criticism, an episode guide and oral history into one definitive look at the program. This includes an exploration of how the show was a comedy classic, yet also featured deeply problematic material, from blackface to anti-trans jokes.



**Mark Rozzo**  
**Everybody Thought We Were Crazy**  
HarperCollins (Ecco)

This is the stylish, wild story of the marriage of Dennis Hopper and Brooke Hayward. It is a tale of love, art, Hollywood and heartbreak.



HFPA®

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association is proud to support the LA Press Club's

## 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALISM AWARDS GALA

Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees and nominees including our esteemed journalists:

*Ana Maria Bahiana  
Barbara Gasser  
Janet R. Nepales  
Ruben V. Nepales*





## JUDGES

There are no formal criteria for the judging of the National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards. The rules of the competition and the definitions for each category, which are described at [lapressclub.org](http://lapressclub.org), act as the sole guidelines. Our distinguished judges decide which submissions qualify as third-place, second-place and first-place winners.



**Kaitlin Bain** is the editor of the *Beaumont Enterprise*. Previously, she was the *Enterprise's* local government, politics and senior reporter. She was named the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors Association's 2019 Star Reporter of the Year in the *Enterprise's* size category. She has bachelor's of arts degrees in journalism and political science from Texas Tech University.



**Tom Breckenridge** is an award-winning reporter and editor who wrote more than 4,000 news and feature stories during a 33-year career in journalism in Cleveland. Currently, he is a freelance journalist and sits on the board of directors for *The Land*, a nonprofit news website focused on Cleveland neighborhoods.



**Susanna Capelouto** is the deputy managing editor at public radio station WABE in Atlanta, and is responsible for the politics, health, housing and immigration beats. She also worked as news director for Georgia Public Broadcasting, and as news editor with CNN International.



**Karen Carlin** is a copy editor and page designer at the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. She has also written features and A&E stories, and served as associate editor of the PG's *Weekend Mag*, a weekly entertainment tabloid. She previously worked at the *Pittsburgh Press*. She chairs the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania's annual Golden Quill Awards journalism competition.



**Nicole Carr** focuses on criminal justice and racial inequity for ProPublica's South unit. She previously served as an investigative reporter for WSB-TV in Atlanta. In addition to covering Georgia's historic 2020 elections and various aspects of the pandemic, Carr's work has been rooted in law enforcement and government accountability. Carr is the recipient of four Southeast Regional Emmy awards.



**Andy Coughlan** teaches journalism at Lamar University where he is an advisor to the *University Press*, the student newspaper. He is editor of the award-winning *ISSUE*, a monthly arts magazine and has won multiple awards for his arts reviews and features. Coughlan is also an actor, director and playwright, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



**Toi Creel** is an entertainment reporter, producer, and host intent on nabbing key interviews and having fun conversations. She believes authenticity is the start to storytelling. She headed to newfound home Toledo to serve as the host of the lifestyle show "What's Going On," with partner Morgan Kosinski.



**Lacey Daley** is a writer and producer in Boise, Idaho. By day, she's the digital strategy manager at Boise State Public Radio and the co-host and producer of the podcast "You Know The Place." She's also a coach in the Table Stakes program from the American Press Institute, where she helps news organizations transform their digital audience strategies.



**Tom Daykin** is a business reporter at the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and an avid reader of both fiction and non-fiction works.



**Jeremy Duda** is a reporter for *Axios Phoenix* who has covered Arizona politics and government for 14 years. He is a Phoenix native who previously worked for publications including the *Arizona Mirror* and *Arizona Capitol Times*. He is the author of *If This Be Treason: The American Rogues and Rebels Who Walked the Line Between Dissent and Betrayal*.



**Sharon Eberson's** 40-year career at the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* began in 1980 when she was the first female sports writer at a Pittsburgh newspaper. She was a reporter, editor and designer in sports, became the newspaper's *Sunday Magazine* editor, and for the past eight years served as the *Post-Gazette's* theater critic, as well as an arts and pop culture reporter.



**Debra Fraser** is general manager of KMUW, NPR for Wichita. She has more than 20 years of experience as a news reporter and news director in Houston. Fraser is responsible for creating the statewide Lone Star Awards competition in Texas. She leads her station in Wichita with the theory that news coverage and smart conversations make a community better.



**Anne Geggis** is a newspaper and digital reporter with 30 years of experience covering health, education and politics. She is the president of the Florida Press Club.



**Kellie B. Gormly** is a Pittsburgh-based freelance writer for publications including the *Washington Post*, *Woman's World*, and *Smithsonian*. She is a former staff writer for the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, where she covered arts and entertainment, and wrote features for more than a decade.



**Vince Guerrieri** is an award-winning journalist and author in the Cleveland area. He has written for a variety of regional and national publications, including *Smithsonian*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Defector*, *CityLab* and *POLITICO*.



**Jay Handelman** is the arts editor and theater critic for the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, where he has worked since 1984. He is a member of the American Theatre Critics Association, serves as president of the Foundation of the American Theatre Critics Association, and is a member of the TV Critics Association.



**Jeanne Hoban**, the director of publications and communications at Northeast Ohio Medical University, is editor of the daily *Pulse* newsletter and *Ignite*, NEOMED's award-winning human interest magazine. She previously was marketing communications director for a large nonprofit organization and worked as a freelance writer and editor for publications throughout the Cleveland market.



**Jeanne Huff** is the editor of *Boise Weekly* and the community engagement editor at *Idaho Press*. She is a features, arts and entertainment journalist with more than 20 years of experience in print, TV and online. She also dabbles in fiction and is working on a memoir/cookbook featuring her four marriages and the recipes that tied them all together.



**Paul M. Ingram** is a senior reporter/photographer on border and immigration issues at *TusconSentinel.com*.



**Mike Jordan** is an Atlanta-based multimedia journalist and cultural reporter who contributes to the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *Atlanta* magazine, *Eater Atlanta* and *Southern Living*. He covers food, business, entertainment, technology, politics and other areas that intersect with culture. He is a board member of the Atlanta Press Club and the National Association of Black Journalists.



**Danyelle Khmara** covers the U.S.-Mexico border and immigration for the *Arizona Daily Star*. She joined the *Star* in 2018 and previously covered K-12 education. She has won statewide awards for her investigative, watchdog and enterprise reporting. In her free time you will find her adventuring in nature, playing guitar or training in capoeira with her teenage son.



**Leah Kohlenberg** is an artist and art teacher with decades of experience at *Time Magazine*, *ABCnews.com* and more. She runs The Roaming Studio in Portland and specializes in teaching art to journalists.



## Judges



**Bob Ladendorf** has been a copy boy, legislative proofreader, freelance newspaper and magazine writer, associate editor of a public affairs magazine, state governmental communications executive, and primary researcher for author M.G. Lord's book on Elizabeth Taylor, *The Accidental Feminist*. He has received nine awards for governmental communications.



**Melissa Lalum** is the senior manager of content production at LinkedIn, overseeing the teams that design and produce eLearning courses on a global scale. She has more than 25 years of experience in journalism and education, serving as the managing editor of the *Los Angeles Daily News* before becoming a journalism professor at California State University, Northridge.



**Rob Long** is an American writer and television producer. As a screenwriter and executive producer for the long-running television program "Cheers," he received Emmy and Golden Globe nominations in 1992 and 1993. Long created the television show "George and Leo," among others. He is a contributing editor of *National Review*, and his weekly radio commentary, "Martini Shot," is broadcast on the Los Angeles public radio station KCRW, and is distributed nationally. His most recent book is *Bigly: Donald Trump in Verse*, published in October 2017 by Regnery.



