

53

FIFTY
THIRD
ANNUAL

**SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA**
JOURNALISM
AWARDS

LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB



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JEFF GOTTLIEB & RUBEN VIVES

LOS ANGELES TIMES

THE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

RICHARD ENGEL

NBC

THE DANIEL PEARL AWARD

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KTTV FOX 11

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Los Angeles Press Club

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Tax ID 01-0761875

4773 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90027
Phone: (323) 669-8081
Fax: (323) 669-8069
E-mail: info@lapressclub.org
Website: www.lapressclub.org

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fifty-third

ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS

Awards for Editorial Excellence in 2010 *and* Honorary Awards for 2011

THE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

For Journalistic Contributions to Civic Life

Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives
Los Angeles Times

THE JOSEPH M. QUINN AWARD

For Journalistic Excellence and Distinction

John Schwada
KTTV FOX 11

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

For Impact on Media

Lesley Stahl
60 Minutes

THE DANIEL PEARL AWARD

For Courage and Integrity in Journalism

Richard Engel
NBC News

Sunday, June 26, 2011

The Crystal Ballroom
Millennium Biltmore Hotel
506 S. Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA

In Loving Memory of Dick Turpin



(THANK YOU)

Readership of
L.A. Weekly's
print
publication
jumped
22%
since 2009.

LAWeekly.com
readership
is up
36%
since 2009.

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print and online
readers, subtracting
for overlap,
the Weekly now has
**2.3 million
readers a month,
more than
at any time
in our history.**

LA WEEKLY
SPEAK FREELY



fifty-third **ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

For all finalists see
pages 34-42

5:00 p.m. COCKTAILS AND SILENT AUCTION

6:00 p.m. DINNER AND PREPROGRAM

6:30 p.m. HOSTED BAR CLOSES

6:45 p.m. ALONZO BODDEN

7: 00 p.m. SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

Presenters Ed Asner and Patt Morrison

FEATURE

Print Journalist of the Year (Print under 50K)

THE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD: Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives

DESIGN/LAYOUT

Photo Journalist of the Year

Presenters Ray Abruzzo and Jill Stewart

STUDENTS

COMMENTARY

Facebook Presence

Radio Journalist of the Year

QUINN AWARD: JOHN SCHWADA, introduced by Chris Blatchford

Presenters Dan Lauria and Barbara Niven

SPORTS

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment Journalist of the Year

DICK TURPIN TRIBUTE

INVESTIGATIVE

Online Journalist of the Year

PRESIDENT'S AWARD: Lesley Stahl, introduced by Bill Whitaker

Presenters Walton Goggins and Denise Grayson

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TV Journalist of the Year

HARD NEWS

Print Journalist of the Year (Print over 50K)

THE DANIEL PEARL AWARD: Richard Engel, introduced by Judea Pearl

Best in Show and \$1,000 award, presented by President Alex Ben Block

Pick up your certificates and silent auction goods on your way out.

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fifty-third **ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** JOURNALISM AWARDS

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Will Lewis

*A welcome message from the president
of the Los Angeles Press Club*

Dear Colleagues

Again this year, we are deeply proud to name the top journalists in Southern California, as judged by our nearly one dozen sister press clubs nationwide. Journalists from every medium are making that extra phone call, knocking on doors, sweating out the prose to bring listeners, viewers and readers the stories that can make a difference in their lives. The stellar work each of you has done in the past year has made the world a little better, and our crucial watchdog role has made democracy a little better—and a little more honest.

As reporters, editors, videographers and photographers, you continue to rise to the occasion, despite the disruption and turmoil in the news industry.

Tonight is a time to celebrate everything that is good and alive about journalism, and to be proud of yourselves and your colleagues. Here's to all of you!

Will Lewis
President
Los Angeles Press Club



The Year in Review 2010 – 2011

BIG SPEAKERS, BIG EVENTS

In 2010-2011, the Los Angeles Press Club Never Slowed Down

In May, *Los Angeles Magazine* Editor Mary Melton spoke to a large Press Club audience about running the city's largest and best-known monthly magazine. She appeared just days after the magazine captured two National Magazine Awards. Club board member Jon Regardie moderated the event.



OUR INDUSTRY is rapidly changing. One thing that remains consistent is a key mission of the Los Angeles Press Club: to give writers, editors, photographers and broadcasters from all media platforms a place to come together every few weeks to trade tall tales, hone best practices and relax away from the demands of the computer.

Free of charge to our diverse group of members, the Press Club's wine-and-appetizer Thursday evening series features topics critical to our industry aired in lively exchanges at the club's attractive event space, the Steve Allen Theater in East Hollywood.

The non-profit Press Club caps each busy year in June, as we do tonight, with our signature event, the Southern California Journalism Awards, produced by Executive Director Diana Ljungaeus.

Led by President Will Lewis (KCRW-retired), the club's all-volunteer Board of Directors believe journalists need to come together regularly

for dialogue and friendship. The board members, all seasoned journalists, produce the Thursday evening series. Over the past year, the events regularly drew large crowds to East Hollywood where journalists hob-knobbed over shrimp and drinks in a casual Q & A setting.

Here's a small part of what the Press Club offered in 2010-11 (Our Thursday evening series, free to members, is \$20 to non-members.):

"The Future of Ad-Supported Journalism in a Digital Age," a panel discussion moderated by Dominic Patten of *The Wrap* and featuring Kyle Acquistapace of Deutsch advertising, Anna Magzanyan of *Los Angeles Times* Media Group and Richard Gingras of *Salon* Media Group.

"How We Got the Story: Cracking the Bell Scandal," moderated by Jon Regardie of *Los Angeles Downtown News* and featuring *Los Angeles Times* reporters Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives.

"Talk Radio and Its Impact on Our Lives," moderated by Bill Moran and featuring Patt Morrison of KPCC, John Kobylt and Robin Bertolucci of KFI,



Jim Rainey, *LA Times* Media Columnist, Will Lewis, Richard Gingras, Chief Executive Officer for *Salon* Media Group



Nancy Rommelman talks about her book, *The Bad Mother*, at a Press club book party in May 2011.



Kyle Acquistapace, Partner and Director of Media Planning for Deutsch advertising agency



Anna Magzanyan, VP of Marketing and Events for *Los Angeles Times* Media Group



Stand-up comedian Shabana Rehman "Risking her Life for Comedy" in December 2010

AND A VERY BIG YEAR

John Silver of KABC and Michael Harrison of *Talkers* magazine.

"An Evening with Neil Strauss," the internationally known journalist and author of *Everybody Loves You When You're Dead*, moderated by Jill Stewart of *L.A. Weekly*.

"The Secrets of Publishing," a panel and workshop moderated by author Susan Shapiro and featuring literary agents Betsy Amster and B.J. Robbins, book editor Dan Smetanka, Susan Freudenheim of the *Jewish Journal*, Ky Henderson of ModernMan.com and The Advice Goddess Amy Alkon.

"An Evening with *Los Angeles* magazine Editor Mary Melton," moderated by Jon Regardie.

"An Evening with Marcia Parker," West Coast Editor of AOL Patch.

We hope you will join the Press Club, and expand your chances to get to know other colleagues in our amazing industry, by **filling out the Membership Form on your seat tonight**. Once completed with

your name and a credit card number, give it to the tall blonde with the Swedish accent, Diana Ljungaeus.



Talk Radio Panel from left to right: Robin Bertolucci of Clear Channel/LA -KFI and KTALK, John Kobylt of KFI, Michael Harrison of *Talkers Magazine*, Jack Silver of KABC Radio, Patt Morrison of LA Times/KPCC, Bill Moran.

A NIGHT OF SHINING STARS AND STORIES

Looking Back on the 2010 Southern California Journalism Awards

A big crowd is turning out for the 2011 Southern California Journalism Awards. That makes it similar to the 2010 awards, when 450 people came out to celebrate the best journalism in the region. More than 80 awards were handed out during the Los Angeles Press Club's gala at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

The highlights of the 52nd annual awards—and there were many—included some of the most respected names in American journalism, as well as a few key leaders in Hollywood and politics.

The opening address was given by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Presenters during the evening included actress Stana Katic of *Castle*, Wendie Malick from *Hot in Cleveland* and longtime KCAL anchor Pat Harvey.

The President's Award had a special introduction: It came from actor and activist Sean Penn, who had spent months in Haiti following the devastating 2010 earthquake. Penn presented the prize for impact on media to CNN's Anderson Cooper. The globetrotting anchor-investigator silenced the room with anecdotes about what it was like to be on the ground early for

(Continued on next page)



Anderson Cooper and Sean Penn.



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, gave the opening address.



Michael Linder and Pat Harvey prepare to hand over an award to Dave Bryan.



Stana Katic, star of ABC's *Castle*, shares a moment with actor Jack Maxwell, the emcee of the evening.



The Year in Review 2010 – 2011

SCJA 2010 Highlights (Continued)

the cable network, reporting from Haiti after the quake.

The Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism, presented by the Press Club Board of Directors in conjunction with the family of the late journalist Daniel Pearl, was given to NPR's Anne Garrels. The stately woman with the instantly familiar voice spoke of her incredible challenges over decades of covering war and hardship from Asia to the Middle East and beyond.

The Joseph M. Quinn Award for Lifetime Achievement went to Dave Bryan, the political reporter for KCAL9 and CBS2, who over the decades spoke with everyone of importance in California politics. Bryan, one of the most popular journalists in Los Angeles, was feted by admiring colleagues from across the media spectrum.

The night also held a twist: the awarding of the first "Best in Show" prize presented to one of the Journalist of the Year winners. In somewhat of a surprise, it went not to a TV reporter or journalist from a major publication, but to Greg Katz, a *Los Angeles Daily Journal* reporter who looked pretty thrilled to walk away with \$1,000.

In all regards, it was a night in which journalism, and journalists, truly shined. 🍷



Wendie Malick, currently starring in *Hot in Cleveland* and Ted Johnson, former LA Press Club president are having fun on stage.



KCET winning awards at the Biltmore Hotel.



Dave Bryan memorizing the evening.



Greg Katz won \$1000 as Best in Show. Jack Maxwell and Diana Ljungaeus congratulate him.



Johanna Gronneberg Mesa, Jill Dalviken, Gry Winther, Kjersti Romero Thorsen

Nights to Remember

Teens Suffering From Life-Threatening Illnesses Get a Chance at Prom

IN 2006, Fred Scarf had plans to go to his high school prom with a friend who was suffering from cancer. Unfortunately, that day never arrived—his friend passed away before the prom.

From that dark moment, Scarf created light. At the age of 15, he formed the organization No Worries Now with the aim of giving teens with life-threatening illnesses a sense of normalcy and community in the form of annual proms.

The first prom, held in 2007, was attended by 16 teens. Four years later, that number has grown to 500.

The Los Angeles Press Club recently worked to help Scarf and No Worries Now raise money for future proms. On two Thursdays in June, as part of its commitment to the community, the Club donated space in its East Hollywood headquarters building for a mixer and a fundraiser.

It's been a steady build for No Worries Now. What started as a fund-raising effort in honor of Scarf's friend has turned into a night that teens facing life-threatening illnesses look forward to for months. No Worries Now offers its prom-goers clothes, corsages, pictures, dinner, music and more.

