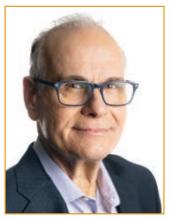


Paul Anka The Legend Award



Marlee Matlin
The Impact Award



Larry Mantle. The Luminary Award



Kasi Lemmons
The Distinguished
Storyteller Award



Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen The Visionary Award



# ARTS CARTS ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALISM AWARDS

LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB



# 107 NOMINATIONS

18<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALISM AWARDS

#### **DANIEL D'ADDARIO**

FINALIST FOR PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

#### ETHAN SHANFELD

FINALIST FOR ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

#### **CHRIS WILLMAN**

FINALIST FOR PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

#### AND

**ANGELIQUE JACKSON** 

JEM ASWAD
KATE AURTHUR
LEO BARRACLOUGH
JON BURLINGAME
CLAYTON DAVIS
PETER DEBRUGE
TRISH DEITCH
TIANA DENICOLA
JENNIFER DORN
MATT DONNELLY

**WILLIAM EARL** 

**TODD GILCHRIST** 

**OWEN GLEIBERMAN** 

JENNIFER HALPER

ALISON HERMAN

TED KELLER
ELSA KESLASSY
HALEY KLUGE
BRENT LANG
CYNTHIA LITTLETON
EMILY LONGERETTA
JENNIFER MAAS
GENE MADDAUS
MARC MALKIN
RICHARD MALTZ
ZOE MCCONNELL
J. KIM MURPHY
NAMAN RAMACHANDRAN
JENELLE RILEY

ALEX RITMAN
REBECCA RUBIN
MICHAEL SCHNEIDER
TATIANA SIEGEL
PEGGY SIROTA
TODD SPANGLER
NICHOLAS STANGO
BRIAN STEINBERG
GREG SWALES
JAZZ TANGCAY
ARAMIDE TINUBU
JOE TORENO
ADAM B. VARY
ABBEY WHITE
MICHAELA ZEE



#### 18TH ANNUAL

### National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards





Danny J. Bakewell, Jr.

### A Message From the Press Club President

Welcome to the Los Angeles Press Club's 18th annual National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards!

Tonight we celebrate your commitment to the art of quality journalism. This comes at a time when our profession and our industry are under extraordinary pressure. Still, you keep coming. You show up every day to perform the rarely applauded and oftencriticized work, and you keep the news and information flowing.

Tonight you are celebrated and applauded, and the L.A. Press Club vows to continue to support, train and fight to keep journalists safe and free to do their jobs boldly and without fear of retribution.

In addition to honoring the best work of the past year, tonight we recognize Larry Mantle with our Luminary Award, Marlee Matlin with our Impact Award, and Kasi Lemmons with our Distinguished Storyteller award. Additionally, singer Paul Anka is receiving our Legend Award, and power couple Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen will accept the Visionary Award.

I also must take this opportunity to thank our amazing Executive Director Diana Ljungaeus and the incredible staff at the Press Club. I also want to acknowledge the rest of the Press Club's Board of Directors, who are committed to the field of journalism while managing their own careers and family lives.

If you are not yet a member of the Press Club, we encourage you to join. And if you can do more to support serious journalism, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Information is at lapressclub.org.

Thank you, and have fun tonight celebrating amazing journalism!



Danny J. Bakewell, Jr. Los Angeles Press Club President

#### 18TH ANNUAL

### National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards



# Awards for Editorial Excellence in 2024-25, **Honorary Awards for 2025**



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

MARLEE MATLIN Introduction by Henry Winkler



**The Luminary Award** For Career Achievement LARRY MANTLE

Introduction by

Patt Morrison



The Distinguished **Storyteller Award** For Excellence in

Storytelling **Outside of Journalism** 

#### **KASI LEMMONS**

Introduction by Jurnee Smollett



**The Visionary Award** For Humanitarian Work **SETH ROGEN AND LAUREN MILLER ROGEN** 

Introduction by Evan Goldberg



The Legend Award For Lifetime Achievement and Contributions to Society

**PAUL ANKA** Introduction by

Richard Marx

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025 Crystal Ballroom, Millennium Biltmore Hotel **Downtown Los Angeles** 

#### THE ADVISORY BOARD

#### **MADELINE DI NONNO**

Geena Davis Institute on Gender in

#### **DAVID W. FLEMING**

Counsel

Latham & Watkins LLP

#### **BILL IMADA**

Chairman & Chief Collaboration Officer IW Group, Inc.

#### **SABRINA KAY**

Chancellor & CEO

Fremont College and Fremont Private Investments

#### **KAT KRAMER**

Actress, singer, producer

#### **SHERRY LANSING**

The Sherry Lansing Foundation

#### **JAVIER MENDOZA**

**Director Marketing & Community** 

Hotwire Communications western regions

#### **GEORGE E. MOSS**

Chairman

Moss Group

#### **CONSTANCE L. RICE**

Co-Director

**Advancement Project** 

#### **ANGELICA SALAS**

Director

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles

#### **CAROL E. SCHATZ**

President & CEO

**Downtown Center Business** Improvement District

#### **GARY L. TOEBBEN**

President & CEO

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

#### **MATT TOLEDO**

President & Publisher Los Angeles Business Journal

#### STUART WALDMAN

President

Valley Industry & Commerce Association

#### Los Angeles Press Club

A non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status—Tax ID 01-0761875

2535 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90026 Phone: (323) 669-8081 Fax: (310) 464-3577 E-mail: info@lapressclub.org • Website: www.lapressclub.org

# Do You Want To Support The Los Angeles Press Club's Programs?

Your donations go a long way to help journalists and journalism students. And remember—all donations are tax deductible. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. In addition to our grants and scholarships, we also run an emergency fund. In order to help journalists in need, we need donations.

> Don't have money to spare? You can still help by volunteering. Here are some things we need help with:

• Judging. We help judge about 15 journalism contests around the country and can use your help to get it done.

Volunteering at our events

• Help find items for our silent auctions



Please contact Diana@LApressclub.org

#### **LA PRESS CLUB OFFICERS**



PRESIDENT Danny J. Bakewell, Jr. Los Angeles



PRESIDENT Cher Calvin KTLA5



SECRETARY Adam J. Rose Freedom of the Press Foundation



TREASURER John Gittelsohn Bloomberg News



#### **BOARD MEMBERS**



Brittany Levine Beckman Los Angeles Times

Freelance







The Wall Street Journal



Catalina Villegas Spectrum News1

Pennacchio ABC7 Eyewitness News

Arturo Carmona

Latino Media

Collaborative/

Nic Cha Kim

PBS SoCal

Calo News



Lisa Richwine Reuters



Chriss Willman Variety

#### **HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS**

Robert Kovacik **President Emeritus** 

Alex Ben Block

Ted Johnson Will Lewis

Patt Morrison

#### LA PRESS CLUB Staff

Richard Martinez Webmaster/Graphic Designer

Lisa Niver Social Media Manager

Heather Robertson Bookkeeper





# Schedule of Events

For all finalists see pages 48-61

4:30 p.m. RED CARPET RECEPTION

COCKTAILS
SILENT AUCTION

6:00 p.m. DINNER AND PROGRAM

8:00 p.m. SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

#### **AWARDS PRESENTATION**

STUDENT SOCIAL MEDIA BLOGS OBITUARIES FEATURE

The David Robb Investigative \$5,000 Cash Prize
Native Americans In the Arts and Entertainment \$500 Cash Award

**FEATURE** 

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

Marlee Matlin, introduction by Henry Winkler

DIVERSITY
CELEBRITY NEWS
PERSONALITY PROFILES

#### **Comic Alonzo Bodden**

PERSONALITY PROFILES ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS DESIGN DOCUMENTARY NON-FICTION BOOK

THE LUMINARY AWARD for Career Achievement Larry Mantle, introduction by Patt Morrison

BUSINESS INVESTIGATIVE NEWS

#### **THE DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD** for

Excellence in Storytelling Outside of Journalism

Kasi Lemmons, introduction by Jurnee Smollett

COLUMNIST COMMENTARY CRITIC

**THE VISIONARY AWARD** for Humanitarian Work

Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen, introduction by Evan Goldberg

PODCASTS
WEBSITE AND PUBLICATIONS
JOURNALIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

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

Paul Anka, introduction by Richard Marx

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

# Bloomberg

Proud to support

# A Year Unlike Any Other

# From Fire Response to Advocacy, the Los Angeles Press Club in 2025 Was Constantly Active

he last year took the entirety of Los Angeles on a ride. That includes the Los Angeles Press Club.

A year ago, at the 17th annual National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards, we honored the best work of 2024, and celebrated Kathy Bates, Tiffany Haddish, Melissa Etheridge and Kevin Frazier.

Then came January, and the Eaton and Palisades wildfires, which devastated the

region. The blazes impacted everyone, including many journalists and colleagues working in the arts and entertainment field. The Press Club dug into our savings, and some of our members generously rose up to contribute funds. We were able to allocate thousands of dollars in emergency grants to journalists affected by the blazes.

The fires were heartbreaking and tragic, but even as they raged, local news organizations did what they do best—bravely informed the public. At the 67th annual Southern California Journalism Awards in June, we paid tribute to the local TV networks whose reporters, anchors and other staff worked nonstop to provide in-depth coverage. We were proud to honor CBS2/KCAL, ABC7, NBC4, FOX 11, KTLA, Telemundo, Univision and Spectrum.

That night, we also celebrated the best in journalism—the contest produced a record of more than 2,500 entries—and the Biltmore Hotel was brimming over with 550 guests. Our honorees included Clarissa Ward, who received the Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism, and who accepted via video from Israel, where she was on assignment. Addition-



Above: Lisa Richwine moderates a panel discussion by filmmakers of September 5, the 2025 Veritas Award winner: John Ira Palmer, Moritz Binder and Tim Fehlbaum.