**Maryann Lazarski** is an award-winning journalist, documentarian and television producer. She is a recipient of the prestigious Silver Circle Award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for devoting 25-plus years to the industry and making significant contributions to Milwaukee television. She is the executive producer of "10thirtysix," a news-magazine program on Milwaukee PBS.



**Stephan Malick** is an advisor for the award-winning *University Press* newspaper and has been a professor of journalism practice at Lamar University in Beaumont since 2015. Previously he was a newspaper reporter for Hearst, Cox and Donrey papers. He has worked as a journalism educator for over 20 years.



**Sandy Maxx** is a television, radio, podcast and live event host. At Milwaukee PBS, Maxx hosts the TV series "The Arts Page" and produces soft news features. She is the recipient of the 2019 James T. Tiedge Memorial Award for professional excellence, ethics and social responsibility in broadcasting from Marquette University's Diederich College of Communication.



**Elizabeth McIntyre** is the executive editor of *Crain's Cleveland Business* in Northeast Ohio. She has been a journalist in Greater Cleveland for more than 30 years. Prior to joining Crain's in 2014, she spent 20 years at the (Cleveland) *Plain Dealer*, where she served as graphics and design editor and assistant managing editor, before being named deputy managing editor.



**Tom Michael** is the executive director of Boise State Public Radio, a network of NPR stations in Idaho. In 2018 he launched the Mountain West News Bureau, a collaboration of public media organizations across five states. He is the president of Western States Public Radio, representing industry leaders in the West.



**Charlie Miller** has been a journalist with *The Post-Standard* and *Syracuse.com* since 1988. He has covered breaking news, courts, government and the arts. He ran the Sports Department for 20 years and is now a multimedia journalist covering the best food and drink in Central New York. He is in his 26th year teaching news writing at Newhouse.



**Isabella Nilsson** is a veteran journalist and museum executive who currently serves as the CEO and Permanent Secretary of The Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Stockholm. Earlier in her career she was the arts and entertainment editor for several Swedish newspapers and magazines, as well as a teacher and lecturer at the University of Gothenburg.



**George Prentice** has a decades-long career in broadcast and print journalism. He has won dozens of awards for his investigative reporting, and took home top prizes in the fields of entertainment and film criticism, in addition to environment, health, and feature reporting. He hosts "Morning Edition," one of the highest-rated broadcasts in Idaho.



**Michael Riecke** is a freelance journalist and an assistant professor of broadcast and digital journalism at the State University of New York-Oswego. His 20-year career has included time as a television news reporter, producer and anchor. More recently, he has served as a freelance reporter and podcast producer for WRVO Public Media. Riecke is vice president of the Syracuse Press Club.



**Maria Sciuillo** is a Pittsburgh-based journalist whose work encompasses arts and entertainment features and criticism, sports and enterprise.



**Kim Shine** is a writer and journalist who currently serves as production manager for HYFIN, a radio station under Radio Milwaukee. Shine has more than a decade of news and media experience and is a proud graduate of Grand Valley State University and Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.



**Leslie Simmons** is an award-winning journalist and communications professional in Los Angeles. She spent 15 years as a journalist, reporting for print and online publications including the *Hollywood Reporter*, *Daily Journal*, *City News Service* and *Inside.com*. She served on the board of the Society of Professional Journalists, Los Angeles Chapter, and was president for two terms.



**Kevin Steele** ranks as one of America's most experienced digital and broadcast journalists, with a career spanning over 34 years. He has served in larger TV markets such as Little Rock, as well as in one of the nation's smallest markets, in Kirksville, Missouri, near the cattle farm where he was raised. For more than a decade, Steele has been anchoring Texas news.



**Cindy Swirko** recently retired after 42 years of reporting, the last 33 with the *Gainesville Sun* in Florida. She is a winner of numerous awards from the Florida Press Club, the Florida Society of News Editors, the Society of Professional Journalists and other organizations.



**Barbara Vancheri** is former movie editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the fifth and final newspaper of her career. During her 32 years at the newspaper she covered five Oscar ceremonies, attended 11 Toronto International Film Festivals and interviewed such notables as Fred Rogers.



**Murphy Woodhouse** is a senior field correspondent with the Phoenix NPR affiliate KJZZ. He is based at the station's bureau in the Sonoran capital Hermosillo.



**Chris Woodyard** is Los Angeles program director for Arizona State University's Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Woodyard was the L.A. bureau chief for *USA TODAY*. He also worked for the *Houston Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Herald Examiner*, Associated Press and *Las Vegas Sun*. He has been a two-term president of the Los Angeles Press Club.







Simi Horwitz, *FORWARD*, "A Humongous Retrospective Honors the Glorious Career of an Iconic Photographer"

M.G. Lord, *Los Angeles Times*, "How a Swiss Editor Wrangled Patricia Highsmith's Messy Diaries into a Volcanic Book"

#### K2A. SOFT NEWS, ON TV/STREAMING

Diane Haithman, *TheWrap*, "Domestic Workers Call for Hollywood to Clean Up Its Act Depicting Their Lives on Screen"

Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "How 'The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel' and Others Flipped to Weekly Releases as Streamers Go Beyond Binge"

Lucas Shaw and Mark Gurman, *Bloomberg Pursuits*, "Netflix Plans to Offer Video Games in Push Beyond Films, TV"

Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "How Chevrolet Drove 'The Sopranos' and David Chase to Super Bowl LVI"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "'Elvis' Fact or Fiction: Colonel Tom Parker Biographer on What's Real and What's Not in Baz Luhrmann Biopic"

#### K2B. SOFT NEWS, ON FILM

Christina Campodonico, *The San Francisco Standard*, "What's Behind the Decline in Lesbian Bars? Documentary & Manny's Unpack the Downward Trend"

Robert Meeks, *Los Angeles Times*, "An old VHS tape gives a son a glimpse of his father's shot at fame in 1960s Hollywood"

Saida Pagan, *palabra. National Association of Hispanic Journalists*, "Light, Cameras, Tax Breaks!"

Manori Ravindran, *Variety*, "Indigenous Producer Says He Was 'Treated Like a Criminal' for Wearing Moccasins on Cannes Red Carpet"

Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "After Oscars Glory, This Is the Plan for 'CODA' the Musical"

#### K2C. SOFT NEWS, ON ARTS

Ana Maria Bahiana, *GoldenGlobes.com*, "Tucum: The Power, The Beauty, The Forest"

Susan Bell, *USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences*, "Finding belonging and nourishing the soul: how a Mexican eatery became a cherished urban anchor"

Sharon Knolle, *TheWrap*, "Forget Chris Rock and Dave Chappelle – Female Comics Say Stand-Up Has 'Never Been Safe' for Women"

Chris Palmeri, *Bloomberg News*, "Disney's \$500 Million Coaster Underscores Deep Florida Ties"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "New Bob Dylan Center

in Tulsa Might Just Be the GOAT of Rock Museums"

#### J8. SOFT NEWS FEATURE

Tre'vell Anderson, Jarrett Hill, *Maximum Fun*, "The Blogger-Journalist Divide (ft. Jasmine Simpkins)"

David Toledo, Angel Carreras, "The State of the Streaming Wars"

#### 18. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, TV/FILM — UNDER 5 MINUTES

Kimberly Cornell, Angel C. Kim, Doug Kolk, Nick Simpson, *KTLA 5 News*, "LA Unscripted: The Deets: Karate Kid Tour"