The next prom will take place at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum in Hollywood on June 29.

Though hundreds of people aged 13-19 have been helped by Scarf's organization, he thinks this is only the beginning. Scarf plans to take No Worries Now international and have a prom in every major city. He also hopes to build year-round relationships, pairing kids in hospitals with college students for monthly outings in order to continue the feeling of normalcy.

For more information or to make a donation, visit noworriesnow.org.

—Whitney Shepard



Fred Scarf

Rocio Maya



What would you do to make the world a better place?

It takes a lot of commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. What fuels the commitment is a strong belief that things can change and people's lives can improve. UnitedHealthcare salutes the **Southern California Journalism Awards** for their dedication to making this belief a reality.

REACH HIGHER. ACHIEVE MORE. INSPIRE OTHERS. GROW HEALTHY.





PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

for journalistic
contributions to civic life

Breaking Bell

SERIES ON EPIC CORRUPTION AND GREED EARNS *TIMES*
REPORTERS JEFF GOTTLIEB AND RUBEN VIVES THE L.A. PRESS
CLUB'S FIRST PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

BY JON REGARDIE

BY NOW, everyone is familiar with the story of what happened in Bell, of the epic corruption and greed that ultimately brought down the government of one of the poorest cities in Los Angeles County. What has become easy to forget is that the *Los Angeles Times* reporters who led the charge on the story, Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives, didn't start off looking at Bell.

It all came about, Vives said last August during a Los Angeles Press Club event titled "How We Got That Story," because he was assigned to cover Southeast Los Angeles. When the small city of Maywood hit the financial skids and began contracting out services to neighboring cities, including Bell, a town with 40,000 residents, Gottlieb came aboard. He called the District Attorney's office to ask if it had any ongoing Maywood investigations.

"They said no, but we're inquiring about Bell," Vives recalled. "Jeff asked, 'What's going on there?' They said, 'Well, we're inquiring about their salaries. They're pretty high.'"

Thus began a series of articles that would soon draw national attention. By the time the dust settled, Bell's city manager, assistant city manager, police chief and most of its city council were forced from office, and criminal charges had been filed against eight individuals. The tenacious reporting led to a Pulitzer Prize for the more than two dozen *Times* reporters and editors who would have a hand in the story. In recognition of the work Gottlieb and Vives did, the ground they broke, the truths they uncovered and the change that followed—in March, the citizens of Bell elected a new city council—the Press Club is awarding the two reporters its inaugural Public Service prize.

LOOKING FOR RIZZO

Vives and Gottlieb took vastly different paths to the once-in-a-lifetime story.

Vives was a young reporter with limited experience covering news. Although he had been with the *Times* for about 10 years when Bell came along, he had only been writing for three years.

Gottlieb, by contrast, was an experienced journalist who had done stints as an editor and reporter at the *San Jose Mercury News*, the *Herald Examiner*, *Sports Illustrated* and the *Riverside Press-Enterprise*. He had been with the *Times* for 13 years before Bell. Most recently he had been covering the South Bay.

When Bell hit, the two were ready. During the August panel, they recalled the events that led up to the first story. The action began when they arrived at Bell City Hall to ask for the city manager, the soon-to-be-infamous Robert Rizzo.

"He wouldn't come to the counter," recalled Gottlieb. "Ding ding ding."

The city clerk instructed them to fill out a public records request for council minutes, contracts and other reports. After about 10 days of stonewalling, the Bell brigade broke. They agreed to hand over the documents, but wanted a face-to-face meeting. Vives and Gottlieb were surprised when they arrived at the city's Little Bear Park, entered a room normally used for events such as Boy Scouts meetings, and found themselves in front of Rizzo, his assistant, the assistant city manager, the police chief, two council members, a member of the Maywood city council and two attorneys.

The reporters posed some questions and then Gottlieb pounced.

"I asked Bob Rizzo, 'So how much money do you make?'" he remembered. "He literally sort of coughs out, '\$700,000.' And I wasn't sure I heard him correctly. I say, 'Pardon me?' I thought maybe he said \$7,000, or a month or a week. And he said, '\$700,000.' And Ruben, who is sitting on my left, goes, 'Jesus Christ!'"

"I was a little worried," Vives admitted about the



Los Angeles Times reporter Ruben Vives, right, celebrates with fellow reporter Jeff Gottlieb after they won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service Monday, April 18, 2011. Gottlieb and Vives won the award for their exposure of corruption in the small California city of Bell where officials tapped the treasury to pay themselves exorbitant salaries, resulting in arrests and reforms.

(AP Photo/Los Angeles Times, Katie Falkenberg)

outburst. “I thought I’d given the story away.”

Not quite. The duo spent four hours interviewing the city staffers, took the weekend to pore over the contracts and documents, and filed their story early the following week. The first article, published July 15, revealed that Rizzo was making \$787,000 (more than twice what officials with similar positions in far larger cities earn), the assistant city manager was earning \$376,000 and the police chief was pulling in \$457,000 (more than double what he had been making as head of Glendale’s police force). Additionally, most of the city council was receiving nearly \$100,000—for part-time work.

Later reports revealed that Rizzo’s total compensation was actually about \$1.5 million, and he worked to boost his pension to nearly \$1 million annually.

It wasn’t long before the dominos began to fall. Residents of the largely working class town expressed their outrage at public meetings. Within two weeks of Gottlieb and Vives’ story, the council cut its salaries by 90%. In September, Rizzo and others were hauled away in handcuffs. Preliminary hearings for the “Bell 8” began in February.

The stories led to efforts across California to create transparency regarding the pay and pension ben-

efits of public employees. The Los Angeles City Controller’s office posted the salaries of tens of thousands of workers online. Millions of dollars in tax refunds were given to the residents of Bell.

While the accolades and prizes have surely been appreciated, Gottlieb and Vives said they were struck by the response of the citizens of Bell. Gottlieb recalled attending a City Council meeting after the first story.

Within two weeks of Gottlieb and Vives’ story, the council cut its salaries by 90%. In September, Rizzo and others were hauled away in handcuffs.

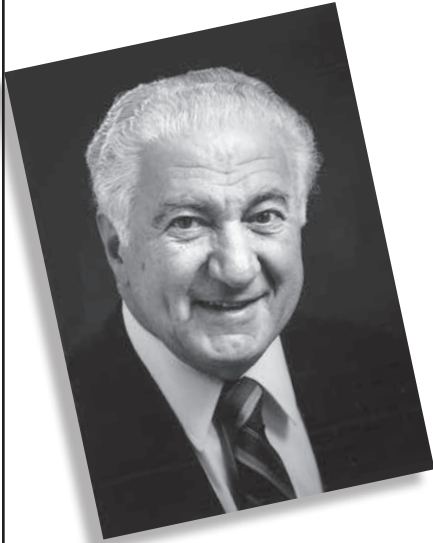
“People were patting us on the back, congratulating us and asking us for our autographs,” he said in something close to amazement.

Added Vives, “I think as a journalist one of the biggest things you want to accomplish in your career is to bring positive change, to be responsible for those changes. To me that’s the rewarding part. And also to know I’ve allowed these residents in Bell to have their voices heard, which hadn’t happened for them in a very long time.” 🍷

IN MEMORY OF A STRAIGHT SHOOTER

*Southern California
Journalism Awards
Dedicated to Late Times
Journalist Dick Turpin*

BY WILL LEWIS



On assignment in Paris.



Crime scene.



Dick Turpin with Walter Cronkite, above, and *Times* sports writer, Jim Murray, below.



At a Bill Farr benefit.



There's a story about Dick Turpin, the late *Los Angeles Times* journalist, that has become part of the unofficial history of the newspaper. It concerns the time that Turpin, a legendary straight-shooter with solid news credentials, was called to the attention of the then-new publisher, Otis Chandler. Chandler was furious that articles featuring specialty contractors were "coincidentally" appearing in the Real Estate section at the same time that section's editor's home underwent a complete redo.

"Not with my ink," Otis exclaimed.

Chandler quickly appointed Turpin editor of the Real Estate section, with a mandate to turn a pay-to-play operation into a portion of the paper that could compete with the business and news sections in quality and editorial independence. The section went on to be rated three times as best in the nation. Not bad for a journalist, who, according to his son David, "had absolutely no knowledge of real estate" when he was first appointed in 1967.

The 53rd annual Southern California Journalism Awards are dedicated to the memory of Turpin, who served as president of the Los Angeles Press Club in 1972 and 1973. He continued as a board member as late as 1986.

Dick Turpin was born in an Armenian refugee camp in Adana, Turkey, on July 17, 1919. He served in the Marines during World War II where he fought in the brutal Pacific campaigns at Kwajalein, Saipan and Tinian.

He returned to civilian life and joined the *Times* in 1948. In 1957, he was appointed the paper's education editor. He filled the role for 10 years and in 1961 he was nominated for a Pulitzer prize for a feature on comparative education. Five years later, he helped the *Times* win a Pulitzer for team coverage of the Watts Riots.

He retired from the paper in 1989, after 41 years.

Turpin died December 10, 2010, after becoming a great grandfather earlier that year. 🕊



We found stories in places
no one else was looking.

Pulitzer judges found us
worthy of recognition.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011
PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING JOURNALISTS.



Jeff Gottlieb



Ruben Vives



Barbara Davidson

The Los Angeles Times has now won 41 Pulitzer Prizes, including
six gold medals for public service. To view The Times' Pulitzer
Prize-winning stories and photos, go to latimes.com/pulitzers.

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JOSEPH M. QUINN AWARD

for journalistic excellence
and distinction

The Baddest Boy of Broadcast News

JOHN
SCHWADA OF
KTTV GETS
THE JOSEPH M.
QUINN AWARD
FOR LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT

BY JILL STEWART

JOHN SCHWADA has a dramatically different effect on different people. Seen through the eyes of a government official, he's a fact-gathering pain. Seen through the eyes of his editors, he's a brilliant machine who fears nothing and gets the story.

Now, he can also be seen as the recipient of the Los Angeles Press Club's Joseph M. Quinn Award for Lifetime Achievement.

A 1970 Berkeley graduate, Schwada was sent by the *San Diego Union* to cover the remote Imperial Valley, where, along with "a drunken Irishman and a guy who was literally 85," he reported on the land-use struggles among powerful forces in the area's vast farmlands.

He returned to Berkeley, where he got his Masters degree in history in 1975, and became a freelancer. It wasn't long before he nailed a major story, discovering that the CIA had a listening post in the Bay Area.

"I ended up with a brief introduction to William Colby, the head of the CIA," he recalls, "only to find out that a Berkeley professor of mine was part

of the whole CIA thing and halfway tried to lure me in—actually gave me an application to work for the CIA."

He audaciously entered his *Bay Guardian* freelance piece in the San Francisco Press Club competition, and won for best investigative story of the year.

The Bay Area couldn't hold onto this native of Columbia, Missouri, for long. He and his wife, Tima, relocated to Los Angeles and he worked for a year in a job he loved at the *Riverside Press-Enterprise*. When he heard about an opening at the *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*, he jumped.