Right: Kathy Bates was the 2024 Legend Award honoree; Luminary Awardee, Kevin Frazier with sons Reece and Shane.







ally, Kim Fields received the Bill Rosendahl Public Service Award for Contributions to Civic Life, and *Los Angeles Times* sportswriter Bill Plaschke accepted the Joseph M. Quinn Award for Lifetime Achievement.

There were many other highlights during 2025, including for the Press Club, as the parking lot outside of our offices was finally finished, making events in our own space so much easier. In February, we handed out the 10th annual Veritas Award, celebrating the team behind *September 5*.

The Club also continued its mission to help develop the next generation of serious journalists, working with our Foot in the Door Fellows. The program guided a new cohort of on-the-rise journalists from historically under-represented communities. Fellows received a stipend, one-on-one mentorship and other educational opportunities.

That is not the only kind of help we dispensed to working journalists. Once again, we handed out thousands of dollars in awards and grants through the Tony Ross Scholarship, the Charles M. Rappleye Investigative Journalism Award, the Reporting on Systemic Racism Grant, and the David Robb Civil Justice Award. Tonight we are adding to those with the





Tiffany Haddish, who was honored for humanitarian work with the Visionary Award, is with Laugh Factory founder Jamie Masada, whose Comedy Camp she attended as a teenager. He was honored with the Press Club's Bill Rosendahl Public Service Award in 2022.

Melissa Etheridge speaks after receiving the Distinguished Storyteller Award.

# Year in Review



Los Angeles Times sportswriter Bill Plaschke was the recipient of the Joseph M. Quinn Award for lifetime achievement.



Nic Cha Kim and David Ono bookend some of the developing journalists that they help mentor through the Foot in the Door Fellowship. The Press Club also offer other grants, scholarships and awards such as the new Native Americans in Arts and Entertainment Award.



Judea Pearl holds the flowers to be given Clarissa Ward who was unable to accept the Daniel Pearl Award in person as she was still on assignment in the

new Native Americans in the Arts and Entertainment Award.

The Press Club has been very active this year on the advocacy front, as we witnessed, and responded to, the unprecedented attacks on both citizens and journalists during the ICE raids. With law enforcement organizations often not honoring the protections

granted to journalists by the First Amendment, our Press Rights Committee, headed by Board member Adam Rose, has fought and won legal victories in the courts, and scored legislative triumphs. We continue to work to ensure that journalists are given access during ICE raids, homeless encampment sweeps, and more. This is a fight we won't stop waging.

It may not have been the biggest event of the year, but the Press Club was proud once again to participate in the highly competitive Trivia Bowl fundraiser, hosted by the Asian American Journalists Association. We're pleased to report that the Press Club team, bolstered by NGLJA members and a former AAJALA president, finished in the top three.



Blair Underwood introduced Kim Fields as the Bill Rosendahl Public Service Awardee at the Southern California Journalism Awards gala.



The Press Club team at the Asian American Journalists Association Trivia Bowl fundraiser where they finished in the top three.

# abe NEWS GROUP

# **CONGRATULATES OUR 2025 LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALISM AWARDS NOMINEES** AND ALL THOSE BEING HONORED THIS EVENING

#### **OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, MUSIC AND OTHER ARTS PERSONALITIES**

ABC World News Tonight with David Muir, "Remembering Brian Wilson"

ABC7, "Bobby Sherman's Journey" ABC7, "Mitzi Gaynor's Marvelous Life"

#### RADIO/PODCAST NEWS OR HARD NEWS FEATURE

ABC Audio, "Bad Rap: The Case Against Diddy"

#### **CELEBRITY INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, "Stealing Graceland"

#### **BUSINESS, TV/FILM**

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, "Tracy Anderson: Fitness, Fame and Hollywood"

#### **OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, TV/FILM PERSONALITIES**

**ABC News Studios.** "The Last Days of Gene Hackman"

ABC7, "Remembering Comedy Legend Bob Newhart"

#### NEWS

ABC News, "The Sean 'Diddy' Combs Verdict" ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, "Blake vs. Justin"

#### **DIVERSITY IN THE FILM INDUSTRY**

**ABC News Studios**, "Latinos in Hollywood: Owning Our Destiny"

#### **DIVERSITY IN THE TV/STREAMING INDUSTRY**

ABC7, "2024 Emmys mark historic year celebrating diversity in nominations"

#### **DIVERSITY IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY**

ABC News Nightline, "Chappell Roan"

ABC7, "The Young Female songwriting duo behind Moana 2" ABC7, "Lupita Infante's Musical Dream"

#### ANCHOR/HOST

ABC7, "George Pennachio - Entertainment Reporter"

#### PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY

ABC News Nightline, "One on One with Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson"

#### PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV/STREAMING INDUSTRY

ABC News, "Eric Dane Speaks: The Diane Sawyer Interview"

#### PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC INDUSTRY

ABC News Nightline, "Missy Elliott on Tour"

**ABC News Studios**, "Bruce Springsteen: Backstage and Backstreets"

#### HARD NEWS FEATURE (OVER 5 MINUTES)

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, "What Happened to Matthew Perry?"

#### HARD NEWS FEATURE (UNDER 5 MINUTES)

ABC7, "Richard Cabral - Healing From The Flames"

#### SOFT NEWS FEATURE TV/STREAMING (OVER 5 MINUTES)

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, "Inside the Kim Kardashian Heist"

#### SOFT NEWS FEATURE TV/FILM (UNDER 5 MINUTES)

ABC7, "Harlan Boll's Harrowing Loss"

#### SOFT NEWS FEATURE MUSIC/CULTURE/ARTS (UNDER 5 MINUTES)

ABC7, "Best in Drag Show: Fun and Frivolity for a Good Cause" KABC-TV, "Students on autism spectrum learn animation,

computer skills at Exceptional Minds academy'

#### **DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL PROGRAM, FEATURE**

ABC News Studios, "Will Reeve: Finding My Father"

#### **ENTERTAINMENT WEBSITE**

ABC7, "OnTheRedCarpet.com"

#### BEST JOURNALISTIC USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO TELL OR ENHANCE A STORY BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP **TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION**

ABC7, "Maia Kealoha dishes on landing the role of Lilo"

# NAEJ

# Marlee Matlin Turns BARRIERS Into Opportunities

THE OSCAR-WINNING ACTRESS, AND RELENTLESS ADVOCATE FOR THE DEAF COMMUNITY, RECEIVES THE LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB'S IMPACT AWARD

BY JACK JASON

Matlin received her star

Fame in 2009.

on the Hollywood Walk of

first met a spirited young actress named Marlee Matlin on the street outside her home in New York City. I remember that first meeting: me, a poor NYU doctoral student dressed in a cardigan and tie, and immediately sensing her energy. Marlee communicates with a remarkable combination of fire, precision and warmth that makes one feel like a part of her world even before she starts signing. Her ability to bring people in is something I recognized immediately, and something I've watched her use time and again to create change.

When we began working together, neither of us knew the journey ahead. I thought

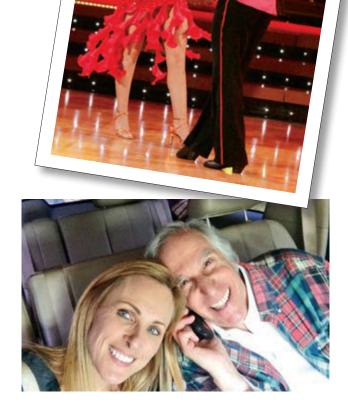
I was stepping into a job. What I didn't realize was that I was stepping into a partnership, and even more than that, a purpose. I've learned that interpreting for someone isn't just about translating words into another language. It's about conveying intention, emotion, nuance, humor and heart. It's about making sure the world hears someone exactly the way they mean to be heard. And Marlee—well, she has a lot to say.

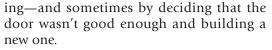
Tonight, for all that she has said and done, Marlee is receiving the Los Angeles Press Club's Impact Award for Influential Contributions to Culture and Society.

I have been fortunate to watch up close how relentlessly Marlee advocates—not for herself, but for her community. People see the headlines: "first Deaf actor to win an Academy Award," "groundbreaking performer," "trailblazer in entertainment." All of those are true, but what matters just as much, and often more, is what she does when no cameras are around.

I've watched her spend hours talking with young Deaf children and showing them that their stories matter. I've watched her stand her ground in meetings when someone said accessibility was "too complicated" or "too expensive," and I've seen her change minds simply by refusing to accept less than equal treatment. I've even seen her use her incredible position in Hollywood to refuse to do a film unless it was cast authentically, as she did with the Oscar-winning CODA. She has used every opportunity—whether on a film or TV set, in a studio talking with executives, on award stages, or even at the White House—to advocate for authentic representation, for captioning, for interpreters, for the idea that communication access isn't charity—it's a right.

Working with Marlee has also taught me what leadership looks like. It's not loud. It's not flashy. It's consistent. It's intentional. It's the choice to show up, day after day, even when it's exhausting, even when it would be easier to let someone else take the lead. She has opened doors in entertainment not by knocking politely, but sometimes by push-





I've seen the impact she has had within the Deaf community, but also far beyond it. Marlee's story resonates with anyone who has ever been told that their identity is a limitation. She proves—every day—that identity is not an obstacle, but rather a source of power. People who meet her walk away feeling bigger, braver and more willing to bet on themselves.

People often ask what I've learned from Marlee. The truth is, I've learned more from her than I could fit into a tribute page. But I'll share a few things.

First, I've learned that humor is a survival skill. Marlee has an incredible ability that she inherited from her father to disarm tension with a joke, to turn frustration into laughter, and to keep moving forward with absolute

"Bless your heart" when a network executive asks, with no hint of irony, "Is she going to be Deaf for the whole show?" When you're navigating an industry that often lacks imagination in addressing disability, humor becomes a powerful tool. I've seen Marlee use it to educate, to challenge and to unite people. She's used it thousands of times to keep long days on set from becoming unbearable.