Kimberly Cornell, Angel C. Kim, Nick Simpson, *KTLA 5 News*, "LA Unscripted: LA Revealed: Viewer's Martini Glasses"

Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*, "Family Bible"

Sharon Waxman, Jennifer Laski, Stephanie Fischette, Erin Hughes, Victor Klaus, *TheWrap*, "How 'CODA' Director Siân Heder Put the Audience in the Deaf Perspective"

Sharon Waxman, Jennifer Laski, Chuckie Fuoco, Pablo Teyssier-Verger, Lauren Hemming, *TheWrap*, "How 'King Richard' Composer Synced a Piano Note With a Tennis Shot"

#### 19. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, ARTS/CULTURE — UNDER 5 MINUTES

Kimberly Cornell, Angel C. Kim, Adrian Huerta, *KTLA 5 News*, "LA Unscripted: LA Revealed: Pink Donut Boxes"

Erin Donnelly, Jacquie Cosgrove, *Yahoo Life*, "How this music buff is using hip-hop and ASL to 'break barriers between music and sign language'"

Kristopher Gee, *Spectrum News 1*, "Ellington's New World"

KCET, *KCET*, "Artbound: The Story of Rubén Funkhuatl Guevara and Frank Zappa"

Lisa McRee, Bill Cipolla, Heidi Berger, Christina Veta, Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*, "Erika Records"

#### G11. VISUAL ARTS/ARCHITECTURE FEATURE — OVER 1,000 WORDS

Andy Coughlan, *Beaumont Enterprise*, "Artist Inside and Out"

Shana Nys Dambrot, *LA Weekly*, "The Cheech is a Jewel in the SoCal Culture Crown"

Palak Jayswal, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, "Spiral Jetty: A barometer for the great Salt lake or a work of art unto itself?"

Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Academy Museum Hired a Hawk. His Name is Spencer, and He Scares for a Living"

Jessica Zack, *Alta Journal*, "In Search of American Geography"

#### G12. CREATIVE/PERFORMING ARTS FEATURE — OVER 1,000 WORDS

Shana Nys Dambrot, *LA Weekly*, "The Jules Bates ArtTrouble Center Sorts Out a Legacy"

Abby M. Gibson, *Alta Journal*, "Hamlin Garland's Mad Quest for Buried Crosses"

Javier C. Hernández, *The New York Times*, "The Netrebko Question"

Katya Kazakina, *Town & Country*, "The Art of Divorce"

M.G. Lord, *Los Angeles Times*, "How Anna von Planta Wrangled Patricia Highsmith's Messy Diaries into a Volcanic Book"

#### G13. ARTS FEATURE — UNDER 1,000 WORDS

A.D. Amorosi, *Flood*, "Waiting for the Sun: The Doors' Robby Krieger on 50 Years of L.A. Woman and More"

Shana Nys Dambrot, *Village Voice*, "Susan Rothenberg's Mythic Horses Are Back in the Flesh"

Fernanda Ezabella, *Folha de S. Paulo*, "From love nest to massacre stage, Frank Lloyd Wright's house changed architecture"

Anita Felicelli, *Alta Journal*, "Let's Talk About Sex"

Thomas Floyd, *The Washington Post*, "A 9/11 survivor wanted nothing to do with 'Come From Away.' Now she's seen it a dozen times."

#### I10. SOFT NEWS FEATURE — OVER 5 MINUTES

Ethan Alter, Anne Lilburn, Jimmie Rhee, *Yahoo Entertainment*, "Role Recall: Martin Sheen reveals how 'Apocalypse Now' nearly killed him and explains why his 'West Wing' character is America's favorite president"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "Tamron Hall Figured Out Her True Purpose After Getting Fired: 'Now I Am Where I'm Supposed to Be'"

Lisa McRee, Bill Cipolla, Heidi Berger, Christina Veta, Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*, "Ukrainian Ballet Dancers"

Diane Sawyer, *ABC News Good Morning America*, "Reflecting on Grief and Trauma: Ashley Judd"

The SoCal Scene Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Farm Sanctuary"

#### G3. DIVERSITY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Randy Dotinga, *Noir City Magazine*, "Lavender Noir"

Tim Gray, *Variety*, "Sidney Poitier's Work Wasn't

Just Brilliant — He Made the World a Better Place"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "The Feminist Evolution of 'Jurassic World Dominion': How Laura Dern, Bryce Dallas Howard and DeWanda Wise Became Summer's Breakout Action Stars"

Katya Kazakina, *The New York Times*, "Is Peter Bradley Ready for Round 2 in the Limelight?"

Nekesa Mumbi Moody, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "THR's Blackfamous Roundtable: Revered and Underrecognized at the Same Time — The Duality of Fame in Black Hollywood"

#### K3A. DIVERSITY IN THE TV/STREAMING INDUSTRY

Diane Haithman, *TheWrap*, "Only One Major U.S. Entertainment Company Board Has Achieved Gender Parity"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "Hallmark's Mahogany Card Brand to Be Adapted Into TV Movies Beginning in 2022 (EXCLUSIVE)"

Ali M. Latifi, *Zócalo Public Square*, "What South Asian Americans Lost When We Canceled 'Apu'"

Esme Mazzeo, *Insider*, "Inside the making of an 'Only Murders in the Building' episode with only one line of dialogue — and why Deaf star James Caverly wants to 'dismantle' the 'tired portrayal of disabled characters on TV'"

K.J. Yossman, Manori Ravindran, *Variety*, "Inside the BBC Staff Exodus: Women of Color Are 'Exhausted' From Fighting a Broken System"

#### K3B. DIVERSITY IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

Ruben V. Nepales, *GoldenGlobes.com*, "Asian Actresses Struggled with Racism, Prejudice to Pave Way for Next Generations"

Manori Ravindran, *Variety*, "One Year Ago, Stars Like Gugu Mbatha-Raw Called Out the Lack of Diversity in U.K. Film and TV. Has Anything Changed?"

Mike Roe, *LAist & KPCC*, "Why Disney Employees Want The Company To Do More About Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Law"

Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "After Oscars Glory, Here's the Plan for 'CODA' the Musical"

Brian Welk, *TheWrap*, "Spotlight on Deaf Actors"

#### K3C. DIVERSITY IN THE MUSIC/ PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY

Jem Aswad, *Variety*, "She's (Finally) the Boss: Women Are Rising to the Top of Major-Label A&R Departments"

Erin Donnelly, Jacquie Cosgrove, *Yahoo Life*, "How this music buff is using hip-hop and ASL to 'break barriers between music and sign language'"

Kenan Draughorne, Jason Armond, *Los Angeles Times*, "Behold"

Saida Pagan, *palabra. National Association of Hispanic Journalists*, "Needs Improvement"

Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "LGBTQ Authors Fight Back Against Bans of Their Books"

#### J3. DIVERSITY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Madeleine Brand, Brian Hardzinski, *KCRW*, "'As We See It' shows life on autism spectrum and hardships we all face when growing up"

Madeleine Brand, Brian Hardzinski, *KCRW*, "'Attica' documentary looks back at deadly 5-day inmate riots"

Madeleine Brand, Bennett Purser, *KCRW*, "Writing legal briefs to R&B lyrics: Danielle Ponder commits to music"

Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney, *KCRW*, "'Rothaniel' comedian Jerrod Carmichael on the specificity of his comedy"

Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney, *KCRW*, "'Rutherford Falls' co-creator Sierra Teller Ornelas on the infinite number of stories Native Americans have to tell"