Schwada was stunned to find the *Her-Ex* was "a terrible sweatshop, especially after the *Press-Enterprise*, which had one Pulitzer under its belt and an early computer system."

It was the 1980s, but the *Herald-Examiner* was stuck in the 1950s: "I got introduced to the typewriter again," he laughs, "and Linda Breakstone sat behind me smoking like a chimney. I sat next to Jim Cramer, who went on to 'Mad Money.'"

Schwada wrote extensively about the schism over busing children to far-off schools, which proponents thought would achieve integration and improve education. He won awards covering the riot in Beverly Hills when 500 Iranians burned cars and set fire to the estate of the sister of the Shah of Iran.

Schwada's boss, and hero, was City Editor Larry Burrough, a hard-bitten newsman who backed his reporters against powerful Los Angeles forces that didn't appreciate a probing media.

One day, at a tense press conference held by District Attorney Ira Reiner, a KTLA reporter tossed a softball that allowed Reiner to change the subject. Schwada angrily gave Reiner the finger, then got into a scuffle in the hall with the KTLA reporter.

Later that day, he warned Burrough there might be trouble. "I might have seemed tough, but I was basically a scaredy cat," admits Schwada.

When Reiner and KTLA both lodged complaints, "Larry Burrough said right back, 'I don't



Convention coverage.



care what he did! He was doing his job!”

Schwada ultimately got the choice City Hall beat, spending more than seven years covering Mayor Tom Bradley and the Los Angeles City Council cast of characters.

One of his memorable exclusives revealed that Bradley was scandalously close to Far East National Bank, serving on its board while mayor—and while the city placed large deposits in Far East. Schwada’s stories badly hurt Bradley, who squeaked through his next election.

On Nov. 1, 1989, the *Herald-Examiner* closed its doors, a victim of fiscal woes. Schwada was snapped up by the *Los Angeles Times*.

The *Examiner* had been a “crazy, weird place with drunken editors and wild personalities. It was fun, a great joy mixed with pain—like a loose tooth you bite down on that feels good in a way.”

At the buttoned-up *Times*, he found “so many sacred cows that I couldn’t get the news into the paper.”

Schwada actually directed some tips to other media because his editors were uneasy going after the city’s political elites. But he did manage some scoops.

He discovered that mayoral candidate and City Councilman Mike Woo, co-sponsor of a law to control hillside development, had put in for building permits to expand his own hillside home just before introducing the new restrictions.

He made the jump to TV in early 1996, joining



Above, John Schwada in his office with some of his mementos.

Left, former L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan takes over the camera.

KTTV Fox 11 News. “I’m a kid from the Midwest, not at all flashy, so I was pretty goddamned nervous in front of that camera,” he says.

Yet Schwada showed his investigative range, en-

“A mischievous pain in the ass sums up what I’ve done with my life.”

— John Schwada

couraged by people like News Director Jose Rios and Larry Croner, the managing editor. “They realized my approach is that government institutions are garbage dumps where you can go and find glittering pieces of stuff—great stories.”

Among his scoops, Schwada discovered wrong-

QUINN AWARD JOHN SCHWADA

doing on a Los Angeles city pension commission, forcing the commission's president to resign. He earned Los Angeles-area Emmy Awards in 2002 and 2003, and Golden Mikes in 2003 and 2010. In 2008, the Society of Professional Journalists' Los Angeles chapter named him its distinguished journalist.

One of his great thrills was working with the now-retired Pete Noyes, a legendary news producer. In 2009, the pair won the prestigious Sidney Hillman Foundation Award and achieved something rare: the arrest of a



Above, Schwada reporting live; left, on friendlier terms with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.



major con man preying on victims of the housing crisis.

Last year, Schwada scored again when he revealed that Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was taking pricey free tickets to entertainment and sporting events.

It began as a tip. Then Schwada discovered that the *Times* had been delving into same tip for months but hadn't published anything. A few days later, KTTV aired Schwada's story, setting off a controversy that prompted a California-wide crackdown on politicians who accept gifts from those hoping to influence them.

"A mischievous pain in the ass sums up what I've done with my life," says Schwada. He thinks his drive is probably inspired by his beginnings in Missouri, among "the country club elite and bloviating churchgoers."

Whatever inspires John Schwada, Los Angeles is a better place for it. He might describe himself as that loose tooth that you bite down on because it bothers you. But it feels kind of good. 🦷



*Congratulations John
on your award for
Journalistic Excellence
and Distinction!*



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RICHARD ENGEL The Daniel Pearl Award Recipient



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PRESIDENT'S AWARD

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Pouring Her Heart into '60 Minutes'

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CAREER,
PIONEERING
JOURNALIST
AND
PRESIDENT'S
AWARD WINNER
LESLIE STAHL
STILL LOVES
WHAT SHE
DOES

BY BETH BARRETT

SIXTY MINUTES correspondent Leslie Stahl is being honored with the Los Angeles Press Club's prestigious President's Award for her extraordinary journalistic accomplishments from Watergate, to White House correspondent covering three presidents and host of *Face the Nation*, to the author of hundreds of segments for the broadcast news magazine.

Stahl's four-decade career continues as dynamically as ever, driven by her dedication to news and her conviction that tough, fair journalism matters in an Internet era where information has become increasingly splintered.

"I'm still in love with what I do," Stahl said in an interview. "I loved it before I got to *60 Minutes*, I found it addictive. One reason I continue to be enamored of it is *60 Minutes*, where fundamentally we choose our own stories. I'm never working on a story, a person, a policy I'm not committed to since I've chosen it. It's one reason I still find I haven't gotten burned out or tired. I wake up almost every day excited to go to work. It's still a joy."

As CBS News White House correspondent covering the Carter and Reagan presidencies and part of George H.W. Bush's term and a *60 Minutes* correspondent since 1991, Stahl has consistently broken the big story. Her scoops include beating the competition on Al Gore's decision not to run again for president, as well as an interview with American hostage Roy Hallums after his 10 months in Iraqi captivity. She spoke with Nancy Pelosi before

she became the first woman speaker of the house, and with the families of Duke University lacrosse players exonerated in a high-profile, racially tinged rape case.

A multiple Emmy Award winner, including a Lifetime Achievement Emmy, she most recently was honored for her 2006 interview of ex-Hewlett-Packard Chairwoman Patricia Dunn.

Stahl has won the respect of bosses and peers alike with her coverage of stories ranging from the assassination attempt on President Reagan in 1981 to the Gulf War to her insightful reports on election night and from national political conventions.

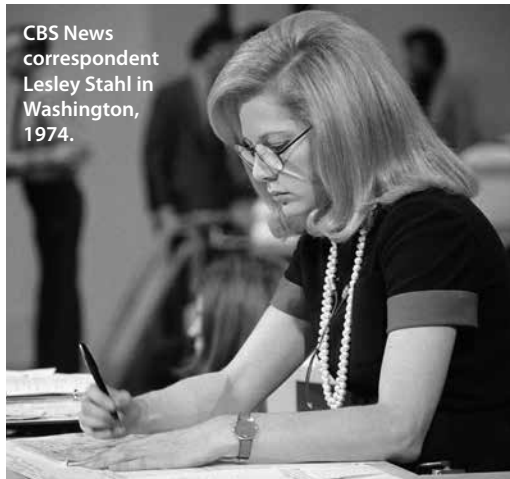
Stahl joined CBS's Washington bureau in 1972 as part of the wave of affirmative action women and minority journalists sweeping the industry. Her expectations were initially low, but she jumped at every opportunity until she was juggling an impressive, if "insane," schedule of daily White House reporting duties, *Face the Nation* on Sundays, marriage and motherhood.

"I look back and say, 'How did I do it?'" Her answer: "I have a really nice husband [author Aaron

Latham, whose Hollywood screenwriting credits include *Urban Cowboy*]. And, I had a mother [the late Dolly Stahl] who, while she ran my life, kept telling me I could do it all... She gave me permission over and over. She wanted me to have the career she hadn't had."

Stahl thought of herself not so much as a trailblazing woman journalist in the nation's capital, but as a hard worker scrambling

CBS News correspondent Lesley Stahl in Washington, 1974.





Stahl takes a stroll with Mark Zuckerberg.

to prove herself. That she succeeded so brilliantly only burnished the Women's Movement. Her assessment today is that women journalists have arrived, with the exception of securing top news division leadership positions.

She has moved gracefully through her career, from a tough, no-nonsense correspondent with a tightly teased and sprayed hairdo working with the likes of Walter Cronkite and Dan Rather, to the deeply human interviewer with a stylish haircut on *60 Minutes* where she lavishes so much time and emotion on her segments they come to seem like "children" among whom she's hard pressed to name a favorite.

"One of my first human interest stories was about a brain surgeon who himself got cancer," Stahl recalls. "I just adored him." But, after reviewing the footage she was certain the segment couldn't air. "I went to [*60 Minutes* founder] Don Hewitt and said, 'You can't run this. There isn't a frame where you don't know I just love him.' Hewitt said, 'This is the place where you can show you love someone.' It was thrilling to me I could show the public what I was feeling."

Stahl is optimistic *60 Minutes* is on the right track under Jeff Fager, chairman of CBS News and executive producer of the program, saying he's sharpened the venerable news magazine to focus

even more on the "big story" of the moment, such as Steve Kroft's exclusive with President Obama in May following the killing of terrorist leader Osama bin Laden. Stahl is less sanguine as to what's happening in journalism as a whole.

"I'm unsure when people ask me," she admits. "I'm a little pessimistic, a little uncertain about the future."

Coming from the "golden age" of broadcasting where the nightly network news was a unify-

Stahl interviews George H.W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush for *Face the Nation*.



PRESIDENT'S AWARD LESLEY STAHL



Above, Stahl interviews Justice Antonin Scalia for *60 Minutes* in 2008.

Sen. Scott Brown (R.-Mass) is interviewed for *60 Minutes* this past February, right.



Stahl interviews Gen. Raymond Odierno in Iraq about the eventual U.S. pullout for a 2010 *60 Minutes* segment.

ing force in the country, today's fragmentation of Internet-driven information introduces both a level of confusion and presents opportunities, she says. Stahl has her own web presence, wowowow.com (The Women on the Web), created with other influential women as a place to share thoughts on modern life.

"I wanted to be on the web, I knew it was the future. I wanted to be an entrepreneur, and thought running a new company would be wonderful, and I wanted to start a business with women."

Stahl doubts the new Internet technologies will spawn as many famous journalists. Then again, that's not necessarily a bad thing. "There were too many celebrities in the business anyway."

What eats at her is whether the smartest kids in the class will be drawn to journalism as they were in the post-Watergate days, a time when the craft had a certain romance to it, and drew idealists who wanted to pursue an honorable and important career.

She's also troubled by the growing number of outlets broadcasting slanted versions of the news, be it from the right or the left.

"Too many people get their news from a biased place where they always agree with the position and don't listen to the other side," she said. "The information people are getting is tilted and I'm not sure that's healthy for the country."

At the pinnacle of her profession, Stahl says she may someday write a follow-up to *Reporting Live* (Simon & Schuster, 1999), but for now her heart is with *60 Minutes* and each of the 20 or so segments she pours it into each year.