Second, I've learned that accessibility is not a technical issue—it's a human one. Watching Marlee advocate for inclusion has reshaped the way I think about communication. Accessibility means that everyone gets to belong. It means that everyone gets a voice. Interpreting for Marlee has required me not only to refine my craft, but to rethink my place in the world—to be someone who builds bridges instead of barriers.

The third thing I've learned is that courage



competed in season six of "Dancing With the Stars" in 2008 with partner Fabian Sanchez; CODA stars Troy Kotsur, Marlee Matlin, and Daniel Durant on the cover of The Hollywood Reporter; After meeting when she was 12, Matlin and Henry Winkler developed a close friendship that has lasted for almost 50 years.

LA 10 PC



Matlin and husband Kevin Grandalski have been married since 1993 and have four children.



Whoopi Goldberg, Access Hollywood correspondent Maria Menounous and Marlee Matlin pose in their uniforms after playing in the 2008 All Star Legends & Celebrity Softball Game.



Above, from left: Matlin made her directorial debut on an episode of "Accused" in 2023.

She won an Academy Award for Best Actress in 1987 for *Children of a Lesser God*.

Matlin and Jack Jason appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in 2004.



isn't always manifested in big speeches or grand gestures. Sometimes it's showing up to a set where you're the only Deaf person. Sometimes it's refusing to let someone else speak for you. Sometimes it means advocating for change when the system tells you, "This is the way we've always done it." Marlee has shown me that every act of courage, no matter how small, changes the world just a little bit.

Finally, I've learned that representation matters more than any of us can measure. I cannot tell you how many people—young, old, hearing, Deaf—have come up to Marlee over the years and said, "You made me believe I could do this too." Yes, she has awards, accolades, and accomplishments that will be remembered. But what will be felt, what will continue to ripple through generations, is the way she has given people permission to dream without limitation.



I've been honored to stand beside her as she's taken barriers and turned them into opportunities, as she has taken on roles that expanded the possibilities for Deaf performers and spoken out on issues affecting millions, as she did with her successful effort to insure there is closed-captioning everywhere. Through all of this, she has never lost sight of her intention: to lift others as she climbs.

So when people ask me what it's like to interpret for Marlee Matlin, I tell them this: It's been the privilege of my life to help amplify a voice that never needed permission to be powerful. She has changed me. She has changed audiences. She has changed the entertainment industry. Let me rephrase that: She has impacted the way the world understands the Deaf community.

Marlee is proof that creativity, advocacy and determination can spark movements. She reminds us that language—whether spoken or signed—is not what defines us. What defines us is our willingness to use our voice for something bigger than ourselves.



# We celebrate LARRY MANTLE

and all of this year's
National Arts & Entertainment Journalism
Awards honorees.

sagaftra.org

000**%**6**% •** 

# CAA

congratulates our clients

# **KASI LEMMONS**

Distinguished Storyteller Award Honoree

# LAUREN MILLER ROGEN

Visionary Award Honoree

and salutes our client finalists



LA 12 PC

# Larry Mantle Is Known for Hosting a Talk Show But His Secret Is that He Listens

WITH 40 YEARS OF "AIRTALK" AND COUNTING, HE RECEIVES THE LA PRESS CLUB'S LUMINARY AWARD FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

BY JOHN GITTELSOHN

Larry had straigfht

grew into a young

hair as a young

boy; in 1970, he

man with curls.

The most enduring radio talk show host in Los Angeles was momentarily stumped when asked this question: How would Larry Mantle interview Larry Mantle?

"Something I would ask myself?" he said. "I have to think about that."

Mantle, 66, has built a career through relentless curiosity about others, not shining a light on himself. He has hosted "AirTalk" on public radio for 40 years. He invites as many as 10 guests a

show, four days a week, more than 45 weeks a year, which simple arithmetic over four decades brings to at least 70,000 interviews. That doesn't include "Film Week," the review program he pre-records to run on Fridays.

Guests have included presidents, Nobel laureates and Oscar winners. It's no exaggeration to call Mantle a Southern California institution, a man whose voice is recognized by millions, and who tonight is receiving the Los Angeles

Press Club's Luminary Award for Career Achievement. Previous winners include Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Janice Min and Hugh Hefner.

"It's a tremendous honor to be part of this year's National Arts and Entertainment Journalism Awards," Mantle said. "I appreciate all the LA Press Club does on behalf of local journalism, which makes this recognition all the more meaningful to me."

Mantle is a fourth-generation Angeleno, whose favorite topics are all things Los Angeles: freeways, politics, Hollywood, sports. He stayed at Dodger Stadium all 18 innings on Oct. 27 to witness the World Series game three victory over the Toronto Blue. He went on air the next morning with just three hours of sleep.

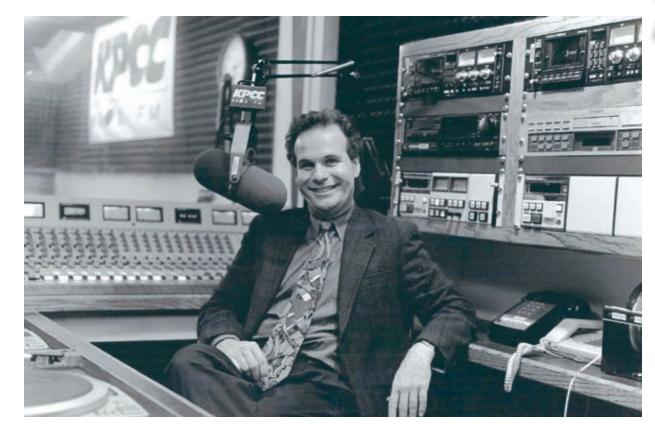
"L.A. is in his DNA," said Linda Othenin-Girard, an "AirTalk" producer for 20 years.

Mantle was the only child of teenaged parents who always talked to him like a peer. He said they interviewed rather than interrogated him, shaping his on-air style.

"In a sense, we grew up together. My mom was 16 and my dad was 17 when I was born," he said. "I was very verbal, to the point where my teachers would complain, particularly when I was very young, that I was always talking."

Mantle loved radio. While playing boyhood sports in Inglewood and then in Hollywood he'd narrate









the play-by-play action. In junior high, he began knocking on doors of the radio studios on Sunset Boulevard, asking people how to break into the industry. They told him it was a tough business with only a few people making good money and the rest struggling for a living.

"They made it sound like it was not a great career," he said.

Mantle wasn't discouraged, and in retrospect his career ascent seems remarkably easy. He graduated from Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, with a degree in psychology at age 20. He briefly attended divinity school at Fuller Seminary before deciding he lacked the calling for the ministry. "I was just an immediate misfit," he said. He was living in Pasadena when his wife urged him to follow his passion and try radio. He signed up as a volunteer at the closest station, KPCC, 89.3 FM, now known as LAist. When the news director's job opened up, he applied but was told, at age 23, to get more experience. He cold-called KPRO, an AM station in Riverside, and was hired to run news there. Less than six months later, KPCC invited Mantle back, because the news director had quit. He's been there ever since.

In 1985 Mantle launched "AirTalk" as an evening call-in show, mostly about L.A. area politics. He personally lined up guests. Off the air, he still logs long hours preparing for celebrities, politicians and other guests. He once ran a regular

Top: Mantle in the KPCC studio in 1992.

From left: He has interviewed celebrities from actor Don Cheadle to civil rights activist Rosa Parks, shown with her book in 1999.

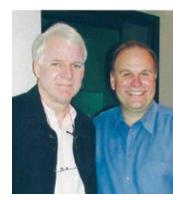
LA **14** PC

LA **15** PC





Clockwise from upper left: hosting a live event; on the air interviewing chef Julia Child; laughing with actors Tony Shalhoub and Peter Falk; getting a hug from Milton Berle; and meeting Steve Martin.







segment interviewing experts from Cal Tech, but dropped it because it required too much study time. With every guest, his goal is to get them to open up, to surprise and delight listeners.

"Your job is, of course, to try and get them to say something they never planned to say," he said. "Not a gotcha. That's not what we do. But something that sounds thoughtful."

Longtime Los Angeles journalist Patt Morrison knows firsthand Mantle's skill and light touch. She has been on his show many times.

"To be questioned by Larry Mantle is to be interviewed by someone who knows the material inside-out, and who has the helm of the discussion, but who also listens closely to the answers, and who lets himself be surprised," said Morrison, who for seven years had a mid-day KPPC show that aired right after Mantle's. She added that Mantle "lets the conversation go into unexpected places, unlike interviewers who work from a list of questions and never deviate from it, no matter what rewarding surprises pop up along the way."

Mantle loves hearing from listeners, opening his call-in lines to people who talk about their favorite taco stand, must-see places for out-of-town visitors or serious subjects. One memorable show was devoted to callers discussing their experience undergoing an abortion.

He loves L.A.— its sprawl, diversity, spirit of

welcoming immigrants and intermarriage. But he also worries it's becoming too expensive. Hollywood is losing jobs. The future as a creative capital is uncertain.

"I think this is still a place where people feel a certain degree of freedom," he said. "I think the high cost of housing, though, has made it really difficult."

Mantle is quick to say he's not a one-man show, paying tribute to the staff that keeps "AirTalk" humming.

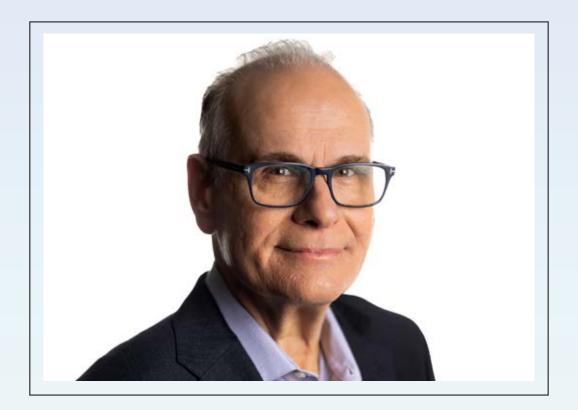
"I've had a dream job for all these years," he said. "I've gotten to work with some of the most interesting and intelligent and curious people I could imagine."