#### I3A. DIVERSITY IN THE FILM/TV INDUSTRY

Shira Brown, Lee Schneller, Leonard "Charlamagne" McKelvey, Lesley Corral, Neha Joy, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Quinta Brunson on 'Abbott Elementary' Success, Crafting the 'Soul' of the Series & Staying Grounded Emerging Hollywood"

Giselle Fernandez, Seth Katz, Anaconda Street Productions, *Spectrum News 1*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez: 'LeVar Burton'"

LA Times Today Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Billy Porter"

Staff of 20/20, *ABC News*, "Something's Coming: West Side Story -- A Special Edition of 20/20"

The SoCal Scene Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Ava DuVernay"

#### I3B. DIVERSITY IN MUSIC/ARTS

ABC News, *ABC News*, "The Real Queens of Hip-Hop: The Women Who Changed the Game"

Kimberly Cornell, Angel C. Kim, Dayna Devon, Lindsay Adams, Nick Simpson, Adrian Huerta, *KTLA 5 News*, "LA Unscripted: LA Revealed: Hamburger Mary's"

Itay Hod, *Spectrum News 1*, "Something's Coming: West Side Story -- A Special Edition of 20/20"

KCET, *KCET*, "Artbound: Con Safos"

LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "LA Stories: Yolanda Gonzalez"

#### LUMINARY AWARD – RYAN SEACREST

#### K4. PANDEMIC REPORTING, ENTERTAINMENT SUBJECT

Jem Aswad, *Variety*, "As Mask and Vaccine Mandates Fall, Covid Rates Soar Among Musicians"

Brent Lang, Rebecca Rubin, *Variety*, "How Movie Theaters Fought to Survive (Another) Year of Turbulence and Change"

Ashley Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, "In-person theater is back. A lost generation of artists chose not to return with it"

Elaine Low, *Insider*, "A 'lost generation' of Hollywood workers has been frozen in place by the pandemic, leaving the next wave of creatives and execs in limbo"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "For Those About to Vax: Why Vaccination Proof Is Suddenly Becoming a New Standard for Concert Entry"

#### G4. PANDEMIC REPORTING, ENTERTAINMENT SUBJECT

Winston Cho, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood's COVID-19 Claims: So Far, Insurers Have the Upper Hand in Court"

Ashley Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, "In-person theater is back. A lost generation of artists chose not to return"

Evelyn McDonnell, *Los Angeles Times*, "Grounded by COVID, Patti Smith joined Substack and Instagram. But nothing replaced playing live"

Tatiana Siegel, Borys Kit, Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood Battle Lines Emerge in Simmering Vaccine War"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Why Vaccination Proof Is Swiftly Becoming a Standard for Concert Entry"

#### I4. PANDEMIC REPORTING, ENTERTAINMENT SUBJECT

John Bathke; Mark DiPietro, *News 12 Network*, "ON THE SCENE With John Bathke: The Symphony Returns"

Christine Devine, *KTTV-Fox 11*, "Gene Simmons of KISS set to debut artwork at a Las Vegas gallery"



Inside The Issues with Alex Cohen TEAM, *Spectrum News 1*, "Tim Gray, Covid19 & Awards Shows"

KCET & KPCC, *KCET*, "SoCal Update: Entertainment Venues Require Proof of Vaccination"

The SoCal Scene Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Pasadena Playhouse"

#### K5. CELEBRITY NEWS

Matt Donnelly, Elizabeth Wagmeister, Elsa Keslassy, *Variety*, "What Are Woody Allen, Johnny Depp and Gerard Depardieu Doing in Cannes? Inside a Problematic Pizzeria Mural"

Kaitlin Reilly, Jacque Cosgrove, *Yahoo Life*, "Singer-songwriter Amanda Shires explains why she told her abortion story: 'It's part of my character to speak up'"

Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "Third Eye Blind's Stephan Jenkins on the Truth Behind His Band's Mötley Crüe Faceoff in 'Pam & Tommy' (EXCLUSIVE)"

Leena Tailer, *Variety*, "98 Degrees Return to Pop Music After 8-Year Break With Fresh Perspective on '90s Boy Band Struggles"

Sharon Waxman, Brian Welk, *TheWrap*, "Inexperienced 'Rust' Armorer Enraged Nicolas Cage on Previous Film: 'You Just Blew My F-ing Eardrums Out!' (Exclusive)"

#### G2. CELEBRITY NEWS

Barbara Gasser, *Maxima*, "Arnold Schwarzenegger's Good Climate"

Tim Gray, *Variety*, "Guillermo del Toro's Mature Approach to Filmmaking with 'Nightmare Alley': 'I Wanted a Dark Jewel'"

Meg James, Amy Kaufman, *Los Angeles Times*, "Concerns about Bruce Willis' Declining Cognitive State Swirled around Sets in Recent Years"

Beatrice Verhoeven, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Ron Howard on Career Highs, Self-Doubts and 'Hillbilly Elegy' Author J.D. Vance"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Jennifer Hudson and Carole King on Aretha Franklin"

#### K9. CELEBRITY FEATURE

Jem Aswad, Shirley Halperin, Leena Tailer, Roy Trakin, Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Clive Davis at 90: His Executives Recall the Man, the Mentor, the Music and the Long, Cold Meetings"

Jem Aswad, Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, "Music News How Lil Nas X Is Revolutionizing Hip-Hop as an Empowered Gay Star"

Justin Chapman, *LAist*, "The Hedonistic History Of Paradise Springs, Where Early Hollywood Went Wild"

Makeda Easter, *Los Angeles Times*, "Inside the heartbreaking conservatorship battle of a 'Star Trek' legend"

Kevin Fallon, *The Daily Beast*, "Kenny G Has Always Been In On the Joke"

#### G14. CELEBRITY FEATURE — OVER 1,000 WORDS

Jem Aswad, Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, "How Lil Nas X Is Revolutionizing Hip-Hop as an Empowered Gay Star"

Meaghan Garvey, *Billboard*, "At Home With Machine Gun Kelly, The New Prince of Pop-Punk"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "How First-Time Feature Filmmaker Jeymes Samuel Is Reinventing the Western With 'The Harder They Fall'"

Gerrick Kennedy, *Freelance Critic and Culture Writer*, "The Enigmatic Janet Jackson"

Michele Stueven, *LA Weekly*, "Cover Story: Curtis Stone is the Stuff of Legend"

#### G5. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY — UNDER 2,500 WORDS

Tim Gray, *Variety*, "Jake Gyllenhaal on Tackling Pandemic Protocols, Police Perspective in 'The Guilty': 'I Don't Think It's What People Expect'"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "The Feminist Evolution of 'Jurassic World Dominion': How Laura Dern, Bryce Dallas Howard and DeWanda Wise Became Summer's Breakout Action Stars"

Marc Malkin, *Variety*, "How Lady Gaga Protected Herself While Making 'House of Gucci': No Actor 'Should Push Themselves to That Limit'"

Rebecca Rubin, *Variety*, "'CODA' Director Sian Heder Opens Up About Her \$25 Million Sundance Deal and Creating the Perfect Tear-Jerker"

Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, "How the 'Licorice Pizza' poster art brings a family's American dream story full circle"

#### G6A. PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV — UNDER 2,500 WORDS

Meredith Blake, *Los Angeles Times*, "Molly Shannon is a comedy legend. Now she's opening up about the tragedy that shaped her"

Ky Henderson, *LMU*, "Cole Hauser on His Tumultuous Early Life, Yellowstone, and Being a Real-Life Badass"

Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, "How Thomas Doherty Became the Pansexual Heartthrob of the New 'Gossip Girl'"

Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "New MSNBC

President Rashida Jones Faces Challenges That Would Make Cable News Veterans Shudder"