"I love getting up and going to work, the stories I cover, she said. "I still have the idealism in what we do. I love the people I work with. It's all terrific."

And, she has another scoop: a new grandchild.



Soviet leader Boris Yeltsin in 1992.

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Colleen Williams, Frank Snapp, Yvonne Beltzer

Sports

"Winter Olympic Games Stories"

Ana Garcia, Fred Mamoun, Kevin Nious, Lindsey Jackson

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DANIEL PEARL AWARD

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in journalism*

A View from the Front Lines

CAREER
REPORTING
FROM THE
MIDDLE EAST
EARNS
NBC NEWS'
RICHARD ENGEL
THE DANIEL
PEARL AWARD

BY TED JOHNSON

THE VIDEO FOOTAGE ran throughout the day of March 23: It was a report from Libya of Richard Engel, NBC's chief foreign correspondent, ducking and falling to the ground in the face of incoming fire.

What can't be forgotten is the rest of the story, or why he was there: To give a dramatic yet nuanced report from the front lines of the rebel forces against Muammar Gaddafi's army. As Engel showed, the rebels were so outmatched that one had a plastic toy gun.

It's this ability to explain the fog of war and uprisings that has long enlightened American viewers, most recently in his coverage of the Arab Spring revolts.

Engel, 37, is being honored with the Los Angeles Press Club's Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism for a broad and insightful career spent largely in the Middle East. Ruth and Judea Pearl, the parents of Daniel Pearl, say that his

coverage "has been pivotal to our understanding of the people of the region, their aspirations and their struggle for freedom and dignity."

What is unusual is how Engel got to a place where his home country would feel like "just somewhere else."

Engel was raised on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. After graduating from Stanford in 1996 with a degree in international relations, he stunned his family by moving to Cairo. His reason was a notion that the Middle East would be "the story of my generation."

After freelancing there, he landed a job with the *Middle East Times*, an English-language paper where he reported on all aspects of Egyptian life—even restaurant reviews. One challenge was avoiding Egypt's censorship laws, one of the reasons that the paper was printed in Athens. When they ran into trouble, usually over stories involving President Hosni Mubarak and his family, or pieces on the problems between Christians and Muslims, the

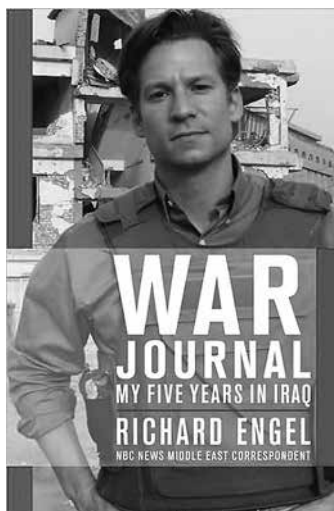
paper would do "cheeky things" like simply run blank space, Engel recalls.

During this period, Engel took classes to learn Arabic. He eventually picked up enough to move between dialects, something few other American correspondents have the time or inspiration to do.

He later went to Jerusalem to cover the conflict with the Palestinians, and worked for a number of outlets including Agence France Press, Reuters and *Jane's Defense Weekly*, and was Middle East correspondent for "The World" from BBC World Service, PRI and WGBH Boston.

As the drumbeat to war in Iraq

***After graduating
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began sounding in 2002, he sought to go to Baghdad as a freelancer. He even bribed an Iraqi official with a few hundred dollars to get an illegal visa.

What he didn't realize is that he would be one of the only American reporters left in Baghdad as the U.S. began the "shock and awe" campaign. Major news organizations had moved their staffers out for safety reasons. He freelanced for ABC News until he joined NBC News in May 2003.

The network says that Engel was one of the only Western journalists to cover the entire war, in which he witnessed the initial euphoria after the fall of Saddam Hussein, the descent into chaos and the challenges facing U.S. forces in the middle of a civil war, and the last combat brigade pulling out last year.

The endless onslaught of roadside explosions and attacks were so frequent that they became difficult to distinguish. Bomb blasts drove him from three hotel rooms. Engel says he first realized that he was getting "compassion fatigue" when, after covering a suicide bombing, he began to wipe blood off of his shoes "like it was just mud."

"You will get desensitized," he reflects. "It's like being someone employed in an emergency room, where you are seeing people have the worst experi-

ences of their lives, where you see every possible human emotion exposed. But for you it's just another day at work."

That doesn't mean "you can't be human," Engel says.

That sentiment was evident in a video journal that he kept throughout the war, which became the subject of the 2007 NBC documentary *War Zone Diary*. Along with two books he wrote on his experiences, *A Fist in the Hornet's Nest* and *War Journal: My Five Years in Iraq*, the documentary is a personal look at the life of a foreign correspondent in one of the most dangerous places on earth. The

Engel in Cairo with Brian Williams.

"When societies go to war it sometimes brings out the best in some people. More often than not, it brings out the absolute worst in human nature."

— Richard Engel

project went on to win the 2008 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award and the Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism.

In a 2003 entry, as many reporters had left Baghdad and he had sought comfort in a phone call to

DANIEL PEARL AWARD RICHARD ENGEL



the United States, Engel tells the camera, “You speak to the family and it brings it home and makes you look at the bigger picture. It makes you wonder, ‘Am I going to end up looking like some foolish cowboy?’”

On the contrary, Engel has now spent so much time away that the U.S. has become “another stop on the endless road trip.” It is even a bit of a surprise that he keeps an apartment in New York, where he’s spent just a week so far this year.

His parents do not ask why he’s chosen a career covering war and conflict, and have even “encouraged the ‘why?’” he says. But they are still cautious in knowing the dangers, as is Engel. “You have to stay that way,” he says.

He also hasn’t lost sight of what war is—something you can only know “when you live it.”

“I do think sometimes the use of force is essential,” he says. “But war is atrocious. I hate war. I loathe it. When societies go to war it sometimes brings out the best in some people. More often than not, it brings out the absolute worst in human nature.” 🇺🇸

Engel broadcasts live from Iraq with the Bloombmobile, an armored mobile satellite truck.

CONGRATULATIONS RICHARD ENGEL



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Richard Engel

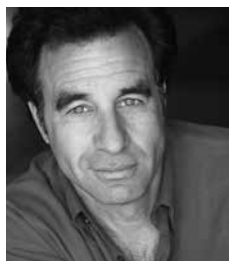
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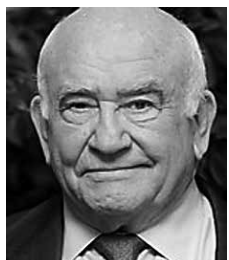
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New York-born Italian-American actor **RAY ABRUZZO**, perhaps best known for the role of Little Carmine Lupertazzi for four seasons of *The Sopranos*, has been a TV series regular on many shows, including *Boston Legal*, *The Practice*, *L.A. Law*, *Dynasty* and *Night Court*. Ray also has been active in theaters on both coasts and stages in-between. At the Pasadena Playhouse, he played

Sterling in the critically acclaimed West Coast premiere of Theresa Rebeck's *Mauritius*. For nearly 10 years, Ray was active as a director and actor for L.A.'s Playwright's Kitchen Ensemble. He performed a one-man show, *The Male Intellect: an Oxymoron*, in Chicago and Boston. Ray also was the head writer and director for the Nickelodeon's *Weinerville*. Other television credits include guest spots on shows such as *NYPD Blue*, *Law and Order*, *Law and Order SVU*, *NCIS*, *CSI: NY*, and *House*.



ED ASNER grew up having to defend himself both vocally and physically; he was raised in the only Jewish family in his neighborhood. Asner's career got its start while he was announcing for his high school radio station. Between 1960 and 1965, he established himself as one of TV's most reliable villains; thanks to his resemblance to certain Soviet politicians, he was particularly busy

during the "spy show" boom of 1964-66. He also showed up briefly as a regular on the New York-filmed dramatic series *Slattery's People*. In 1970, he was cast as Lou Grant, the irascible head of the WJM newsroom on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. The series ran for seven seasons, during which time Asner earned three Emmys. He later took the character into an hour-long dramatic weekly about a big-city newspaper: The title, of course, was *Lou Grant*. While the show was in production, Asner was twice elected the head of the Screen Actors Guild. During the 1980s he starred in several TV movies, in addition to headlining two regular TV series, *Off the Rack* and *The Bronx Zoo*.



Before becoming at KTTV Fox 11 one of the most lauded broadcast investigative reporters in Los Angeles for more than two decades, **CHRIS BLATCHFORD** worked for TV stations on the East Coast and in the Midwest, giving him a perspective that has led him to become the only Los Angeles TV reporter to win a Peabody Award, as well as garnering 9 Emmys, 8 Los Angeles Press

Club Awards, and numerous other honors.

Chris is known for his exposes of street gangs, prison gangs, and organized crime. He has been a frequent panelist on gang issues, including several sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice. His book, *Three Dog Nightmare*, was an *L.A. Times* bestseller examining

the painful realities of drug addiction. A native of Winnetka, Illinois, Chris came to Los Angeles in 1985 as a weekend/substitute anchor at KCBS-TV before working at Fox 11 since 1992.



Award-winning entertainment industry journalist **ALEX BEN BLOCK** is Editor-at-Large for *The Hollywood Reporter*, as well as Show Business Historian for *Hollywood Today*.

Block was the founding Editor of *TelevisionWeek* and has been Associate Editor of *Forbes Magazine*, Assistant City Editor of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* and Editor-in-Chief and VP of eStar.com.

Block was Executive Director of the LA Press Club for three years and is an honorary board member.

Block was on KPCC-FM's "Call Sheet" and reports for the syndicated radio program, "The Advertising Show." He has been heard as expert commentator on KNBC-TV, *The Today Show*, CNBC, NPR, NBC, *O'Reilly on Fox*, CNN and more.

His honors include three LA Press Club Awards, Hearst Awards, Crain Awards, a Detroit Press Club Award, a Will Rogers Foundation "Willie," the (RIM) Angel Award and the Journalism Award from the Caucus For Television Producers, Directors and Writers.



WALTON GOGGINS plays the pivotal role of Boyd Crowder on FX's Peabody Award-winning Drama series *Justified*, which completed its second season this year. He was recently nominated by the Broadcast Television Journalists Association for their inaugural Critics' Choice Television Awards in the category of Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series. He previously garnered acclaim for his riveting portrayal of Detective Shane Vendrell

on FX's gritty, award-winning drama series *The Shield*. This summer, he appears in director Jon Favreau's highly anticipated action feature *Cowboys & Aliens*, alongside Daniel Craig and Harrison Ford. He will also be seen in Rod Lurie's adaptation of the Sam Peckinpah film *Straw Dogs*, starring James Marsden and Kate Bosworth. He plays the role of Daniel in the feature. He has also taken his turn behind the camera. Goggins, along with his partners at Ginny Mule Pictures, won an Academy Award for their short film, *The Accountant*, which he produced and starred in.

DENISE GRAYSON is a talented and versatile actress, most recently starring in the Academy Award and Golden Globe-winning film, *The Social Network*, directed by David Fincher and written by Aaron Sorkin. A former intellectual property attorney on Wall Street, Denise decided to pursue acting and soon found herself in plays and small independent films in New York City. She then came to California to give Hollywood a shot and has worked in numerous projects ever

“Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.”