He's interviewed the world's biggest stars, including Martin Scorsese, Dianne Feinstein, Barack Obama and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. He admits there are people he hasn't sat with.

"I haven't interviewed Steven Spielberg," he said.

He would love to be hosting "AirTalk" in a decade for a 50th year, though it's impossible to predict what the future will bring, especially with public radio. But Mantle says that no matter what happens, he won't stop talking.

"I can't imagine whatever I do, not involving conversations that I want to share with people," he said. "I learn every day."



# CONGRATULATIONS, Larry Mantle

LAist congratulates Larry Mantle on being honored with the 2025 Luminary Award for Career Achievement from the Los Angeles Press Club.

We celebrate Larry's extraordinary 40-year legacy as host of AirTalk and FilmWeek on LAist 89.3 FM—programs that have shaped the conversation in L.A., inspired curiosity, and built trust across generations of listeners. We are grateful for Larry's enduring commitment to thoughtful local news and his unparalleled contributions to the Los Angeles public media landscape.

"Larry's curiosity, generosity, and grace have guided Angelenos through four decades of change, helping us make sense of the world and one another. He exemplifies what it means to serve Los Angeles with heart, integrity, and a deep respect for its people. We couldn't be prouder to celebrate him."

- Alejandra Santamaria, President and CEO of LAist



# Kasi Lemmons

DIVERSE WORK HIGHLIGHTING KNOWS NO Bounds AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURE AND HISTORY EARNS HER THE LA PRESS CLUB'S DISTINGUISHED

> STORYTELLER AWARD BY LISA RICHWINE

ot many artists can boast of acting in a Best Picture winner, crafting a cinematic masterpiece-in her directorial debut-and writing a Grammy-winning opera.

For Kasi Lemmons, those are just a few accomplishments in an acclaimed body of work that has highlighted African-American culture and history. Lemmons also has directed movies about Harriet Tubman and Whitney Houston, won an Independent Spirit Award, and taught and mentored a new generation of filmmakers.

The Los Angeles Press Club honors Lemmons tonight with the Distinguished Storyteller Award at the 18th Annual National Arts and Entertainment Journalism Awards. The accolade is provided each year to a person who has made significant contributions through film, music or other areas outside of iournalism.

For Lemmons, telling a good story begins with finding a character she wants to bring to audiences, usually one who is "kind of messy."

"I'm attracted to characters in that gray area we

are all in," Lemmons said, pointing to global superstar Houston as a prime example.

"She had an astronomically successful career, a God-given talent, and she struggled with things that were really relatable," said Lemmons, who directed Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance With Somebody, starring Naomi Ackie as the legendary singer. "She was also loved. I didn't want that to get lost."

The movie became the most-watched film on Netflix the weekend it was released in December 2022.

Lemmons started her entertainment career as a child actor. Growing up in Boston, she landed a TV role on a courtroom drama called "You Got a Right" and performed on stage with the Boston Children's Theater.

Other credits included parts on the TV shows "Murder, She Wrote," "The Cosby Show" and "ER."

She made her film debut in Spike Lee's "School Daze" in 1988 before landing roles in the 1991 Best Picture winner, The Silence of the Lambs, playing an FBI trainee and the roommate of Jodie Foster's char-

> acter, and in the 1992 supernatural horror flick Candyman.

Along the way, Lemmons had been dabbling with behind-the-scenes crafts. She worked on some film crews and wrote scenes for friends to perform in acting class.

Eventually, she wrote what would become the script for the multi-generational Southern gothic drama Eve's Bayou.

"It started out as a series of short stories about my family with some fictionalization, folklore kind of mixed in there," Lemmons said. She thought she might write a novel but then felt the tale taking shape as a screenplay. "I could really tell you in detail

what the story was, even before I wrote it down. It

was a story that was telling itself to me almost."

Lemmons began looking for a director for the film and received many strong responses. "The script was extremely evocative to people," she said. "They weren't used to seeing African Americans in that context. People were very, very intrigued and wanted to meet me."

Discussions about the film made Lemmons question if anyone understood what she wanted to portray on screen. She told a producer that she wanted to direct the movie herself.

To showcase her skills, Lemmons made the short film Dr. Hugo, starring her husband Vondie Curtis-Hall, as a proof-of-concept piece to secure financing for Eve's Bayou. Still, her lack of directing experience was a hurdle.

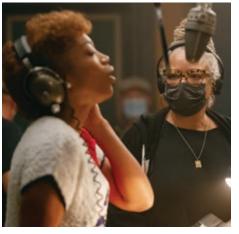
"We took hundreds of meetings and people turned it down," Lemmons said.

Enter Samuel L. Jackson, who agreed to star in and produce the film. Jackson had achieved success as a character actor in movies such as Pulp Fiction. Lemmons believed he could play a romantic leading man and cast him as Louis Batiste, a



Above: On the set of Harriet with actor Clark Peters, a film about abolitionist **Harriet Tubman** Left: Jurnee Smollett and Lynn Whitfield in Eve's Bayou.

Lemmons works with Naomi Ackie, who stars in Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance With Somebody.







A break during *Harriet*, Henry Hunter Hall, Clark Peters, and Kasi Lemmons.

Below: Lemmons made her directorial film debut in 1997 with the highly praised *Eve's Bayou*, shown in this scene with Diahann Carroll.

philandering, small-town doctor in the 1960s. Ten-year-old Jurnee Smollett played Batiste's daughter Eve, who witnesses her father's misdeeds.

Lemmons' directorial debut earned widespread acclaim. Critic Roger Ebert ranked *Eve's Bayou* as the best movie of 1997, calling it "a film of astonishing maturity and confidence."

"That Lemmons can make a film this good on the first try is like a rebuke to established filmmakers," Ebert wrote at the time.

The movie won the Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature, and the National Board of Review bestowed Lemmons with a special first-time director award.

*Eve's Bayou* is considered one of the essential works of the 1990s. In 2018, the Library of Congress added it to the National Film Registry, a list of important films selected for preservation.

For her next film, Lemmons teamed again wit Jackson. He played a schizophrenic man who tries to solve a murder on *The Caveman's Valentine*. The movie opened the 2001 Sundance Film Festival.

Later works included *Talk to Me,* starring Don Cheadle in the story of a real-life ex-con who became an influential radio and TV host and activist. The movie earned the 2008 NAACP Image Award for outstanding directing. Lemmons also adapted Langston Hughes' musical *Black Nativity* for the big screen in 2013.

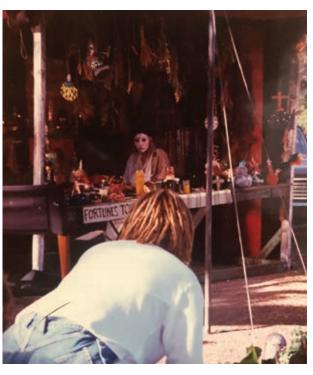
She tackled another historical figure in the 2019 drama *Harriet*, the story of abolitionist Harriet Tubman. The film received two Oscar nominations—one for lead actress Cynthia Erivo and another for original song.

Lemmons followed *Harriet* with the Whitney Houston film in 2022.

Los Angeles Press Club President Danny Bakewell Jr. described Lemmons' body of work as "a testament to the importance of examining the human soul and truly hold up a mirror to nature and to show us ourselves in history."

Lemmons also has worked extensively as a mentor and educator. Currently, she is a professor in the graduate film department at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Her advice to students? "Believing that your voice is essential."





"Our film industry is meant to look like us, right? It's meant to be a reflection of who we are right now and where we've been, who we've been," Lemmons said.

"We have a duty as culture bearers to reflect the times we live in," she added, "and remind each other of our humanity."

Reflecting on the LA Press Club honor, Lemmons noted the similarities between artists and journalists. Both use interesting characters to tell stories they hope will resonate with the public.

"Journalists are trying to expose things, and talk about the truth when people don't want the truth," Lemmons said. "The same with art. We're pushing back. And we do it because we must do it."



# How Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen Turn HEARTBREAK INTO ACTION

COUPLE RECEIVES THE LA PRESS CLUB'S VISIONARY AWARD FOR THEIR ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS NONPROFIT HILARITY FOR CHARITY

BY LA PRESS CLUB STAFF

or a sense of how Seth and Lauren Miller the Los Angeles Press Club's Visionary Award for gigantic bong the comedian lit on the Hollywood Bowl stage last year.

Drums and horns blared as Rogen touched a cloud of smoke that drew applause from the 15,000-plus audience. The event, featuring performances by Post Malone and Snoop Dogg, raised more than \$1 million for the Rogen's Hilarity for Charity nonprofit organization.

A recent star-studded "Friendsgiving" fundraiser in Los Angeles hosted by the couple featured comedic and musical performances, carnival games and an auction. The event, with sponsors including Apple TV+, Biogen, Leslie lean care efforts. Mann and Judd Apatow, and UTA, pulled in another \$1.3 million.

The pair have used those lighthearted, buzzy events to draw awareness and funding to a serious, often dark, and deeply personal cause.

Tonight, the Rogens are being honored with

→ Rogen use levity to draw attention to their Humanitarian Work. It was created in 2012 to Alzheimer's awareness charity, consider the honor individuals in the entertainment industry who use their status to enact social change. Lauren Miller Rogen was in her 20s when her

mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at age an oversized match to the structure, releasing 55. The actress and filmmaker had seen other family members grapple with the disease and had noticed early signs that something wasn't right with her mom.

> The couple, who had recently started dating, soon confronted the difficult realities of watching a loved one lose cognition while trying to source the increased help needed. "Taking Care," a short film they made, includes footage of Miller Rogen's mother's decline and her father's hercu-

"Millions of people are dealing with this?," the Pineapple Express and Knocked Up star recalled thinking at the time.

They were moved to act.

"We decided we should do it because no one else seemed like they were going to," Rogen has







said of the pair's efforts to draw greater awareness to Alzheimer's and brain health.