Michele Stueven, *LA Weekly*, "Cover Story: Phil Rosenthal is on Fire and it Tastes so Good"

#### G6B. PERSONALITY PROFILE, OTHER ARTS — UNDER 2,500 WORDS

Gordon Cox, *Variety*, "'A Strange Loop' Broadway Darling Michael R. Jackson Feels Pride — For Himself"

Shirley Halperin, *Variety*, "Between Pop-Stardom and Parenthood, Katy Perry Still Finds Time to Empower Others"

Evelyn McDonnell, *Loyola Marymount University*, "Grounded by COVID, Patti Smith joined Substack and Instagram. But nothing replaced playing live"

Anna Nicolaou, *Financial Times*, "The last mogul: an interview with Universal Music's Lucian Grainge"

Catherine Womack, *Alta Journal*, "Opera in Service of Its Audience"

#### G7A. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM/TV — OVER 2,500 WORDS

Seth Abramovitch, *Hollywood Reporter*, "Lena Dunham on Her First Film in a Decade, Youthful Blind Spots and Hope to Reboot 'Girls'"

Matt Brennan, *Los Angeles Times*, "How Ellen DeGeneres won, and then lost, a generation of viewers"

Gerrick Kennedy, *Men's Health*, "On the Next Episode of The Jamie Foxx Show"

Brent Lang, *Variety*, "Kenneth Branagh Returns to 'Belfast': How His Autobiographical Film Became an Oscars Frontrunner"

Sam Wasson, *Alta Journal*, "The Man That Got Away"

#### G7B. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC/ARTS — OVER 2,500 WORDS

Steve Appleford, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Ryan Adams: 'I Felt Like They Were Asking Me to Die'"

Jem Aswad, Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, "Home Music News How Lil Nas X Is Revolutionizing Hip-Hop as an Empowered Gay Star"

August Brown, Suzy Exposito, *Los Angeles Times*, "Marilyn Manson's accusers detail his alleged abuse. 'He's so much worse than his persona'"

Michael Slenske, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "How Echo Park's Old Master Is Painting the End of the World"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Robert Plant and Alison Krauss Get Another Rise Out of Their

Long-Interrupted Collaboration With 'Raise the Roof'"

#### E2. PORTRAIT PHOTO

Ash Barhamand, Kayla Landrum, Danielle Levitt, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick"

Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Clint Eastwood"

Jill Greenberg, Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, "MJ Rodriguez"

Jill Greenberg, Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, "Tilda Swinton"

Austin Hargrave, Tatiana Leiva, Ada Guerin, Jennifer Laski, *TheWrap*, "Kirsten Dunst"

#### K6A. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM/TV PERSONALITIES

Pamela Chelin, *SPIN Magazine*, "David Duchovny Finds Solid Ground With 'Gestureland'"

Angelique Jackson, *Variety*, "Ms. Marvel' Star Iman Vellani Shares Superhero Advice from Brie Larson, Previews Her Role in 'The Marvels'"

Naman Ramachandran, *Variety*, "India's Ranveer Singh Talks Cricket Epic '83', Karan Johar, Rohit Shetty, Shankar Projects"

Marlow Stern, *The Daily Beast*, "How Marlee Matlin Survived Trump, William Hurt, and Ableist Hollywood"

Cate Young, *The Cut*, "Colman Domingo, Voice of the Gods: The dandy for the modern age is finally getting his moment in the spotlight"

#### K6B. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC PERSONALITIES

Jem Aswad, *Variety*, "Poppin' Off: Jack Harlow Is Keeping It Hip-Hop, Even as He Stares Down Mainstream Stardom"

Jem Aswad, Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, "How Lil Nas X Is Revolutionizing Hip-Hop as an Empowered Gay Star"

Pamela Chelin, *SPIN Magazine*, "Jakob Dylan, Locked and Loaded"

Ethan Shanfeld, *Variety*, "Jewish Rapper Kosha Dillz Celebrates Hanukkah as Viral Sensation"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Robert Plant and Alison Krauss Get Another Rise Out of Their Long-Interrupted Collaboration With 'Raise the Roof'"

#### K6C. PERSONALITY PROFILE, PERFORMING & OTHER ARTS

Simi Horwitz, *NYC.Streetsblog.org*, "The Ultimate Obit: The real, unabridged warts and all saga of a Brooklyn Trolley King"

Carren Jao, *KCET*, "Oaxacan Farmworker Turned Artist Reveals Struggles in the Fields Through Portraits on Produce Boxes"

Anjali Khosla, *Alta Journal*, "An Amreekan Tale"

Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "Michael Oberholtzer on Terrifying Broadway in 'Take Me Out,' Tony Awards, and That Leaked Nude Video"

Cate Young, *The Cut*, "It's Phoebe Robinson's World Now And we're just living in the comedian multi-hyphenate's culture takeover"

#### 15A. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM/TV PERSONALITIES

Cheryl Diano & George Pennacchio, *KABC-TV*, "At 93, James Hong Finally Gets His Star"

Giselle Fernandez, Seth Katz, Anaconda Street Productions, *Spectrum News 1*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez: 'Nigel Lythgoe'"

Itay Hod, *Spectrum News 1*, "The Shabbat Angel"

Preston Northrop, Nicholas Stango, Laela Zadeh Schmidt and Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "'CODA' Star Troy Kotsur Recreates Cinema's Most Iconic Movie Scenes in American Sign Language"

Jenelle Riley, *Variety*, "M. Night Shyamalan Talks 'Old' and His Love of Scaring Audiences"

#### 15B. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC/ARTS PERSONALITIES

ABC News 20/20, *ABC News 20/20*, "20/20 Amanda Gorman: Brave Enough with Robin Roberts"

Abrar Al-Heeti, *CNET*, "How Zach King creates his mind-bending illusions on TikTok, YouTube and Instagram"

Michael Brownlee, *KNBC*, "Kendrick Lamar: Spitting Bars, Raising The Bar"

LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "LA Stories: Greg Gorman"

Tara Lynn Wagner, *Spectrum News 1*, "Achievement of her Lifetime"

#### IMPACT AWARD – BYRON ALLEN

#### J5. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, FILM PERSONALITIES

Jeff Goldsmith, *The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith*, "Inland Empire Q&A - David Lynch"

Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney, *KCRW*, "Benedict Cumberbatch: 'Power of the Dog'"

Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney, *KCRW*, "Rebecca Hall: 'Passing'"

John Moe, Gabe Mara, Kevin Ferguson, *Maximum Fun*, "Joel Kim Booster Is In A Pit"

Jenelle Riley, *Variety*, "Nicolas Cage Doesn't Consider Himself an Actor: 'I Like the Word Thespian'"

#### J6. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, TV PERSONALITIES

Madeleine Brand, Angie Perrin, *KCRW*, "Roy Choi talks gentrification and 'loving growth' via food"

Asal Ehsanipour, Heba Elorbany, Jazmin Aguilera, Yvonne Villarreal and Mike Heflin, *Los Angeles Times*, "The Envelope featuring Jennifer Coolidge"

Caroline Feraday, *KCLU*, "How the host of the Newlywed Game once risked his home to bring The Beatles to the Hollywood Bowl"

Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney, *KCRW*, "Bill Hader: Barry"

Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "Michael Keaton on What 'Dopesick' Taught Him About the Opioid Crisis, and Why He Wanted to Return as Batman"

#### J7. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, OTHER ARTS PERSONALITIES

Madeleine Brand, Brian Hardzinski, *KCRW*, "Rock star Dave Grohl on learning to take care of himself and mourning the loss of friends"