Thomas Jefferson

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since. She awaited her “break out part,” and she found it when she landed a plum role in *The Social Network* as none other than an intellectual property attorney.

Denise has just been cast in the film *Somewhere Slow*, and she is featured in Sibyl White’s upcoming book, *How To Ditch The Corporate World And Rock Your Own*.

Denise also coaches actors, comedians, individuals, corporations and politicians with their performance, voice, and presentation skills.

She now divides her time between New York and Los Angeles.



DAN LAURIA is another one of those vibrant actors who went from the rough streets of Brooklyn to the even rougher world of acting. He served in Vietnam as an officer in the Marine Corps and got his start in acting while attending Southern Connecticut State University on a football scholarship.

Probably his most TV memorable role was in *The Wonder Years* as Jack Arnold, although his numerous series appearances include *Criminal Minds*, *The Mentalist*, *CSI*, *Party of Five*, and, most recently, *Nurse Jackie*. On the big screen, he was seen in *Stakeout*, *Independence Day* and *The Spirit*, among many

other films. In 2006 he was on stage in New York in an Off Broadway production of *A Stone Carver* by William Mastrosimone. Two years ago Dan played Jimmy Hoffa in Brian Lee Franklin’s *Good Bobby*, a fictionalized account of Robert Kennedy’s rise.

One of his closest friends, Joe Mantegna, said, “Danny is one of those rare guys who walks the walk—that’s why he’d rather do a low-pay but meaningful play in the boonies than work in a well-paying piece of fluff. Most actors can’t live up to that standard of integrity.”

Dan has been instrumental in reviving the classic PBS show *Steve Allen’s Meeting of Minds* as live theater featuring some of the best actors in town.

After spending a year in New York bringing Vince Lombardi to life in the Broadway hit *Lombardi*, his Los Angeles family is thrilled to have him back.



PATT MORRISON is a longtime columnist and an award-winning host of public radio and television programs. She holds a share of the two Pulitzer Prizes awarded to the *Los Angeles Times* in 1992 and 1994. For her work at KCET-TV, she has been presented with six Emmys. She hosted the nationally syndicated “The Bookshow With Patt Morrison.” She also possesses eight Golden Mike awards for her TV and radio work, most recently for the highly regarded public af-

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JUST ONE MORE



José, Can You See?

Who's the man behind those Foster Grants—Elton John doing a gig at the Met? An outraged opera-goer protesting the ticket prices? Or renowned tenor José Carreras, getting a bit too friendly with the mikes? ☐

José Carreras. Published in LIFE Magazine. Photo: Thomas Engstrom

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fairs program "Patt Morrison" on KPCC radio, the NPR news station for Southern California. In its five years on the air, "Patt Morrison" has twice been named the best public affairs program on the radio by the RTNA. She is the author of the best-selling nonfiction book, *Rio LA, Tales from the Los Angeles River*, and of a much-acclaimed work of fiction, *Morocco Junction 90210*.

Among myriad awards, *The Nation* magazine named her the most valuable progressive radio voice in the country in 2010. In February 2011, she made the cover of *Talkers* magazine as one of the magazine's "Heavy Hundred" top radio voices in the nation. Pink's, the renowned Hollywood hot dog stand, has named its veggie dog in her honor.



BARBARA NIVEN is one of Hollywood's busiest actresses, having appeared in more than 100 film and TV roles, and over 2,500 TV and radio commercials. She has been seen on Lifetime, Hallmark, *NCIS*, *Cold Case* and *One Life to Live*. She is also in demand as a media trainer, business presentation coach, speaker and best-selling author. She has served on the National Board of

Directors for the Screen Actors Guild.

Barbara created and developed Unleash Your Star Power!™ to share her professional skills and talents with others. From her studio in Los Angeles, she offers custom video production services, one-on-

one coaching and workshops, and is available for speaking engagements. Her clients include business owners, CEOs, entrepreneurs, speakers, authors and anyone who wants to make over their professional image and hone their message to become the go-to-authority in their field.

Her new book, *111 Star Power Tips: Insider Secrets From a Hollywood Pro* and the Unleash Your Star Power! Home Study Course launch next month.



JUDEA PEARL was born in Tel Aviv and is a graduate of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. He came to the United States for post graduate work in 1960 and received his Master's degree in physics from Rutgers University and his Ph.D. degree in 1965 from the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Pearl joined the faculty of UCLA in 1969, where he is currently a professor of computer science and director of the Cognitive Systems Laboratory. He is known internationally for his contributions to artificial intelligence, human reasoning and philosophy of science. He is the author of more than three hundred scientific papers and three path-breaking books in his fields of interest.

Dr. Judea Pearl is the father of slain *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl and president of the Daniel Pearl Foundation,

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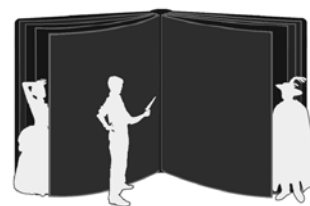
Tz'u-hsi (Dowager Empress of China)

Marchese di Bonesana Cesare Beccaria (Italian philosopher and politician)

Marquis de Sade (French revolutionary)

and **Steve Allen** (host)

WorkingStage.com



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www.danielpearl.org, which he co-founded in April 2002 “to continue Daniel’s life-work of dialogue and understanding and to address the root causes of his tragedy.” The Daniel Pearl Foundation sponsors journalism fellowships aimed at promoting honest reporting and East-West understanding, organizes worldwide concerts that promote inter-cultural respect, and sponsors public dialogues between Jews and Muslims to explore common ground and air grievances. The Foundation has received the CommonGround’s Partners in Humanity Award in 2002 and the 2003 Roger E. Joseph Prize for its “distinctive contribution to humanity.”

Judea Pearl and his wife Ruth Pearl are co-editors of the book *I am Jewish: Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl*, winner of the 2004 National Jewish Book Award for Anthologies, which provides a panoramic view of how Jews define themselves in the post 9/11 era.



JILL STEWART has been deputy news editor at *Los Angeles Weekly* since 2006 and is a veteran analyst of California politics and government.

Before joining *L.A. Weekly*, she wrote a syndicated opinion column examining the California State Legislature, governor and other Sacramento power players for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Daily News*,

Orange County Register, *Long Beach Press-Telegram* and many others, reaching an audience of nearly 1 million.

She has appeared extensively on television and radio. She was the political analyst for KCAL-9 during the 2005 L.A. mayoral race, a regular panelist on the *Dennis Miller Show* and is an op-ed contributor to the *Wall Street Journal*. She has analyzed California issues for FOX and CNN, and has appeared frequently on KPCC, KCRW, KFI and KABC radio. From 1996 to 2002, Jill wrote an award-winning column for *New Times Los Angeles* that dissected, often with great glee, the civic institutions that shape the region, from LAUSD to City Hall. Prior to that, she wrote the Power Brokers column for *Buzz* magazine. She worked as a Metro reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*, covering urban issues.

In 1991, she lived in Prague and wrote about the transition to democracy.

She has twice been named top columnist in Los Angeles at the Southern California Journalism Awards, and was honored with its Journalist of the Year nod. Her national honors include the American Society of Newspaper Columnist’s award for best column in the country, and the Benjamin Fine Award for top education writing in the nation.

She holds a master’s degree in journalism from Stanford, and grew up in Kirkland Washington, not far from the cow pasture that is now Microsoft. 🐄

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Miriam Jordan, The Wall Street Journal, "A Tale of Two Students"
Patrick Range McDonald, LA Weekly, "The Parent Trigger"

C2. NEWS FEATURE (print under 50K)

Richard Guzman, Los Angeles Downtown News, "Aftershocks of a Fire"
Alexa Hyland, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Awaiting"
Carl Kozlowski, Pasadena Weekly, "Ridin' with Dr. Feelgood"
Karmel Melamed, Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, "Frayed Trust: Business Fraud Devastates LA's Iranian Jews"
Theresa Marie Moreau, The Remnant, "They Died in China"

F4. FEATURE (radio)

Nelson Aguilar/Cason Smith, KSAK, "Big League/College Dreams"
Madeleine Brand/Kristen Muller, KPCC, "LA River"
Steve Pride, KPFK, "My Name is....Alice"
Brian Watt, KPCC, "Sleeper Memorial"
Brian Watt, KPCC, "C-17 Plant"

H3. FEATURE (online)

Hillel Aron, Neon Tommy, "The West Side (Rentals) Story"
Joey Clift and Richard Lutz, theartshow.com, "The Dart 106: The Goodyear Blimp"
Michael Jack Lawlor, Transmopolis, "Dr Mongo: LA's Spoken Word Superstar"
Stef Willen, McSweeney's Internet Tendency, "All in A Days Tragedy"
Stef Willen, McSweeney's Internet Tendency, "I Think I Found Your Cat"

E3. FEATURE (TV)

Chuck Henry, Tara Wallis, Jose Hernandez, Fernando Torres, KNBC, "Rock and Roll Treasure"
Fred Mamoun, Ana Garcia, Kevin Nious, Jose Hernandez, Lindsey Jackson, KNBC-TV, "Mercury in Seafood Series"
Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Rick Wilkinson,

Steve Lopez and Alberto Arce, KCET-TV, "Putting on Ayers"
Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Rick Wilkinson, Steve Lopez, Alexandria Gales, Alberto Arce, KCET, "Ferrari with a View"
Antonio Valverde, KMEX-Univision, "Home-boy Industries".

G2. FEATURE/COMMENTARY (magazines)

Amy Alkon, Psychology Today, "The Truth about Beauty"
Damon W. Root, Reason, "Conservatives v. Libertarians: The debate over judicial activism divides former allies"
David Schneider, Slake: Los Angeles, "Ballad of the Trunk Monkey"
Richard Siklos, Business Week Magazine, "Extreme Moneyball"
Peter Suderman, Reason, "The Gatekeeper – How a little bureaucratic office became the biggest impediment to Barack Obama's health care plans"

J2. NEWS FEATURE (International)

Claes Andreasson, Swedish National Public Radio, "Death In The Desert"
Daniele Compatangelo, Italian TV, "The Los Angeles Breakdown"
Anna Jonsson Connell, Hemtrevligt Magazine, "Lars Roos At My Place"
Tom Walters & Adam Blair, CTV News, "Hollywood Curling"

B3. PERSONALITY PROFILE (print over 50K)

Steve Friess, LA Weekly, "A Tragic Love Story"
Charlotte Hsu, LA Weekly, "Forever Scared — The Story of Herman Atkins"
Spencer Kornhaber, OC Weekly, "Toil & Trouble"
Karen Robes Meeks, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "Murchison: A Portrait of a Long Beach Lobbyist"
Greg Mellen, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "From the Streets, Kingman Rises"

C3. PERSONALITY PROFILE (print under 50K)

Karmel Melamed, Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, "Remembering Ebi: Why we fled Iran"
Daniel Miller, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Cornering Downtown"
Ryan Vaillancourt, Los Angeles Downtown News, "The Survivor"

G3. PERSONALITY PROFILE (magazines)

Johnny Dodd, People Magazine, "Back on Earth"
Steve Oney, Playboy Magazine, "Hollywood Fixer"
Monica Rizzo and Alexis Chiu, People Magazine, "Jennifer Grey Bounces Back"
Richard Siklos, Business Week Magazine, "Extreme Moneyball"
Peter Suderman, Reason Magazine, "Paul Ryan: Radical or Sellout?"