The couple started Hilarity for Charity in 2012 and began using variety shows to raise money. They have since turbocharged its reach. The organization offers grants that pay for inhome respite care for dementia patients as well as online support and resources for caregivers.

"We didn't see people our age talking about it, or resources that met us where we were," the Rogens said in a joint statement. "HFC started as a way to fill that gap—to bring connection, education and practical help to people navigating something that feels impossible, no matter their age or circumstance."

The charity funds brain research and backs youth advocacy and education programs aimed at teaching the next generation about brain health that can prevent or delay dementias. It aims to "create a future in which people have brain spans that equal life spans."

HFC has raised \$28 million since its founding and helped fund 530,000 hours of in-home care relief. Today, the organization offers grants that pay for 100 hours of in-home respite care, 24 days of adult daycare and professional care for dementia patients.

With inclusive language and an understanding that caretakers come in all forms, from family members to friends and romantic partners,



At Hilarity for Charity events, Rogen handles a brain and he and Miller Rogen are hosts.

the organization leads with compassion, levity and optimism.

"We hope this guide helps you move from 'WTF is happening?!' to an adventurous outlook on what a strange and wild trip this will be with your person," one online resource for caretak-

More than 11 million Americans provide care for people with Alzheimer's or dementia for no pay, with the real cost of that care over the lifetime of the average patient running into the hunTop: Snoop Dogg and Rogen perform at a Hilarity for Charity fundraiser. Opposite page: The Rogens during a meeting; Miller Rogen cares for her mother.

"...when we started doing this, it felt like no one was talking about it. Now, it feels different, like, it's out there. Families and health systems and even government systems are talking about it—and I'd like to think our efforts have played a role in shifting the narrative and encouraging action." — Seth





Top: Miller Rogen and her father, Scott, take her mother for a walk; Scott Miller shares a moment making contact with his wife, Adele.

Right: In 2014 Rogen prepares to address a Senate hearing on the impact of Alzheimer's disease.

"Efforts to cure Alzheimer's are so, so important, but those efforts are of little help to families experiencing the physical, emotional, and financial toll of caring for someone with Alzheimer's at this very moment. Our grants lift some of that weight for people who really need the support of a community like HFC."

dreds of thousands of dollars. And that's just the financial cost.

Miller Rogen has said the couple's experience helping her mom was aided significantly by their financial resources, but that she knows many families are not as fortunate. A significant portion of Alzheimer's caretakers die before the patient.

Rogen has talked about the intense emotional toll it took on his wife; the rage it inspired and the work she has done in therapy

through.

In heartfelt testimony to Congress in 2014, "The Studio" star shared how his mother-in-law had lost her ability to speak, feed and dress herself. He shared his father-in-law's efforts to care attached to the disease.

"I can't begin to imagine how people with more limited incomes are dealing with this," Rogen said at the time. He later went viral for blasting thin lawmaker attendance at the session, which he said showed how little attention elected officials were paying to an important tizing good sleep habits. That includes an Oura

HFC awarded 382 respite grants last year that amounted to 50,000 hours of care—a 45% increase from the prior year. HFC plans to further expand its respite grants to broaden its adult day and emergency care, offer personalized education and financial coaching and provide grief mated film, "Tangles," based on Sarah Leavitt's and post-traumatic support after a death.

The Rogens are also focused on young people and longer-term prevention of dementia.

tating, it doesn't have to be isolating, and that



to process what she and her family have gone taking care of your brain is something everyone can and should do," they said.

In the coming years, HFC plans to expand to all 50 states and launch a nationwide youth volunteer movement. Its youth advocacy and education work is focused on brain health and for her and talked about the shame and stigma prevention for high school and college students.

> Today, they say the organization has become "a community grounded in compassion, humor and hope."

Miller Rogen is vocal about the steps she takes to reduce her own risk, including fitness, nutrition—a Mediterranean-esque diet— and prioriring, cooling pad, weighted blanket, sleep mask and white noise.

Throughout busy careers in which the pair write, act, direct and produce, they have never lost sight of their mission. And there's more to come: They are producers of an upcoming animemoir Tangles: A Story About Alzheimer's, My Mother and Me.

"It's our way of turning heartbreak into action, "We've learned that while dementia is devas- and hopefully changing the story for future generations," the pair said of HFC.

Hilarity for Charity

A national non-profit organization founded by Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen, HFC cares for families impacted by Alzheimer's disease, inspires the next generation of Alzheimer's advocates, and is a leader in brain health research and education.

#### **Care for Caregivers**

HFC supports family caregivers with a continuum of care that offsets the challenges of caregiving and enables more physically, financially, and emotionally sustainable caregiving journeys.

#### **Respite Care Grants:**

The HFC Respite Care Grant Program relieves caregivers, giving them time to rest, recharge, and focus on their personal and professional life. HFC's In-Home Respite Grant provides 100 hours of respite care, while the Adult Day Center Respite Grant provides 24 days of respite care.

#### **Online Support Groups:**

HFC's Online Support Groups are free, frequent, and designed to help caregivers navigate any stage of Alzheimer's disease. HFC groups are led by credentialed and experienced facilitators.

#### **Caregiver Wellness Programs:**

HFC provides free, educational, interactive, and informative online events to support caregivers, especially around their own health and well-being. Through our national partnership with BetterHelp, HFC is able to offer three-months of free individual therapy to caregivers as well.

#### **Care Navigation:**

Through our partnership with Arosa, HFC provides individualized care navigation services to family caregivers to help them address and plan for challenges they are experiencing related to caregiving. A customized, detailed plan with vetted resources is provided to specifically address the caregiver's needs and how to cover the cost of care.

#### **HFC's Caregiver Road Trip:**

The ultimate guide for Alzheimer's and dementia family caregivers. The HFC Caregiver Road Trip is not your father's road map! It is fully digital, interactive, and designed to tackle a tough subject with HFC's signature irreverence and dedication to young people impacted by Alzheimer's and related dementias.

#### Care for Brains, Drive Awareness, & Inspire Change

HFC's Youth Movement is a revolutionary suite of brain health education and youth-driven programming, including a global chapter-based youth movement; original, evidence-based, celebrityled curricula; a peer to peer brain health training program; and an academic scholarship program for students impacted by dementia.

HFC's Youth Movement Against Alzheimer's (YMAA) empowers and activates high school and college students across the U.S. to change the trajectory of Alzheimer's disease through stigma reduction, brain health education, and collective action.

HFC's Humans of Dementia Storytelling Scholarship is open to high school and college scholars who have been impacted in some way by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The scholarship focuses on storytelling as a tool to drive awareness and inspire change about Alzheimer's disease.

#### **HFCUniverse:**

Celebrity-Led, Evidence-Based, Online Coursework: Living a brain-healthy lifestyle today can help reduce the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease and related dementias tomorrow. We created HFCU "the school" because it's never too early to start taking care of your brain. At HFCU, you'll find celebrity-led coursework, evidence-based content, and relevant resources, all on an engaging digital learning platform.

#### **Brain Health Peer Education Training:**

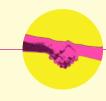
HFC's national brain health leader training program is the first-of-itskind. Developed with The Center for the Professional Education of Teachers at Columbia University, students train and educate others on the importance of brain-healthy habits to prevent dementia. Through school programs, extra-curricular activities, after school programs, and more, student leaders across the country are leading the brain health movement.



family caregivers, brain health education, & prevention research.



hours of in-home care relief awarded through our Caregiver Respite Grant Program.



people reached, on average, through our program grants, events, & social media each year







@WeAreHFC | info@wearehfc.org | wearehfc.org

# Paul Anka Keeps Doing It SONGWRITER WITH A SEVEN-DECADE CAREER HIS WAY

SEVEN-DECADE CAREER
EARNS THE LOS ANGELES
PRESS CLUB'S LEGEND AWARD

BY CHRIS WILLMAN

any of us could agree that Paul Anka is among the last of his breed, if not *the* last. But then the question remains: Which breed? Because one of the interesting parts of this 84-year-old legend's narrative arc—as recounted in the new HBO Original documentary *Paul Anka: His Way*—is how he was traversing two different eras and musical ways of being almost from the very start of his career.

Anka belonged to the original generation of teen idols, but he was also part of the age of grown-up Rat Pack belters. In the same way, it's never been completely clear whether, in the list of his successes, he should be known first as a songwriter whose greatest moneymakers came apart from his own performing career, or still thought of primarily as a hit singer in his own right.

Those dichotomies point to one sure thing:



Paul Anka has no intention of slowing down into retirement.

there is a lot to cover in Anka's seven-decade career in show business. Fortunately, the HBO documentary (which premiered Dec. 1) is long enough to hit all the salient points, while also compact enough to be a breeze to watch. It's also an excellent primer in why the Los Angeles Press Club is presenting Anka with its Legend Award tonight at the National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards.

The doc provides viewers with a good understanding of how, even though Anka wrote the song "My Way" for Frank Sinatra when he was just 24, most of the lyrics apply to him six decades later. Except maybe the line, "And now the end is near," which, rather than death, was meant to refer to the fact that Sinatra was announcing his retirement at that time (something he walked back sooner rather than later). Anka can't fathom the idea of calling it quits.

"I don't work 200 days a year anymore," he said in an interview in advance of getting the Press Club honor. "I do an average 70 shows, between tours and corporate gigs, so it's not as heavy as it used to be. But to not go out there when you've still got a strong fan base? If you stand still, they throw dirt on you! If you've got your health, you've got to stay active in today's world."

He continues, "To still go out and play to thousands of people, and they give me back such great energy... Who the hell would turn that down? You can't give something up like that. It's just not that kind of occupation."

Anka knows this from experience, and he recalls the pipsqueak tone he had when he first became a pop superstar circa 1957. Back then







he was Canadian kid who couldn't yet dream of being invited to join any league of loud-crooning New Jerseyans.

"I started as a writer," he says. "I won awards at school. My dad said, 'You gotta be a journalist,' and I worked at the *Ottawa Citizen* as a cub reporter. I could type 70 words a minute, but I got thrown out of shorthand class," he said, recalling a major crimp in his teen journalism career.