Jordan Crucchiola, Marissa Flaxbart, Kevin Ferguson, *Maximum Fun*, "'Midsommar' with Writer Emily St. James"

Giselle Fernandez, Seth Katz, Anaconda Street Productions, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez: 'Yolanda Gonzalez'"

Shirley Halperin, *Variety*, "From 'La Bamba' to Bad Bunny: CAA's Bruno Del Granado on How Latin Music Conquered America"

Esther Kustanowitz, Erin Ben-Moche, *Independent*, "The TikTok Star Next Door: Annie Korzen"

#### E5. PHOTO ESSAY

Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Portrait Portfolio"

Dan Doperalski and Jazz Tangcay, *Variety*, "Portraits of IATSE: Medical Scars and Car Crashes — Why Members Voted Yes on Strike Authorization"

Sasha Maslov, Jenny Sargent, Samantha Xu, *Billboard*, "Ukraine portfolio"

Yannick Peterhans, *USCAnnenbergmedia.com*, "USC film student aims to bring storytelling to dance"

Ian Spanier, Jeremy Fuster, Tatiana Leiva, Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, "Putting a Face to L.A.'s Homeless Crisis: Meet a Musician Who Once Played With BB King"





Corina Marie, Tatiana Leiva, Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, "Quinta Brunson"  
Luis Moreno, *US Rocker*, "Samm Henshaw at The Peppermint Club"  
Ysa Perez, Rudi Uebelhoer, Tara Thompson, Nora O'Donnell, Peter Flax, The Red Bulletin, *The Red Bulletin*, "Logistix Jumping"

#### 17. HARD NEWS FEATURE — OVER 5 MINUTES

Chace Beech, *Spectrum News 1*, "Art & Sculptures Ukraine War"  
Shawn Killebrew, Krishna Andavolu, *VICE on Showtime*, "Ready Player Earn"  
Shawn Killebrew, Pilar Belendez-Desha, Michael Moynihan, *VICE News Tonight*, "American Grift: Yourself As Advertised"  
Inside The Issues with Alex Cohen, *Spectrum News 1*, "Adam McKay 'Don't Look Up'"  
Elizabeth Wagmeister, Preston Northrop and Zack Sharf, *Variety*, "Viola Davis Reveals a Director Called Her by His Maid's Name, Speaks Out on Hollywood's Slow Race Progress (EXCLUSIVE)"

#### G1. GENERAL NEWS

Kirsten Chuba, *Variety*, "The Art—and Ordeals—of Showing Tattoos in TV and Movies"  
Meg James, Amy Kaufman, *Los Angeles Times*, "Rust' crew describes on-set gun safety issues and misfires days before fatal shooting"  
Steve Knopper, *Billboard*, "Songs for Ukraine"  
Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "CNN Could Face a Reset Once Under Discovery Control"  
Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Academy Museum hired a hawk. His name is Spencer, and he scares for a living"

#### E1. NEWS PHOTO

Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Covid Red Carpet"  
Ian Spanier, Tatiana Leiva, Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, "Paul Jacobsen, Musician Now Living on the Streets of L.A."

#### 12. NEWS

ABC News, *ABC News*, "An ABC News Special: 'Alec Baldwin Unscripted'"  
George Pennacchio, Cheryl Diano, *KABC-TV*, "The Unexpected Death of Bob Saget"  
Taylor Torregano, *Spectrum News 1*, "UCLA organization works toward accurate representation in television"  
Elizabeth Wagmeister, Angeliq Jackson, Alex Castro, Laela Zadeh Schmidt, *Variety*, "The Take: Will Smith's Controversial Night Overshadows Monumental Awards"

Tom Walters, Chad Tweten, *CTV Canadian Television*, "Rust Revelations"

#### DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER, FILM— JENNIFER LEE

#### G15. COLUMNIST

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "When Writers Cave to Social Media Scolds"; "Let Athletes Lead the Way on Mental Health"; "Why the Host of 'Jeopardy!' Matters"  
Brett Callwood, *Idobi*, "Basslines and Protest Signs"  
LZ Granderson, *Los Angeles Times*, "Columns by LZ Granderson"  
Katya Kazakina, *Artnet*, "The Art Detective"  
Chris Willman, *Variety*, "A Selection of Columns by Chris Willman"

#### G16. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — ON FILM

Peter Debruge, *Variety*, "Critic's Notebook: Looking for Connections in Less-Than-Dazzling Cannes Lineup"  
Monica Corcoran Harel, *Alta Journal*, "Fashion Gone Streamable"  
Robert Ito, *Alta Journal*, "Keeping Hollywood in Hollywood"  
Brent Lang, Cynthia Littleton, Gene Maddaus, *Variety*, "What Scarlett Johansson's 'Black Widow' Legal Battle Means for the Future of Hollywood"  
Ashley Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, "Commentary: Spielberg tried to save 'West Side Story.' But its history makes it unsalvageable"

#### K10. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — FILM

Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How to Save the Film Academy and the Oscars"  
Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, "A Selection of Commentaries by Owen Gleiberman"  
Ashley Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, "Columnist Entries: Ashley Lee"  
Sharon Rosen Leib, *The Forward*, "Jews built Hollywood. So why is their history erased from the Academy's new museum?"  
Kristen Lopez, *IndieWire*, "Film Industry Screenings and Events Have a Disability Accommodation Problem"

#### G17. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — ON TV

Caroline Framke, *Variety*, "Tokyo Olympics Get Off to a Somber, Unnerving, Heavily Branded Start"

Monica Corcoran Harel, *Alta Journal*, "Acting Your Age"

Erik Himmelsbach-Weinstein, *Los Angeles Times*, "Open with a funeral, end with a gunshot': Inside the original 'Behind the Music'"

Malina Saval, *Variety*, "Are the Kids All Right? How Series Can Better Represent Teen Mental Health on Screen"

Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "As MTV Turns 40, It's Time to Embrace the Generation That Grew Up with It"

#### K11. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — TV

Laura Michelle Davis, *CNET*, "And Just Like That finale proves it: Sex and the City reboot has a sex problem"  
Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Critic's Notebook: Rudy Giuliani on 'The Masked Singer' Is a New Low for TV Image Laundering"  
Lovia Gyarkye, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Critic's Notebook: 'Rothaniel' and Jerrod Carmichael's Stunning Act of Faith"  
Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "TV Shows Take a Back Seat as Upfronts Focus on New Ad Tech"  
Elizabeth Wagmeister, *Variety*, "How Wendy Williams Changed Daytime TV in Her Own Unscripted Way"

#### G18. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — ON OTHER ARTS

Sands Hall, *Alta Journal*, "The Ways of Fiction Are Devious Indeed"  
Lily Moayeri, *Faith*, "Raving Away the Pain"  
Ajay Orona, *Alta Journal*, "A Rat Filled Casino"  
Ishmael Reed, *Alta Journal*, "A Tale of Two Theaters"  
Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Has the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Moved On From '50s and '60s Artists?"

#### K12. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND — OTHER ARTS

Margaret Crable, *USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences*, "Why Dante and his 'Divine Comedy' remain relevant 700 years after his death"  
David Kipen, *Libros Schmibros Lending Library*, "How the New Deal Continues to Shape L.A. 90 Years On"  
Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "Music Supervisors Gain Emmy Respect, Yet Still Face 'False Impressions' About Soundtrack Work"  
James Tarmy, *Bloomberg News*, "Why This Fund Manager Paid \$15 Million for a Painting Estimated at \$200,000"

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Has the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Moved On From '50s and '60s Artists?"