H4. PERSONALITY PROFILE (online)

Hillel Aron, Neon Tommy, "Citizen Kaye"
John Gittelsohn and Nadja Brandt, Bloomberg.com/BusinessWeek, "Trump Evokes Doubts of Fading Apprentice With Newest Link to Golf as Brand"
Spencer Kornhaber, Patch.com, A Tea Partyer Arrives
Robert Meeks and Greg Mellen, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "From the streets, 'Kingman' rises"
Callie Schweitzer, Neon Tommy, "Pamela Blakewell Takes on a Resistant Community"
Callie Schweitzer, Neon Tommy, "For One Pulitzer Prize Winning Photographer, Some Days Are Never Forgotten"

D2. FEATURE PHOTO

Michael Owen Baker, Los Angeles Daily News, Sheep Riding
Barbara Davidson, Los Angeles Times, "Victims of Gang Violence"
Jeff Gritchen, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "Mirror, Mirror"
Rick Loomis, Los Angeles Times, "The Ultimate Sacrifice"
Star Foreman, LA Weekly, "Flying Lotus"

H10. WEBLOG, INDIVIDUAL

Danielle Berrin, Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles
Celeste Fremon, WitnessLA.com
Brad A. Greenberg, Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, The God Blog
Joanie Harmon, GirlMeetsSoup blog
Ted Johnson, Variety, WilshireandWashing-ton.com

H11. WEBLOG, GROUP

Tom Hoffarth, Los Angeles Daily News, "Farther off the Wall"
Molly Peterson and Siel Ju, Southern California Public Radio, "Pacific Swell"

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NEWS FEATURE

Karmel Melamed,
"Frayed Trust: Business
Fraud Devastates
LA's Iranian Jews"

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Karmel Melamed
"Remembering Ebi:
Why we fled Iran"

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE **Naomi Pfefferman**

"Kevin Spacey gets in touch with
his inner Jew in 'Casino Jack'"

DESIGN

Daniel Kacvinski
"Why Jews Should Care
About Prop 19"
and "Peace Talk Game"

ONLINE NEWS/INVESTIGATIVE

Julie Gruenbaum Fax
"The Ugly Secret"

WEBLOG, INDIVIDUAL

Danielle Berrin
Hollywood Jew

Brad A. Greenberg
The God Blog

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Dennis Romero, Gene Maddaus, Simone Wilson, Patrick Range McDonald and Jill Stewart, LA Weekly, Election Night Coverage – “The Informer”
Amy Scattergood, LA Weekly, “Squid Ink”

A2. PRINT (under 50K)

Amy Alkon, Creators Syndicate
Radley Balko, Reason Magazine
Dan Evans, Glendale News-Press
Ryan Vaillancourt, Los Angeles Downtown News

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD: Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives

G6. IN-HOUSE OR CORPORATE PUBLICATION

Bennet Kelley, Internet Law Center, Cyber Report
Mary Lee, San Diego Community College District, We (With Excellence)
Mary Lee, San Diego Community College District, 2009 SDCCD Citizens' Oversight Committee
Mary Lee, San Diego Community College District, 2009-2010 Annual Report to the Community
Dave Wagner, Juan Carlos Sanchez, and Eric Santiago, Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association, Fireman's Grapevine

B12. DESIGN (print over 50K)

Brian Harr, Los Angeles Daily News, “Devastation, et al”
Kelly Lewis, LA Weekly, “Hot Links”
Darrick Rainey, LA Weekly, “Educating Maria”
Darrick Rainey, LA Weekly, “Manny Pacquiao – the complete picture”
Darrick Rainey, LA Weekly, “Elvira's World”

C12. DESIGN (print under 50K)

Brian Allison, Los Angeles Downtown News, “Don't Miss The Summer”
Daniel Kacvinski, The Jewish Journal, “Why Jews Should Care About Prop 19”
Daniel Kacvinski, The Jewish Journal, “Peace Talk Game”
Robert Laudry, Los Angeles Business Journal, “Restacking the Coin – L.A.'s Wealthiest Angelenos”

A8. PHOTO JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Rick Loomis, Los Angeles Times

STUDENT JOURNALISM:

K5. BEST WRITING—PRINT

Mary Mars Melnicoff, Los Angeles Collegian, “Sports by the numbers”

Reuben E. Reynoso, Los Angeles Collegian, “Professor Journeys Through African Spirituality”
Alexander Woodman, UCLA, “Struggle for Perceptibility”

K1. BEST STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Staff, Los Angeles Collegian, LA City College
Staff, University Times, Cal State LA

K4. BEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Claudine Jasmin, Los Angeles Collegian, “Dental Technician Program”
Reuben E. Reynoso, Los Angeles Collegian, “Diverse”
Shotgun Spratling, Neon Tommy, “USC-Notre Dame Football Game”

K2. BEST NEWS WEBSITE

Staff, University Times, Cal State LA

COMMENTARY:

B6. COMMENTARY (print over 50K)

Amy Alkon, Syndicated columnist
Larry Allison, Long Beach Press-Telegram
Daily News Editorial Pages, Los Angeles Daily News
Thomas Elias, California Focus syndicated column
Patrick McDonald, LA Weekly, “City of Airheads”

C6. COMMENTARY (print under 50K)

Amy Alkon, Creators.com, “The Advice Goddess”
Burbank Leader, “Burbank Leader Editorials”
Thomas Elias, “Thomas Elias California Focus Syndicated Column”
Bennet Kelley, Santa Monica Daily Press, “Movement to Reality-Based Politics?”
Joe Piasecki, Burbank Leader, “Olive Avenue Confidential”

B7. COLUMNIST (print over 50K)

Sandy Banks, Los Angeles Times – “Behind the News: A personal view”
Patricia Bunin, Pasadena Star News – “Senior Moments”
Tim Grobaty, Long Beach Press-Telegram – “What's Hot” on nightmare neighbors
James Rainey, Los Angeles Times – “On The Media”
Timothy Spangler, Orange County Register - International Affairs

C7. COLUMNIST (print under 50K)

Amy Alkon, Syndicated columnist, “The Advice Goddess”
Charles Crumpley, Los Angeles Business Journal, “Drawing a Line at City Hall”

Dan Evans, Burbank Leader, “Columns – Dan Evans”

Ted Johnson, Variety.com, “Prop 8”
Jon Regardie, Los Angeles Downtown News, “Four Regardie Report Columns”

D5. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Lalo Alcaraz, Los Angeles Times/ Universal Uclick
Dwayne Booth, Truthdig.com
Doug Davis, Los Angeles Downtown News
Steve Greenberg, LA Observed.com
Patrick O'Connor, LA Weekly

J4. COLUMNIST OR CRITIC (International)

Barbara Gasser, Steiermark Report (Austria), “Election Time”
Tom Walters, CTV News (Canadian Television), “Image Rehab?”

H7. COLUMN/COMMENTARY (online)

Greg Beato, Reason, “Copy Fight: A new front opens in the battle over online copyright infringement”
Eric Longabardi, Newport Beach Now, “My (Not So) Humble Opinion”
Timothy A. Spangler, Forbes Online, “On the Docket: Inside the Courtroom”
Sharon Waxman, TheWrap.com, “WaxWord”
Stef Willen, McSweeney's Internet Tendency, A Column about Inventorying Other People's Tragedies

F1. ANCHOR (radio)

Alex Cohen: KPCC
Steve Jullian: KPCC
Steve Kindred: KABC
Warren Olney: KCRW
Jim Rondeau: KCLU

H14. FACEBOOK PRESENCE BY A NEWS ORGANIZATION

Digital Staff, KPCC, So. Cal Public Radio
Gary Scott, Which Way LA?, KCRW FM
LA Weekly Facebook page

H15. FACEBOOK PRESENCE BY AN INDIVIDUAL

Stella Inger Facebook page, KPSP

A4. RADIO JOURNALIST

Kitty Felde, KPCC
Molly Peterson, KPCC
Susan Valot, KPCC
Brian Watt, KPCC

QUINN AWARD: John Schwada

SPORTS

B10. SPORTS (print over 50K)

Gendy Alimurung, LA Weekly, "Manny Pacquiao"
Devra Maza, USA Today, "Opposites Attract: Baseball's Seesaw Season"
Jill Painter, Los Angeles Daily News, "Sign of Acceptance"
Diane Pucin, Los Angeles Times, "Cal Poly Crash – Tragedy couldn't kill team spirit"
Lance Pugmire, Los Angeles Times, "Anthony Davis: Dame fortune"

C10. SPORTS (print under 50K)

Jay Berman, Los Angeles Downtown News, "Keeping His Lens on the Dodgers"
Joel Russell, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Staying on a roll – Rob Dyrdek"

D3. SPORTS PHOTO

Diandra Jay, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "Celebration"
John McCoy, Los Angeles Daily News, Lakers photo
Brittany Murray, Long Beach Press-Telegram, "I got it"

F7. SPORTS (radio)

Jon Baird, KNX, "Foul Ball Freak-Out"
Alan Minsky, KPFK, "The People's Game"
Lance Orozco/Jim Rondeau, KCLU, "It's More Than A Game"
Cason Smith, KSAK, "USC vs USC"
Susan Valot, KPCC, "Curling"

H8. SPORTS (online)

Mark Heisler, Truthdig.com, "Role Models for the Id"
Tom Hoffarth, Los Angeles Daily News, "Don't Stand So Close to Me, I Gotta See Zenyatta Just One More Time"
Devra Maza, USA Today, "Opposites Attract: Baseball's Best of Times, Worst of Times"
Shotgun Spratling, Neon Tommy, "Not Everyone Should Be Allowed to Wear 42"
Daniel Wattenberg, Reason Magazine, "The Persecution of Gilbert Arenas"

E5. SPORTS (TV)

Fox Sports West / Prime Ticket Team, "Bryshon Nellum's Road to Recovery"
Fox Sports West / Prime Ticket Team, "Nickell Robey's Journey To USC"

Fox Sports West / Prime Ticket Team, "Golden Days, Purple Knights: 50 Years of Laker Glory"

Fred Mamoun, Ana Garcia, Kevin Nious, Lindsey Jackson, KNBC, "Winter Olympic Games Stories"

Bret Marcus, Judy Muller, Karen Foshay, Dan Caston, Michael Bloecher, KCET, "Nuthin' But Net"

ENTERTAINMENT

B8. ENTERTAINMENT REVIEWS/CRITICISM/COLUMN (print over 50K)

Karina Longworth, LA Weekly
Rob Lowman, Los Angeles Daily News
Steven Leigh Morris, LA Weekly
Bob Strauss, Los Angeles Daily News
Gustavo Turner, LA Weekly

G4. ENTERTAINMENT REVIEWS/CRITICISM/COLUMN (magazines)