He started writing poems, and the gravitas of the work resonated. It also gave him professional assurance when he was still finding his literal sing-

he was Canadian kid who couldn't yet dream of ing voice. He said he honed writing "as a craft."

"I gave songs away that maybe I shouldn't have, but I did, and that's been a very important part of my life, up until even now," he says.

The dual career was evident right away: Anka's recording of "Diana," made when he was 15 in 1958, hit No. 1. The following year, he had a hit as a writer with "It Doesn't Matter Anymore." It was recorded by Buddy Holly, whom he'd befriended on a teen-idol caravan tour.

In the years and decades that followed, there were his own hits, such as "Lonely Boy,"

Anka maintains a fan base that started when he was a teenaged pop star to fans that attended his recent show in Chile,

LA **26** PC





With fans around the world, he autographs posters and at right, he entertains at a concert with signs welcoming him back to Japan.





Above, from left to right: Anka's newest album, *Inspirations* of Life and Love, will be released next year; Sometimes, Anka will sing and play acoustic quitar accompanied by another musician.

"Put Your Head on My Shoulder" and "Puppy Love," on up through a '70s resurgence that started with "(You're) Having My Baby."

Then there were the songs for other artists, not just "My Way," but "She's a Lady" for Tom Jones and even Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show" theme.

In a bizarre turn much later, three songs that the 1990s got unearthed and became hit singles in the late 2000s and 2010s. In 2020, a Doja Cat single, "Freak," heavily interpolated "Put Your Head on My Shoulder." This meant Anka could claim Billboard chart hits across eight different decades.

There are many sides to Anka, including his attention to health. The HBO doc includes vintage clips of his then-manager talking about the performer's devotion to working out as a teenager, like, 'I ate it up and spit it out.' You know, that's as well as moments in the kitchen now where he discusses his food regimen. When he was admit-

ted to the Rat Pack as a sort of junior member in the 1960s, he was an eager acolyte on just about everything but the smoking and drinking. He admired his contemporaries' great voices, but challenged himself to go beyond anything they did to protect theirs.

That is revealed in the climax of the film, when Anka secretly co-wrote with Michael Jackson in Anka and his family go to Times Square and he sings a rewritten version of "My Way" moments before the ball drops, like a Rat Packer whose voice has been transported to the present in full capacity and capability.

That anthem still resonates for its writer decades later, though Anka admits that a version penned in 2025 might have been a bit different.

"There's things in there I would never say now, Frank. I wouldn't write that for anybody else."

But the record shows: most of it fits just fine.

# PAULANKA

A TRUE LEGEND

CONGRATULATIONS, PAUL, ON RECEIVING THE LEGEND AWARD, IT IS A MOST WELL-DESERVED HONOR!



# The Veritas Award Finalists

RUNNING DOWN THE 10 COMPETITORS FOR THE PRESS CLUB PRIZE HONORING FILMS INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

he Los Angeles Press Club's Veritas Award honors movies based on or inspired by real people and events. The Club's 1,000 members choose the Veritas winner. Want to participate? Join the Club to vote (information is at lapressclub. org). Ballots go out in January.

Movies that have been honored start with true stories and turn them into great art. Fittingly, journalism played a starring role in several past winners. The first Veritas recipient, *Spotlight*, portrayed the *Boston Globe*'s investigation of child molesters in the Catholic Church. In 2018, *The Post* dramatized the *Washington Post*'s decision to publish the Pentagon Papers and blow the lid off of classified documents about the ill-fated U.S. buildup in the Vietnam War.

Bombshell, in 2020, depicted a women's revolt against sexual predators at Fox News, and in 2023 the award went to She Said, which brought to life the New York Times journalists who exposed Harvey Weinstein's history of predatory and sexual abuse of women in Hollywood. This year's winner, September 5, focused on the 1972 Munich Olympics, when an American sports broadcasting crew was thrust into covering the hostage crisis involving Israeli athletes.

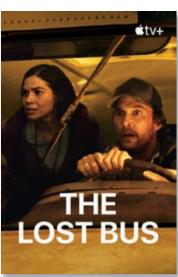
The 10 finalists for the 2026 Veritas Award, in alphabetical order, are:

Christy: The story of Christy Martin, the most successful female boxer of the '90s, her journey as a closeted gay woman, and the violent 2010 attack by her husband and trainer. Directed by David Michôd. Black Bear Pictures.

Dead Man's Wire: A crime thriller about Tony Kiritsis, who in 1997 entered the office of the president of Meridian Mortgage Company, and took him hostage with a sawed-off shotgun utilizing a "dead man's wire." Directed by Gus Van Sant. Row K Entertainment.









The Lost Bus: A survival drama inspired by a school bus driver and teacher who saved 22 children from the 2018 Camp Fire in Paradise, Calif. The film follows their escape from the fast-spreading wildfire that killed 85 people. Directed by Paul Greengrass. Apple TV+.

*Nouvelle Vague*: The film about a gangster couple acts as a tribute to the French New Wave, specifically the making of Jean-Luc Godard's 1960 *Breathless*, and the

rule-breaking attitude of young filmmakers who were on the cusp of changing global cinema. Directed by Richard Linklater. Netflix.

Nuremberg: A remake of Stanley Kramer's classic focuses on a WWII psychiatrist (Rami Malek) who evaluates Nazi leaders before the Nuremberg trials, and grows obsessed with understanding evil as he forms a disturbing bond with Nazi leader Hermann Göring. Directed by James Vanderbilt. Sony Pictures Classics.

Roofman: A crime drama about Jeffrey Manchester, a former Army Ranger who becomes a bank robber by cutting through the roofs of McDonald's restaurants. It follows his escape from prison and a months-long hidden life inside a Toys 'R Us store. Directed by Derek Cianfrance. Paramount Pictures.

Rosemead: The story of an ailing woman who discovers her teenage son's violent obsessions, and goes to great lengths to protect him, and possibly others, in this portrait of a Chinese-American family. Directed by Eric Lin. Vertical Entertainment.

The Smashing Machine: The story of MMA and Ultimate Fighting Championship fighter Mark Kerr (Dwayne Johnson), his struggles with addiction, and his tumultuous relationship with his partner, Dawn (Emily Blunt). Directed by Benny Safdie. A24.

Springsteen: Deliver Me from Nowhere: A docudrama about Bruce Springsteen as he created his 1982 album Nebraska, using a four-track cassette recorder in isolation. It addresses his turmoil as he grew disillusioned with fame, and a troubled relationship with his father. Directed by Scott Cooper. 20th Century Studios.

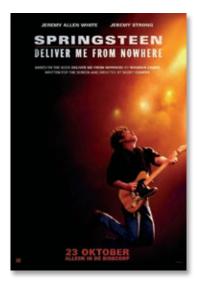
Warfare: The story of a 2006 Navy SEAL mission in Ramadi, Iraq, that went wrong and the chaos that unfolds in real time as the soldiers fight for survival during an ambush while trying to rescue a wounded comrade. Director by Alex Garland and Ray Mendoza. A24.

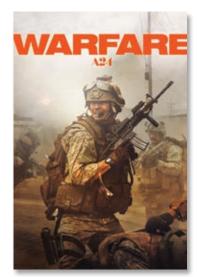












LA **30** PC

# NAEJ

# Finalists: JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

#### PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Daniel D'Addario,** *Variety*# of years as a journalist: 15
Alma Mater: Columbia University

Mia Galuppo, The Hollywood Reporter

# of years as a journalist: 10

Alma Mater: University of Southern California

**Brad A. Johnson,** *OLTRE* 

# of years as a journalist: 31 Alma Mater: Texas State University

Katie Kilkenny, The Hollywood Reporter

# of years as a journalist: 12 Alma Mater: Dartmouth College

**Chris Willman**, *Variety* # of years as a journalist: 43

Alma Mater: : USC, Cal State Long Beach



Daniel D'Addario



Mia Galuppo



Brad A. Johnson



Katie Kilkenny



**Chris Willman** 

#### ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR - INDEPENDENT

**A.D. Amorosi**, *Freelance*# of years as a journalist: 35
Alma Mater: Temple University (Temple Philadelphia/Temple London)

**Mesfin Fekadu,** Freelance # of years as a journalist: 17

Alma Mater: Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, NJ

**Holly Gleason**, *Freelance*# of years as a journalist: too many
Alma Mater: Spalding, Louisville and University of MiamiCoral Gables

**Lyndsey Parker,** Freelance # of years as a journalist: 20 Alma Mater: UCLA

**Leena Tailor,** *Freelance*# of years as a journalist: 23

Alma Mater: Auckland University of Technology



A.D. Amorosi



Mesfin Fekadu



Holly Gleason



Lyndsey Parke



Leena Tailo

#### ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR - TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

**Stephen Rodrick,** *Rolling Stone*# of years as a journalist: 33
Alma Mater: Loyola University of Chicago

**Ethan Shanfeld,** *Variety*# of years as a journalist: 5
Alma Mater: Northwestern University (Medill School of Journalism)

**Bonnie Stiernberg,** *InsideHook*# of years as a journalist: 15
Alma Mater: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**Drew Taylor,** *The Wrap*# of years as a journalist: 18
Alma Mater: Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts at
The New School

Tim Teeman, The Daily Beast

# of years as a journalist: 31 Alma Mater: University of Aberdeen, Scotland



Stephen Rodrick



Ethan Shanfeld



Bonnie Stiernberg



Drew Taylor



Tim Teeman

#### BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

**Giselle Fernandez,** Spectrum News 1 # of years as a journalist: 33 Alma Mater: Sacramento State University

**Nic Cha Kim**, *PBS SoCal* # of years as a journalist: 13 Alma Mater: UC Berkley

**Ruby Lovell**, *NTD TV*# of years as a journalist: 15+
Alma Mater: University of London and London School of Journalism

Rollo Ross, ReutersTV
# of years as a journalist: 29
Alma Mater: Newcastle University, UK

**Rae Williams,** *Spectrum News 1*# of years as a journalist: 10
Alma Mater: University of Miami and University of Maryland

Giselle Fernandez



Nic Cha Kim



Ruby Lovell



Rollo Ross



Rae Williams

LA **32** PC



#### PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

#### Osceola Refetoff, PBS SoCal

# of years as a photojournalist/videographer: 16 Alma Mater: New York University

#### Paul Sanchez, KTLA

# of years as a videographer: 22 Alma Mater: Utah Tech University

#### Andy Schlachtenhaufen, Spectrum News 1

# of years as a videographer: 6

Alma Mater: University of Wisconsin-Madison

#### Sandra Stojanovic, ReutersTV

# of years as a videographer: 35

Alma Mater: M.F.A. Cinematography-American Film

Institute, Los Angeles



Osceola Refetoff



Paul Sanchez



Andy Schlachtenhaufen



Sandra Stojanovic





and Weekly Newsletter At: LASENTINEL.NET

# Pushing Journalism Forward

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

You 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. There is no cost to enter.

journalist Charles Rappleye and aims to support next-level investigative research for ongoing projects. Rappleye was known for his work at *LA Weekly* and *LA 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 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 yearly.