#### B7. FOOD/CULTURE CRITIC

Brian Addison, *Longbeachize*  
Brad A. Johnson, *Orange County Register*  
Brad A. Johnson, *Brad A. Johnson, Food & Travel*  
Lucas Kwan Peterson, *Los Angeles Times*  
Todd Martens, *Los Angeles Times*

#### B5. ART/DESIGN CRITIC

Andy Coughlan, *Beaumont Enterprise*  
Shana Nys Dambrot, *LA Weekly*  
Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*  
Carolina Miranda, *Los Angeles Times*  
Mimi Zeiger, *The Architect's Newspaper/ Metropolis Magazine*

#### B6. BOOK CRITIC

Thomas Floyd, *The Washington Post*  
John Freeman, *Alta Journal*  
M.G. Lord, *Los Angeles Times*  
David L. Ulin, *Alta Journal*  
Chris Willman, *Variety*

#### B3. THEATER/PERFORMING ARTS CRITIC

Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*  
Thomas Floyd, *The Washington Post*  
Robert Hofler, *TheWrap*  
Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*  
Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*

#### B4. MUSIC CRITIC

A.D. Amorosi, *Variety*  
Jem Aswad, *Variety*  
Brett Callwood, *LA Weekly*  
Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*  
Chris Willman, *Variety*

#### B2. TV CRITIC

Jen Chaney, *Vulture*  
LaToya Ferguson, *TheWrap*  
James Poniewozic, *The New York Times*  
Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*  
Ben Travers, *IndieWire*

#### B1. FILM CRITIC

Justin Chang, *Los Angeles Times*  
Peter Debruge, *Variety*  
David Ehrlich, *IndieWire*  
Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*  
David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*

#### DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER, MUSIC — TANYA TUCKER

#### J9. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT PODCAST

Rico Gagliano, *MUBI Inc.*, "MUBI Podcast"  
Lesley Goldberg, Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "TV's Top 5"  
Stephanie Kariuki, Kate Osborn, Dexter Thomas Jr, Minji Koo, *VICE & iHeartMedia*, "Authentic: The Story of Tablo"  
L.A. Times Podcast Staff, *Los Angeles Times*, "The Envelope"  
Jesse Thorn, Kevin Ferguson, Jesus Ambrosio, Richard Robey, Valerie Moffat, *Maximum Fun*, "The Bullseye Halloween Spectacular: Jamie Lee Curtis, Elvira and Harvey Guillén"

#### K13. ENTERTAINMENT WEBSITE

Kevin Fallon, *The Daily Beast Obsessed*  
The Hollywood Reporter Staff, *THR.com*  
IGN Staff, IGN Entertainment, *IGN.com*  
Joe Lynch, Katie Atkinson, Jason Lipshutz, Andrew Unterberger, *Billboard.com*  
Variety Staff, *Variety.com*

#### G19. ENTERTAINMENT PUBLICATION

Rebecca Milzoff, Nolan Feeney, Jason Lipshutz, *Billboard*, "Producers Now package"  
THR Staff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Blackfamous issue, Oscar issue, Stylist issue"  
Variety Staff, *Variety*, "Leaving the Kingdom"

#### J1. ANCHOR/HOST

Rico Gagliano, *MUBI, Inc.*, "MUBI Podcast Season 2: Only In Theaters"  
Lesley Goldberg, Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "TV's Top 5"  
Elvis Mitchell, *KCRW*, "The Treatment"  
Michael Schneider, Clayton Davis, Jazz Tangcay, Jenelle Riley, Emily Longoretta, *Variety*, "Variety's Awards Circuit Podcast"  
Sharon Waxman, Daniel Goldblatt, *TheWrap*, "The Wrap-Up podcast"

#### I1. ANCHOR/HOST

Marlise Boland, *The Anglophile*, "The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Coverage"  
Cher Calvin, *KTLA 5 News*, "Remarkable Women 2022"  
Cher Calvin, Jai Rodrigues, *KTLA 5 News*, "Love in Action': A KTLA telethon supporting Los Angeles LGBT Center"  
Doug Kolk, Dayna Devon, *KTLA 5 News*, "Big Game Tailgate"  
Elizabeth Wagmeister, Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "Variety's The Take"

#### A4. PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*  
Phil Ige, *KTLA*  
Andy Riesmeyer, *KTLA*  
Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*  
Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*

#### A2. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Jem Aswad, *Variety*  
Jim Farmer, *ArtsATL.org*  
Simi Horwitz, *Freelance*  
Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*  
Elizabeth Wagmeister, *Variety*

#### A3. BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Dayna Devon, *KTLA*  
Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1*  
Deborah Zara Kobylt, *Deborah Kobylt LIVE*  
Lisa McRee, *Spectrum News 1*  
Rollo Ross, *ReutersTV*

#### A1. PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Fernanda Ezabella, *Folha de S.Paulo*  
Meg James, *Los Angeles Times*  
Gerrick Kennedy, *Freelance*  
Brent Lang, *Variety*  
Chris Willman, *Variety*

#### LEGEND AWARD— MARLA GIBBS

## Your Hosts and Guests for the Evening...



DANNY BAKEWELL, Jr. is executive editor and chief of staff of the *Los Angeles Sentinel*, the largest African-American owned and operated newspaper west of the Mississippi, as well as the *Los Angeles Watts Times* and WBOK Radio in New Orleans (the only talk radio station in the South dedicated to issues which affect the African-American community). The *Sentinel* and the *Watts Times* each have a circulation of over 250,000 weekly readers. Bakewell is a board member of the USC Black Alumni Association, the United Negro College Fund (Los Angeles) and the Los Angeles Press Club.



CHER CALVIN joined KTLA in 2005 and anchors the station's 6, 10 and 11 p.m. nightly newscasts. The 10 p.m. program just won the Best Newscast Emmy for a second time, making Calvin a seven-time Emmy Award winner. On Oct. 4, Calvin launched the new KTLA5 News at 5. Last year Calvin created, produced and anchored the KTLA "Breaking Bias: AAPI Hate" special, talking about the subject and bringing light to the fears the AAPI community has experienced. She is the Vice President of the Los Angeles Press Club.



CHRISTINE DEVINE is the long-time news anchor on Fox 11 News and has won 16 Emmys. She's on Fox 11 at 5, 6 and 10 p.m. and is known for her "Wednesday's Child" foster care segment, resulting in more than 500 children being adopted. She was honored with the Los Angeles Press Club President's Award at the SoCal Journalism Awards earlier this year.



GISELLE FERNANDEZ is known for her cutting-edge reporting and interviews in hot spots throughout the world, and talking with prominent global and local leaders. She appears each morning on "Your Morning" on Spectrum News 1, and on the Emmy Award-winning weekly series "L.A. Stories with Giselle Fernandez." She is a six-time Emmy Award winner and the recipient of numerous honors and awards in the fields of journalism and philanthropy. She made the documentary "Our

Story," which raised awareness of the healthcare crisis facing low-income children in the Latin community.



JOSH GAD is an actor, voiceover artist and singer best known for voicing Olaf in the *Frozen* franchise, playing Elder Arnold Cunningham in the Broadway musical *The Book of Mormon*, and playing Le Fou in the live-action adaptation of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.



KATHLYN HORAN is an award-winning independent director, producer and writer. She is the writer/director of *The Return of Tanya Tucker*. Her previous documentaries include *The IF Project*, *Indigo Girls: One Lost Day* and *Brandi Carlile at Washington Correction Center for Women*.