Greg Beato, Reason Magazine, "From Paris Hilton to John Edwards: Celebrity sex tapes are the signature art form of Our Age"
Luke Davies, Slake Los Angeles, "The Cisco Kid"



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Arty Nelson, Slake Los Angeles, "Abstract L.A."
Jesse Walker, Reason Magazine, "Disaster Utopianism"
Matt Welch, Reason Magazine, "Bailing Out Big Brother"

B9. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS OR FEATURE (print over 50K)

Matt Coker, OC Weekly, "Douchebag does Sundance"
Matthew Garrahan, Financial Times, "When Hugo Met Oliver"
Matthew Garrahan, Financial Times, "Who Killed James Bond?"
Karina Longworth, LA Weekly, "Sundance's Rebel Yell"
Martha Sarabia, La Opinion, "Audacity converted to a song"

C9. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS OR FEATURE (print under 50K)

Alex Ben Block, The Hollywood Reporter, "Ronald Tutor: No Miramax for Bergstein"
Naomi Pfeifferman, Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, "Kevin Spacey gets in touch with his inner Jew in 'Casino Jack'"
Joe Piasecki, Pasadena Weekly, "Taking Back 'Beautiful'"
Joe Piasecki, Pasadena Weekly, "The Story Behind the Stories"
Joel Russell, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Film Producer's Royalty Suit"

F6. ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING/CRITICISM (radio)

Steve Cuevas, KPCC, "Surf King"
Larry Mantle, KPCC, "Oliver Stone"
Larry Mantle, KPCC, "Carol Burnett"
Kim Masters, KCRW, "The Business"
Joe Morgenstern, KCRW, "Film Reviews"

E6. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS OR FEATURE (TV)

Harry Chang, April Kuan, Sheau-Yun Song, Su Li and Josh Chiang, KSCI-TV LA-18, "The Real Bruce Lee"
Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Rick Wilkinson, Judy Muller, Michael Bloecher and Anne Lilburn, KCET-TV, "SoCal Connected; Celluloid Ceiling"
Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Rick Wilkinson, David Lazarus, Alberto Arce, and Anne Lilburn, "Runaway Production"
George Pennacchio and Cheryl Diano, KABC-TV, "The Education of Carol Channing"
George Pennacchio and Cheryl Diano, KABC-TV, "Best Worst Movie"

G5. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS OR FEATURE (magazines)

Johnny Dodd, People Magazine, "It Could Have Been Me"
James M. Dorsey, Reason Magazine, "Rap and Metal on Plant Islam"
Jennifer Garcia, Kristen Mascia, Lorenzo Benet, Sara Hammel, Ken Lee, People Magazine, "Brittany Murphy: A Tragic Ending"
Ronald Grover, Tom Lowry and Cliff Edwards, Bloomberg Business Week, "Revenge of the Cable Guys"
Julie Jordan, People Magazine, "I Miss Patrick So Much"

D4. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO

Liz O. Baylen, Los Angeles Times, "Soul Man"
Liz O. Baylen, Los Angeles Times, "Bell of the Ball"
Liz O. Baylen, Los Angeles Times, "Something Different Shining Through"

F8. USE OF SOUND (radio)

Kevin Ferguson, KPCC, "Partch Work"
Kenny Goldberg, KPBS, "Awake Brain Surgery"
Claudia Amezcua and Cason Smith, KSAK, "Renaissance Faire Opening"
Christal Smith, Rebecca Novick, Lahakpa Kyizom, Ken Lee, Pacifica, "Election Without a State"
Susan Valot, KPCC, "ESL Theater"

H9. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS/FEATURE/COMMENTARY/REVIEWS (online)

Chris Hedges, Truthdig.com, "The Pictures of War You Aren't Supposed to See"
Jessica Herndon, People.com, "T.I. Knew in His Heart He Had to Save Suicidal Atlanta Man"
Dylan Howard & David Perel, RadarOnline.com, "Mel Gibson: Sex, Lies & Audiotapes"
Robert David Jaffee, Huffington Post, "Mental Illness at the Movies"
Tara Wallis-Finestone, NBCLA.com, "Courtney Love Assembles a Twitter Army"

J3. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS OR FEATURE (International)

Claes Andreasson, Swedish National Public Radio, "Meet Me @ Metro"
Barbara Gasser, M My Entertainment Magazine, "Green Zone: Thriller or Politic Critique?"
Claudia Laffranchi, Swiss Made Magazine, "Time To Give"
Tom Tugend, Jerusalem Post, "Cellulord Paranoia"
Tom Walters and Adam Blair, CTV News, "The return of Pee Wee Herman"

A7. ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Dylan Howard, Radar Online
Kim Masters, KCRW
George Pennacchio, KABC-TV
Tara Wallis-Finestone, NBC Los Angeles

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INVESTIGATIVE

G1. NEWS/INVESTIGATIVE (magazines)

Po Bronson & Ashley Merryman, Newsweek, "The Creativity Crisis"
Brian Doherty, Reason, "LA's Pot Revolution: How Los Angeles became the 'wild West' of medical marijuana – and lived to tell the tale"
David Evans, Bloomberg Markets magazine, "Duping the Families of Fallen Soldiers"
Steven Greenhut, Reason, "Class War – How public servants became our masters"
Ronald Grover, Tom Lowry and Michael White, Bloomberg Businessweek, "King of the World (Again)"

B5. BUSINESS (print over 50K)

Beth Barrett, LA Weekly, "Barry Minkow 2.0"
Matthew Garrahan, Financial Times, "Las Vegas's \$8.5bn gamble"
Donna Howell, Investor's Business Daily, "Electric cars have lots of sizzle, but drivers risk sticker shock"
Donna Howell, Investor's Business Daily, "Facebook's new messaging plan worries some privacy advocates"
Alana Semuels, Los Angeles Times, "California unfriendly to business? Figures say no"

C5. BUSINESS (print under 50K)

Richard Clough, Los Angeles Business Journal, "LA Corporate Credit Union Faces Historic Damages"
Alfred Lee, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Stem Cells Take Root in Koreatown"
Joe Piasecki, Pasadena Weekly, "The Story Behind the Stories"
Marlize van Romburgh, Pacific Coast Business Times, "Foreclosure Fiasco's Ground Zero: Ventura County offices churned out paperwork"
Anna Scott, LA Downtown News, "To Have and to Hold, and Hold and Hold and Hold and Hold"

H5. CONSUMER JOURNALISM (online)

David Evans, Bloomberg Markets Magazine, "Fallen Soldier's Family Denied Cash as Insurers Profit"
Michael Goldstein, Los Angeles Times, "Vegas Bets on Sexy Dancers"

H6. MULTI MEDIA PACKAGE

AirTalk and Digital Staffs, KPCC, "Evaluating Teacher Evaluations"
 Mark Boster, Kathy M.Y. Pyon, Calvin Hom, Don Kelsen and Sean Connelley, Los Angeles Times, "Four Seasons in Yosemite"
 Erin Broadley and Dennis Romero, LA Weekly, "Death, Money and Megaraves"
 Tom Gapen, Los Angeles Daily News, "Art in the Suburbs"
 Genaro Molina, Albert Lee, Bryan Chan and Marc Martin, Los Angeles Times, "Project 50"
 Callie Schweitzer, NeonTommy.com, "Social Media Campaign for National Coming Out Week has Roots in L.A."

D6. PHOTO ESSAY

Liz O. Baylen, Los Angeles Times, "A Debilitating Medical Mystery"
 Carolyn Cole, Los Angeles Times, "Disaster in the Gulf"
 Carolyn Cole, Los Angeles Times, "Haiti in Ruins"
 Barbara Davidson, Los Angeles Times, "Victims of Gang Violence"

Genaro Molina, Los Angeles Times, "Project 50"

B4. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES (print over 50K)

Monica Alonzo and Simone Wilson, LA Weekly, "Culture of Cruelty"
 Beth Barrett, LA Weekly, "The Dance of the Lemons"
 David Evans, Bloomberg News, "Duping the Families of Fallen Soldiers"
 Jason Felch, Doug Smith, Jason Song, Sandra Poindexter, Ken Schwencke, Los Angeles Times, "Grading the Teachers"
 Gene Maddaus, LA Weekly, "LA's Light Rail Fiasco"

C4. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES (print under 50K)

Jake Armstrong, Pasadena Weekly, "Blunting inequity"
 Richard Clough, Los Angeles Business Journal, "First Fed's Fault Lines"
 Michael Collins, Pasadena Weekly, "Monkeys"
 Ryan Vaillancourt, Los Angeles Downtown News, "The Curious Case of Brian Alexik"

F5. INVESTIGATIVE (radio)

Steven Cuevas, KPCC, "Chino Prison Series"
 Charles Feldman, KNX, "LAX: No Way Out"
 Jason Nathanson, KNX, "Up In Smoke"
 Julie Small, KPCC, "Prison Health Series"

E4. INVESTIGATIVE (TV)

Chris Blatchford, KTTV-Fox 11, "Hawthorne Corruption"
 Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Karen Foshay, Vince Gonzales, Lata Pandya, Alberto Arce, KCET, "Protected or Neglected"
 Bret Marcus, Justine Schmidt, Karen Foshay, Val Zavala, Alberto Arce, KCET, "The Price of Power"
 John Schwada, KTTV-Fox11, "Mayor Ticket Controversy"
 Frank Snapp, Colleen Williams, Yvonne Beltzer, KNBC, "TSA Investigation: Is it Safe to Fly?"
I1. ADVOCACY JOURNALISM
 Matthew Fleisher & Celeste Fremon, WitnessLA/Spot.U.S., "The LA Justice Report"
 Nick Gillespie, Paul Feine and Drew Carrey, Reason Magazine, "Reason saves Cleveland"

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Daniel Heimpel, FosteringMediaConnections.org, "Changing the Foster Care Narrative"

Imran Jattala, Ahmadiyya, "What's In A Name? A Dove's Cry"

Rebecca Novick, Christal Smith, Ken Lee, Peter Aronson and Lahkpa Kyizorn, Pacifica Radio; "Voting in Tibetan Exile Election"

A5. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Bill Boyarsky, Truthdig.com

Sachi Cunningham, LATimes.com

Chris Hedges, Truthdig.com

Daniel Heimpel, FosteringMediaConnections.org

Robert Scheer, Truthdig.com

PRESIDENT'S AWARD: Lesley Stahl

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

F9. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS (radio)

Airtalk With Larry Mantle, KPCC, "Airtalk: Live From Phoenix"

Airtalk with Larry Mantle, KPCC, "UCI Muslim-Jewish Tensions"

The Madeleine Brand Show, KPCC, "The Madeleine Brand Show"

The Patt Morrison Show, KPCC, "St. John's"

Warren Olney/Karen Radziner, KCRW, "Which Way LA?"