The Rappleye grant is open to all journalists, with preference given to those working in and/or writing

about Southern California and the wider Southwest. The Reporting on Systemic Racism grant is given only to journalists in Southern California.

#### 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,

# 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 Club also introduces the Fellows to other working journalists who offer advice on covering beats and breaking into the industry. Each Fellow will receive \$3,000.

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. This year's mentors are Catalina Villegas of Spectrum News 1; Nic Cha Kim of KCET; Shana Nys Dambrot, formerly of *LA Weekly*; David Ono of ABC7; and Bianca Rae of CBS Los Angeles.

The Foot in the Door Fellowship Committee consists of Brittany Levine Beckman of the *Los Angeles Times*, Kim and Villegas. Applications for the next round of Fellows must be completed by Dec. 15. Information is on the 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 once 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

# Getting a Foot in the Door Has a Big Payoff

PRESS CLUB FELLOWS DETAIL THE BENEFITS OF A GROUNDBREAKING PROGRAM

Veteran journalists know how challenging the industry has become. It's even more difficult for those trying to launch a career. That's where the Los Angeles Press Club's Foot in the Door Fellowship comes in. The groundbreaking program pairs young journalists from communities historically excluded from the media with newsroom veterans who provide one-on-one mentoring for six months and provide other connections and guidance.

Here, three recent Fellows describe their Foot in the Door experience.

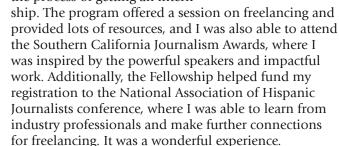
#### **Michael Blackshire**

The Fellowship came at a transitional period in my journalism career, and I received a wealth of great advice: At the Spectrum News studios, anchor Catalina Villegas spoke to the fellows about the state of the journalism indus-



#### Victoria Valenzuela

As I navigated post-grad life as a freelance journalist, the Fellowship provided mentoring from a top industry editor, who helped me work on my pitches, and the shaping landed me some jobs. My mentor also supported me as I navigated the process of getting an intern-



#### **Calista Pineda**

The Fellowship gave me the opportunity to create my first documentary. Having the chance to work with my mentor, Nic Cha Kim, was invaluable. His advice and guidance helped me navigate each step of the process with clarity and confidence. The Fellowship

also gave me insight into the journalism and media industry, and helped me better understand the paths I want to pursue, and showed me what it takes to bring my ideas to life. Overall, this experience has been eye-opening and a resource I will carry with me moving forward. The program has not only given me tools and connections, but reaffirmed my commitment to pursuing a career in media and telling meaningful stories.

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 served 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. The application deadline is May 1, 2026.

### The A-Mark Prize Increases Awards for Reporting on Misinformation and Disinformation to \$15,000

Work That Exposes or Counters Untruths Will Be Honored

The rise of digital media has unleashed a flood of inaccurate, misleading or outright fabricated information across all news platforms. In recent years we've seen the spread of lies about the 2020 and 2024 elections, falsehoods perpetrated during the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-change denials 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 untruths and the people and organizations that perpetuate them. The Santa Monica-based, nonpartisan A-Mark Foundation several years ago joined with the Los Angeles Press Club to award the A-Mark Prize for Reporting on Misinformation and Disinformation. The scope of work being honored was recently expanded: The total amount of available prizes is \$15,000.

LA 36 PC

# A-Mark Prize Award Increases to \$15,000

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 solutions to the problem, or individuals or groups active in either perpetrating or solving it.

This prize is open to entries with a California connection, meaning one or more of the following: The reporter is based in California; the media outlet is based in California; or the work is about California, but the reporter is not based here.

Recipients need not be a member of the L.A. Press Club. Applicants should be writers, photojournalists, videographers, TV journalists, radio journalists or podcasters. 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 deadline to apply is May 1, 2026. Full information is at lapressclub.org.



# New Press Club Prize Honors Native American Arts and Entertainment Reporting

o support and bolster the visibility of Native Americans in mainstream media, the Los Angeles Press Club has established a new National A&E Journalism award. Dubbed the Native Americans in the Arts and Enter-



**Angela Aleiss** 

tainment Award, and funded by author, scholar and professor Angela Aleiss, it will be given to a story that highlights the unique issues affecting Native Americans in the arts and entertainment industry. It includes a \$500 prize.

The representation of Native American journalists in mainstream media is sorely lacking. While tribal-owned media outlets provide important voices and perspectives, accurate reporting about Indigenous people and communities is often missing. When the media does include Native people, they frequently are portrayed as frozen in the remote past, or as people plagued with addiction, poverty and lack of a formal education. This overlooks the fact that Native Americans make up approximately 2.9% of the United States population and are richly diverse with 574 tribes.

The Press Club prize will honor the story that best highlights the unique issues affecting Native people in the arts and entertainment industry. The award is open to any journalist at any media outlet across the country.

A FRESS PRESS
IS THE
PILLAR OF
DEMOCRACY

PRESENTED BY





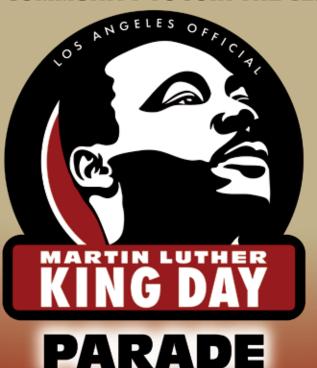


LOS ANGELES OFFICIAL MARTIN LUTHER



LOS ANGELES' OFFICIAL MLK PARADE MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026

BAKEWELL MEDIA AND LOS ANGELES SENTINEL, PROUD PRODUCERS OF THE 2026 MLK DAY PARADE INVITE OUR COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

REGISTRATION SPONSORSHIPS & VOLUNTEERS

DISCOVER MORE AT MLKPARADELA.COM



SCAN FOR INFO

# Press Club Civil Justice Award Honors the Late Dave Robb

PRIZE NAMED FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY JOURNALIST KNOWN WHO ADVOCATED FOR THE DISENFRANCHISED AND OPPRESSED

BY ALEX BEN BLOCK



ver four decades, David Lee Robb—known to all as Dave—was the Dean of Hollywood labor reporters and an unyielding advocate for the under-represented disenfranchised and oppressed.

"David always stood up for the underdog, and he always told the truth," said his cousin Kathy Crystal-Lopez, who grew up with him in Torrance, Calif. "He always had a strong sense of iustice."

Robb passed away last December at age 74, after a decade at Deadline Hollywood. He previously worked at a series of Hollywood trades including *The Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety*. He also wrote for the *New York Times*, Associated Press and other outlets. He authored books including *The Gumshoe and the Shrink* (about Nixon and Kennedy), *Operation Hollywood*, *Sztetl*, and *The Stuntwoman*.

In his memory, the Los Angeles Press Club has created the David Robb Civil Justice Award, to be given annually to a journalist who carries on his legacy of civil justice reporting and initiates positive change in the entertainment industry. The recipient will receive an honorarium of \$5,000, donated by his friend and colleague, Anita Busch.

"He was an indefatigable investigative journalist and an important and consistent voice for those who truly needed representation," said Busch. "His beats were unions and legal, but his stories encompassed a wide variety of subjects, including long hours for child actors, set safety issues, disability rights, the rights of below-the-line workers and unpaid interns, ageism, the lack of women and minorities in entertainment jobs, and even pedophiles who were discovered working with child actors."

During his career, Robb was nominated for three Pulitzer Prizes. Among the honors he received were an NAACP Image Award and the First Americans in the Arts' Humanitarian Award for highlighting the concerns of Native artists and performers.

Robb made headlines himself a decade ago when he quit *The Hollywood Reporter* after the publisher refused to print his articles about the publication's own longtime Hollywood columnist who was being investigated by the Screen Actors Guild for fraud. Anita Busch then quit as the *THR* editor in protest.

"He was always on the side of the little guy, the oppressed and the underserved. He was the protector of the weak," said one of Robb's friends from the weekly poker game he attended for over 40 years. "He was a living, principled hero."



# CONGRATULATES ALL OF TONIGHT'S FINALISTS & WINNERS

SPECTRUM NEWS 1 PROUDLY SUPPORTS
THE 2025 NATIONAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
JOURNALISM AWARDS

# Journalists and Entertainers Increasingly United by Shared Threats

In 2025 there is widespread recognition that freedom of speech, and the rights of journalists to report the news, are under threat like at no time in recent memory in the United States. At this moment of crisis, the Los Angeles Press Club has been stepping up.

The evidence of a crackdown, including against those working in the arts and entertainment field, is unrelenting. In September, the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission took aim at Jimmy Kimmel in the wake of comments the popular host made following the murder of Charlie Kirk—Kimmel's show was temporarily taken off the air until a public outcry forced ABC to bring him back. When Kimmel took the stage after being reinstated, he delivered a blistering monologue to speak out for journalists and in defense of free speech.