ELLEN K. After 12 years of co-hosting the nationally syndicated show "ON AIR With Ryan Seacrest" on KIIS-FM, Ellen was offered her own morning show on iHeartMedia's sister station KOST 103.5. Ellen holds the distinction of being the first (and only) female to anchor a morning radio show with her solo namesake in Los Angeles radio history, and is the longest continuously airing morning radio personality in the number one radio market. In addition to her work in radio, Ellen has voiced the Grammys for 10 years as well as the Oscars, Emmys, and several ABC and CBS TV projects.



ROBERT KOVACIK is the past three-term President of the Los Angeles Press Club. He is an anchor/reporter for NBC4 Southern California. Kovacik was NBC4's correspondent for the 2013 Papal Conclave at the Vatican and the Summer Olympics in London. One of his most compelling live shots occurred during a manhunt for an alleged murderer. The suspect suddenly appeared and surrendered to Kovacik live on air. His exclusive investigation into the Los Angeles Fire Department's 911 response times prompted the Mayor to demand an audit. Kovacik was named Television Journalist of the Year at the 55th Southern California Journalism Awards. He has won 13 Emmys.



GEORGE PENNACCHIO is the longtime entertainment reporter for ABC7 Eyewitness News, and is in his 27th year at the station. In addition to his news duties, he hosts the station's various award show specials, including one for the Oscars that is syndicated live around the world. He has won Emmy Awards, National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards and is one of a handful of journalists to receive The Critics' Critic Award from the Critics Choice Association. He is a board member of the Los Angeles Press Club.



LISA RICHWINE is a media and entertainment correspondent for Reuters news agency, where she covers topics ranging from the rise of streaming services to diversity in Hollywood and the pandemic's impact on the movie business. She joined the Los Angeles Press Club board in 2017, and for the past three years has served as the club's president.



MELVIN ROBERT is senior correspondent and weekend co-host for the syndicated entertainment news show "Extra," where he works alongside anchor Billy Bush and correspondents Rachel Lindsay and Jennifer Lahmers. Prior to joining "Extra," he served as co-anchor of "Your Morning" and host of "The SoCal Scene" on Spectrum News 1, where he covered Hollywood as well as local and national news.



MARIO SOLIS is NBC4's award-winning weekend sports anchor and weekday sports reporter. His reports can be seen on the 4, 5, 6 and 11 p.m. newscasts. Solis has covered nearly every major sporting event, including the Olympic Games, the World Cup, and multiple World Series and Super Bowl games. In addition to his duties as sports anchor and reporter at NBC4, Solis is recognized as the Spanish-language announcer for HBO's iconic "World Championship Boxing" series.



CATALINA VILLEGAS is an anchor and reporter for Spectrum News 1 in Los Angeles. She anchors "Your Weekend," a one-hour news show Saturdays at 5 p.m. Villegas has worked at the local, national and international level for outlets including CNN, CBS, NBC and Univision. Her favorite topics are immigration and social justice, and her bilingual and bicultural skills give her a deep understanding of the growing Latino community in the U.S. Villegas is a board member of the Los Angeles Press Club.



BEVERLY WHITE joined NBC4 in 1992 as a general assignment reporter, and appears weekdays on the NBC4 News at 4, 5, 6 and 11 p.m. She has covered a variety of local and national stories for NBC4, including the COVID-19 pandemic, street protests after the killing of George Floyd, the deaths of music icons Prince and Michael Jackson, and countless floods and wildfires in Southern California. Among her many honors are the National Association of Black Journalists' Chuck Stone Lifetime Achievement Award, the Distinguished Journalist Award from the Society of Professional Journalists, and the California Legislative Black Caucus Leadership Award.



KYM WHITLEY never fails to deliver the funny. Originally from Cleveland, Whitley has been based in Los Angeles for years. A chance encounter with the legendary Redd Foxx told her she had "the comedic goods," and her first real acting job was in the Shelley Garrett play *Beauty Shop*. She has starred in a string of television shows, including "The Neighborhood," "The Upshaws," "Call Your Mother," "Twenties" and "Fuller House." She was both nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award and won an Indie Series Award for her portrayal of Big Candi in "The Bay, The Series." Some of her recent projects have been more personal. She executive produced a reality series focused around her adopted son Joshua, entitled "Raising Whitley," which ran on the Oprah Winfrey Network, and teamed up with Lena Waithe to produce a scripted audio comedy series, "KYM." She is also a dedicated activist. Her "Don't Feed Me" campaign began as something she did for Joshua and evolved into an ongoing, high-profile project to raise awareness of food allergies for children and adults.

# PRESS FORWARD

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## Special Guest...

### ALONZO BODDEN



is the Los Angeles Press Club's go-to comedian. He is a regular panel member on NPR's "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me." His latest (2022) comedy special, "Alonzo Bodden: Stupid Don't Get Tired," was released on YouTube by Helium Comedy Studios. In 2019, he starred in his fourth stand-up special, "Alonzo Bodden: Heavy Lightweight," which premiered exclusively on Amazon Prime Video. He was the season three winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and has starred in two comedy specials for Showtime.

A car and motorcycle aficionado, Alonzo hosted Speed Channel's "101 Cars You Must Drive" and has joined Jay Leno for several off-road trips on his CNBC series, "Jay Leno's Garage."

He currently hosts the podcast "Who's Paying Attention?" (part of All Things Comedy) where he gives his unique take on what's going on in the world.

# Meet Helena Gibson, the Artist Who Creates the NAEJ Awards

HELENA GIBSON has created unique art pieces for the Los Angeles Press Club and the honorees at the National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards for a decade, starting with her design for Jane Fonda in 2012.

This year the awards have been "streamlined." Each still has an eye in the top right corner—the guarding eye of the artist herself, at about 3 years old.

For the Legend Award, Gibson has designed a howling wolf silhouetted in red and bathed in the reflection of trees. The purple background is within the outline of an eye.

"This award is very special," Gibson said. "I wanted it to symbolize the spirit of generosity and the essence of altruism. The passion of red and the harmony of purple."

The Storyteller award appropriately has a speech bubble in blue on the same purple background. The Luminary and Impact recipients get the NAEJ Awards' signature star, this one in red and pink.

Gibson has been one of Sweden's foremost glass artists for more than 30 years. She also creates jewelry and everyday objects at her studio in historic Gothenburg.

Gibson studied at the Glass School at Orrefors and at Seattle's Pilchuck Glass School under the tutelage of legendary glass artist Dale Chihuly. In addition to traditional glass blowing, she works with a technique known as "fusing and slumping." She combines the intense nuances of colored glass with 24 carat gold and/or neon. Recently she has mixed screen-printed photos and poetry into her art pieces. Her playfulness, combined with her sense of artistic spirituality has generated exhibitions in countries including Japan, Norway and Germany.

On a visit to the United States, she became inspired by Western and cowboy culture and has been exploring that imagery in her work.



The awards are:  
Legend Award;  
Impact, Luminary and  
Visionary Awards;  
Distinguished Storyteller Award.



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# SPECTRUM NEWS 1

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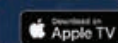
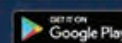
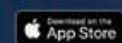
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### GALA PRODUCER



Diana Ljungaeus is Executive Director of The Los Angeles Press Club. She began her career as a cub reporter in Sweden at the age of fifteen. She has lived and worked in the U.S. since 1996. Her background has run the gamut from researcher to reporter and editor, to

story/script writer and finally to theater, film and multimedia producer. She is a founding member of the not-for-profit educational theater and film production company Opening Minds Productions.

She has produced the National A&E Journalism Awards since its inception.

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