E7. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS (TV)

Jannelle So, KSCITV-LA 18, "Surviving human trafficking, sexual assault, death conviction"



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SoCal Connected, KCET, "The Price of Power/Track To The Future/My DWP Bill"

SoCal Connected, KCET, "Sacramento Dreamin/Climate Recall/ Between The Line"

SoCal Connected, KCET, "California Votes"

Alex Wilk, Matt Schrader and Trevor Thompson, ATVN, "ATVN Sports Extra"

F10. DOCUMENTARIES (radio)

Andrew Mollenbeck, Andy Ludlum, Bill Nesbitt, KNX, "Haiti: Hope in the Ruins"

John North, KCLU, "K-12 Education in Crisis"

Cason Smith and Nelson Aguilar, KSAK, "Big League/College Dreams"

E8. DOCUMENTARIES (TV)

Fox Sports West/Prime Ticket, "Golden Days, Purple Knights: 50 Years of Laker Glory"

Fox Sports West/Prime Ticket, "Life and Times of John Wooden"

Rebecca Neito, Robert Kovacic, Thomas Bravo, Scott Meadows, Lindsey Jackson et al, KNBC, "LA Heroes: Untold Stories of Haiti"

SoCal Connected, KCET, "Protected or Neglected"

Gry Winther, NRK, "Lion Women"

A3. TELEVISION JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Ana Garcia and Fred Mamoun, KNBC-TV

Antonio Valverde, KMEX Univision

HARD NEWS

B11. HEADLINE (print over 50K)

Laura Dominick, Los Angeles Times, "Shore Feels Good"

Steve Hensch, Los Angeles Times, "366 Voters Opened Bell's Wallet"

Donna Howell, Investor's Business Daily, "Hangar Homes May Not Fly"

James Laurin, San Diego Union-Tribune, "Big Right, Nothing Left for Mosley"

Linda Whitmore, Los Angeles Times, "Toto Recall"

C11. HEADLINE (print under 50K)

Tom Hicks, Los Angeles Business Journal, "Cool With It"

Jon Regardie, Los Angeles Downtown News, "Bloodbath and Beyond"

University Times Staff, Cal State L.A., "Othello Slays Desdemona"

J1. HARD NEWS (International)

Claudine Mulard, Le Monde (France), "Should the California Constitution Be Revised?"

B1. HARD NEWS (print over 50K)

Tracy Manzer and Sarah Peters, Long Beach Press Telegram, "Heroes foil bank heist"

C1. HARD NEWS (print under 50K)

Marlize von Romburgh, Stephen Nellis, Henry Dubroff, Tony Biasotti, Pacific Coast Business Times, "Pacific Capital's Ford Infusion"

H1. NEWS/INVESTIGATIVE (online)

Sachi Cunningham, Los Angeles Times, "They've struck oil, but they're not rich"

Paresh Dave and Monica Mguen, Neon Tommy, "Majority of Brown donations came from Oakland"

Julie Fax, The Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, "The Ugly Secret"

FINALISTS

Matthew Fleischer, Witness L.A., "Follow the gang money: Part 2 – The Interventionists"

Cynthia Wang, People Magazine, "'Deadliest Catch' Captain Phil Harris Dies"

H2. NEWS TWEET

Donna Howell, Investor's Business Daily, "Marina del Rey conference"
Imran Jattala, Ahmadiyya Times/ Ahmadiyyatimes.com, "Tweets from May 28-30, 2010"

Nita Lelyveld, Los Angeles Times, "Twitter Update During Dec. Deluge"
Alex Schaffert, Southern California Public Radio, "Election Night 2010 Tweets"

ATVN Staff, ATVN – USC, "President Obama Visits USC"

D1. NEWS PHOTO

Gene Blevins, Los Angeles Daily News, Photo of Bear
Carolyn Cole, Los Angeles Times, "Altercation"
Carolyn Cole, Los Angeles Times, "Pitching In"
Rick Loomis, Los Angeles Times, "Haiti's Pain"
Rick Loomis, Los Angeles Times, "Survivors"

F2. BREAKING NEWS (radio)

KCLU, "Simi Valley Lab Explosion"
KCRW, "Which Way LA?"
KNX, "So Cal Stormin'"



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Congratulations, Lesley!



Maria Kowroski Photo by Henry Leutwyler © 2010

E2. BREAKING NEWS (TV)

Mitch Waldow, KTTV, "Fatal Bus Crash"

F3. BREAKING NEWS OR FEATURE SHORT FORM (radio)

Steve Gregory, KFI, "The KOGI BBQ Experience"

Isla Earth Radio, "Shrinking Deer"

Cason Smith, KSAK, "USC vs. USC"

Brian Watt, KPCC, "Manhattan Beach Open"

Brian Watt, KPCC, "Tesla-Toyota"

H12. WEBSITE, EXCLUSIVE TO THE INTERNET

Celeste Fremon, WitnessLA.com

Daniel Heimpel, Fosteringmediaconnections.org

Imran Jattala, AhmadiyyaTimes.com

Zuade Kaufman, Truthdig.com

H13. WEBSITE, NEWS ORGANIZATION

Erin Broadley and Drex Heikes, LA Weekly, LAWeekly.com

Michael Fleeman, Marla Lehner and Dahvi Shira, People Magazine,
People.com

Nick Gillespie, Reason Magazine, Reason.com

Digital Media and News Staffs, Southern California Public Radio,
KPCC.org

OC Weekly staff, OC Weekly Magazine, OCWeekly.com

A1. PRINT (print over 50K)

Amy Alkon, Creators Syndicate

David Evans, Bloomberg Market Magazine

Mariel Garza, Los Angeles Daily News

Patrick Range McDonald, LA Weekly

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Best in show: \$1,000.

Goodnight and don't forget to pick up your certification and silent auction goods on your way out.

HOW THE AWARDS ARE JUDGED

The Los Angeles Press Club does not judge its own awards competition. Instead, our awards are decided by volunteer journalists representing press organizations from other cities across the country. In return, our press club judges other cities' competitions.

Each spring, press clubs ship many boxes of materials to one another, sharing a mutual commitment to honoring journalistic achievement. The reciprocal judging process ensures fair and impartial judging.

This year, organizations that judged us included the press clubs of Arizona, Cleveland, Denver, East Bay, Houston, Kansas, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Missouri, Ohio, Syracuse and Wisconsin.

Did you produce exceptional work in the field of entertainment reporting in 2010?

Please enter our National Entertainment Journalism Awards, where the top personality profiles, news, reviews and features are honored. Recent top awards have gone to Joe Morgenstern, film critic for the *Wall Street Journal* and Sam Rubin, entertainment reporter for KTLA-5, CNN, WGN in Chicago and KNX.

November 20, 2011

Our call for entries begins in August for this November event.

To underwrite or sponsor this special night please contact Diana@lapressclub.org.



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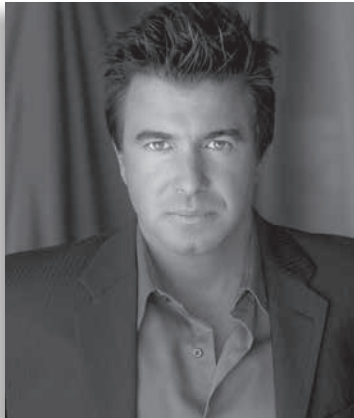
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The Port of Long Beach
salutes the L.A. Press Club's
efforts to support, promote
and defend quality journalism.



Jack Maxwell

EMCEE



Originally from South Boston, MA, Jack Maxwell's LA theater credits include *Salome*, starring Al Pacino and directed by Estelle Parsons; *Sin: A Cardinal Deposed*, starring Gary Cole, Bruce Davison, Dan Lauria, Wendie Malick and directed by Paul Mazursky; *Waiting for Whitey*, with Michael Rappaport, Paul Ben-Victor and Dayton Callie, directed by Gary Blumsack. Jack also plays Steve Allen in the ongoing staged series Steve Allen's *Meeting of Minds*, starring Ed Asner, Gary Cole, Keith Carradine, Robert Forster, Stana Katic, Dan Lauria, Wendie Malick, Joe Mantegna, Ron Perlman, Jean Smart and many others, directed by Frank Megna. Soon, he'll appear in the movie *Wilde Salome*, written, directed by and starring Al Pacino. Recent TV: *24*, *Lost*, *Without a Trace*, *House*, *Ugly Betty*, *The Unit*. Jack is a lifetime member of the Actors Studio.

He is currently traveling the country with Joe Bologna and Renee Taylor in the play *Lovers and Other Strangers*. He is playing three characters.

Alonzo Bodden

I was born and grew up in the suburbs, St. Albans in Queens, New York. It's not quite the hood but it played the hood on rap records. I studied aerospace at Aviation HS and became a licensed aircraft mechanic. That was my first career. I worked on everything from Stealth fighters to DC-10's to private jets. Lockheed, McDonnell Douglas, Continental Airlines to name a few, then they started drug testing—just kidding.

Teaching aircraft mechanics led to my career in comedy. I had to make the students laugh.

My first big break came at the Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal. I won season 3 of *Last Comic Standing*. I've hosted TV series including *101 Cars You Must Drive* on Speed Channel and *America's Worst Driver* on Travel Channel. I've done all the late night shows: *Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien show, *The Late Show* with Craig Kilbourne, Keenan Ivory Wayans show and Comedy Central, to name a few. I've worked around the world for the USO, I have played a security guard, bouncer, crook or cop on numerous shows and a couple of films including *Bringing Down the House* starring Steve Martin and *Scary Movie 4*. Of course my big credit is doing monster voices for *Power Rangers*. No, I wasn't in the suit, just the voice. By the way, I'm single, like jazz and of course long walks on the beach.

I'm not kidding about liking jazz. I've hosted the Capital Jazz Festival in Maryland and am a regular host and performer on the Smooth Jazz cruises hosted by Marcus Miller and Dave Koz.

I am kidding about the beach. I can't swim. I know, it's a stereotype but I guess sometimes they're true.

fifty-third **ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS**

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Design Director	Candice Ota
Contributors	Beth Barrett, Christina Benson, Ted Johnson, Will Lewis, Rocio Maya, Frank Megna, Jon Regardie, Whitney Shepard, Jill Stewart
Copy editing and proof reading	Bob Ladendorf Jon Regardie
Printing:	CE Graphics

53rd Annual Southern California Journalism Awards Gala

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Sound and camera	Myles West
Script	Frank Megna and Jill Stewart
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Judges	Press Clubs in Arizona, Cleveland, Denver, East Bay, Houston, Kansas, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Missouri, Ohio, Syracuse and Wisconsin

GALA PRODUCER



Diana Ljungaeus

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, to

story/script writer and finally to theater, film and multi-media producer. She co-wrote the independent feature, *The Seekers*. She produces the live stage version of Steve Allen's award-winning PBS show *Meeting of Minds* having worked with such acting luminaries as Ed Asner, Robert Forster, Wendie Malick, Jean Smart, Dan Lauria, Stana Katic, Joe Mantegna and Ernie Hudson. This is the eighth consecutive year she has produced or co-produced the Southern California Journalism Awards Gala.

Special thanks to:

Andrew Weiss Gallery, Kevin Tedesco of CBS, Meghan Pianta and Erica Masonhall of NBC News, Shirley Bermudez of *Los Angeles Times*, Bob Ladendorf, Amy Alkon, Gregg Sutter, Frank Megna, Louise Monaco, Martha Sarabia, Jon Regardie, and Beverly Lewis

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Congratulations Lesley Stahl



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