That is, unfortunately, just one example of the current threat. The latenight show of Stephen Colbert—who, like Kimmel, has drawn the wrath of President Trump—will end next May. Trump has suggested dozens of times that TV networks that air stories critical of his administration should lose their broadcast license. Networks hit by his lawsuits have too often folded rather



Scott Kow

than fight (sometimes due to the whims of a parent company seeking merger approval). And just last month, Trump dismissed the appalling murder of *Washington Post* columnist Jamal Kashoggi, appearing with Saudi Prince Mohammed bin Salman and saying, "things happen."

Trump is not the only hurdle some Los Angeles journalists face when trying to do their job. In June, the Press Club filed suit against the Los Angeles Police Department in the wake of officers firing "less-lethal" projectiles at reporters covering the protests against the ICE raids. This was in violation of the LAPD's own policies, as well as a state law that protects journalists.

The club also filed suits against The Los Angeles Sherriff's

Department and the Department of Homeland Security (including ICE and Border Patrol).

The Press Club's Press Rights Committee, chaired by Adam Rose, acts vigorously to defend journalists and ensure that they can report freely and operate in the public interest. This includes combatting efforts by Los Angeles city official to limit who can be a journalist.

There is a long, difficult history in Los Angeles of reporters being brutalized, sometimes trag-





Randy Holr

syndicators have been seeking regulatory approvals from an FCC mostly appointed by Trump.

President Trump has lashed out in public

against talk show hosts Stephen Colbert and Jimmy Kimmel, whose employers and

ically. In 1970, *L.A. Times* journalist Ruben Salazar was covering a Vietnam War protest when he took a break and

stepped inside a bar. A deputy from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department shot a tear gas canister inside and killed him.

More recently, dozens of reporters covering the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests and the Echo Park Lake homeless rights protests the following year were injured, detained and arrested. This past summer, during the ICE raids, the Press Club tracked more than 100 incidents of law enforcement misconduct.

This has propelled the Press Club's ongoing legal action, with the sole aim being that basic right guaranteed by the First Amendment: freedom of the press.

"The LA Press Club lawsuits don't seek even a penny in

damages. All we've asked for is a court order to make police follow the law and their own existing policies," said Rose.

We've already won preliminary injunctions against LAPD and DHS. All three cases are still making their way through the courts, so look to your favorite news source for more updates.

Given what's happening in the country, the attempts to restrict journalists are likely to continue. But the LA Press Club won't stop fighting.



Since June, journalists have been doing their job by documenting protest and the police responses to them.



# THE VISIONARIES WHO KEEP OUR STORIES ALIVE

California Black Media proudly salutes tonight's honorees whose work strengthens journalism, uplifts communities and protects the truth.

INTRODUCING

# THE HOPKINS COMMUNITY INDEPENDENT MEDIA INSTITUTE

A statewide hub committed to advancing ethnic, community and independently owned media through innovation, training, technology and sustainable revenue models.

Honoring excellence.

Preparing for the future.

**CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA** 



# **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, act as the sole guidelines. Our distinguished judges decide which submissions qualify as third-place, second-place and first-place winners.



Ben Alper is a comedy writer who has been a contributor to "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Late Show with David Letterman." He has also written for

other comedians, politicians, radio personalities and roasts. He is the author of two books.



Zahid Arab is a senior public affairs manager for Uber Technologies, where he manages public policy communications. He previously spent over a

decade as a television news anchor and a reporter in major U.S. markets



Michael Bennett served as publisher and editor of a Cleveland weekly newspaper and as features editor of *The Plain Dealer* in Cleveland, in addition to

other newspaper positions. He recently retired after a second career as an executive in nonprofit organizations.



Karen Carlin is a copy editor, page designer and a Newspaper Guild of Pittsburgh member who has been on strike from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* since 2022.

She also coordinates the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania's annual Golden Quill Awards journalism competition.



Marco della Cava spent the past 37 years as a national and foreign correspondent for *USA Today*, writing on everything from wars to Hollywood to Silicon

Valley. He now is seeing if a novel lives in him.



Kerry Clawson is an award-winning arts journalist who has worked at the *Akron Beacon Journal* in Ohio for nearly 34 years. She enjoys getting inside

the minds of artists to learn about their creative processes.



Monica Collins spent more than 25 years as a TV critic for USA Today, the Boston Herald and TV Guide. She later became a columnist for the Boston Globe Maga-

zine, and started her syndicated lifestyle column "Ask Dog Lady," about dogs, life and love.



Alex Coolidge has been a business reporter with the Cincinnati Enquirer for 20 years, and has covered beats including aviation, banking, consumer products,

development, the economy, gambling, manufacturing, retail, start-ups and technology. He currently covers local corporate giants.



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.



Claudia Cowan has served as FOX News Channel's San Francisco-based senior correspondent for more than 20 years. She has reported extensively on

the crime wave surging throughout California, including the rise in drug use, homelessness and robberies.



Lacey Daley is a writer and producer in Boise, Idaho. 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.



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



Natalie Duleba has been in journalism for 10 years, living and working as a designer and copy editor in Alaska, Louisiana and Pennsylvania. She's a

full-throated romance lover, union

gremlin, tchotchke collector, pop culture nerd and pierogi enthusiast living in Pittsburgh.



Helen Fallon is a professor emeritus and former director of Point Park University's Honors Program, and also worked as a Pittsburgh Post-

Gazette copy editor. She serves on the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania board, and the Pennsylvania News-Media Association Foundation board.



Debra Fraser is general manager of KMUW, the NPR station 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..



Joan Fuchsman lives in Washington, D.C., and has had a long career in marketing communications with large and small associations and other business entities.

She currently participates in several comedy writing groups, including one that worked on a project for the U.N.



Dustin Gardiner is a veteran California politics reporter and co-author of Politico's *California Playbook*. He has covered state and national politics from

California, Arizona and Washington, D.C. for 16 years. He previously covered state politics for the *San Francisco Chronicle*.



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.



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, and serves as president of that foundation.



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



Leah Kohlenberg is an artist and art teacher with decades of journalism experience at *Time Magazine*, *ABCNews.com* and more. She runs

The Roaming Studio in Portland and specializes in teaching art to journalists.



Ian Kramar is the executive producer of streaming at WWL Louisiana. With more than 25 years of newsroom experience, he's been with WWL

for 17 years as a producer on newscasts and special projects, earning a long list of awards.



Jennifer Kundrach is an award-winning graphic designer and illustrator residing in Northeast Ohio. Her 20-year career has involved layout and

design for a variety of print and digital formats, primarily focusing on the newspaper industry.



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*.

LA **44** PC

# NAEJa

# Judges



Melissa Lalum is the senior manager of content production at LinkedIn. 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.



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, Texas, since 2015. Previously he was a newspaper reporter for Hearst, Cox and Donrey papers.



Sandy Maxx has been hosting the Emmy Award-winning TV show "The Arts Page" on Milwaukee PBS for the past 10 seasons and is an on-air host at

NewsRadio 620 WTMJ/Milwaukee. Her experience includes live event reporting on national PBS and ESPN2.



LeAnne Marie McPherson is an award-winning journalist for the 2 News digital team. She previously worked at *Dayton 24/7 Now* and Sinclair's magazine, *The* 

*Clarion*. In her spare time, she stays busy writing novels, hiking and going to conventions.



Scottie Lee Meyers is an Emmy Award-winning multimedia producer and journalist for Milwaukee PBS. He was previously at Wisconsin Public

Radio, where he produced "The Kathleen Dunn Show" and filed stories for the statewide network. He serves on the Milwaukee Press Club's Board of Governors.



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 eight states. He is on the board of Station Resource Group.



J.D. Morris is a San Francisco Chronicle reporter covering Mayor Daniel Lurie. He previously covered energy and California wildfires before joining

the paper's San Francisco politics team. He has also worked at newspapers in Las Vegas and Santa Rosa.



Douglas Mouton is a 30-year television veteran and sports director at WWL-TV. He's a two-time Louisiana Sportscaster of the Year, and is the presi-

dent of the Press Club of New Orleans.



Zulekha Nathoo is an award-winning reporter and producer with USA Today in Atlanta who focuses on features, investigations and human interest stories.

She spent 10 years as an entertainment reporter for TV, radio and digital platforms in L.A. and Toronto.



Jeremy C. Owens is editor-in-chief of the San Francisco Business Times, overseeing its coverage of the Bay Area. Owens has edited copy, managed news-

rooms and covered breaking news in the San Francisco Bay Area for more than 20 years.



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. He hosts "Morning Edition," one of the highest-rated broadcasts in Idaho.



Jim Proeller has extensive experience in field production and management roles at CNN, The Weather Channel and other national and interna-

tional networks. He is working in Washington, D.C. as a senior newsroom leader at CGTN America. He created and manages the LinkedIn group "Media Mentors."



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. Riecke is vice president of the Syracuse Press Club.



Dan Rosenheim is projects editor for the Bay City News regional wire and for Local-NewsMatters.org. He spent 22 years as a local television news director

for KRON-TV and KPIX-TV in San Francisco, as well as another 18 years in print.



Starshine Roshell is an award-winning journalist who's written for dozens of publications from *The Hollywood Reporter* to the *New York Post*. She has multiple

awards from the California Newspaper Publishers Association, and was named Santa Barbara's Best Columnist for a dozen years running.



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



Don Sharp, an innovator and respected newsroom leader for more than 50 years, held key news management roles at two network-owned tele-

vision stations in San Francisco. His

career began in San Diego in 1967 where he was one of the first African Americans employed by KOHO-TV.



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.



Jean Tait has a wealth of experience in screening, evaluating and curating films as past Executive Director and Director of Programming for the

Jacksonville Film Festival, and Director of Programming for the Connecticut Film Festival. She is a member of the Board for Theatre Jacksonville.



Ethan Toven-Lindsey is editor in chief at KQED, where he leads the editorial vision and strategy. Before joining KQED, he spent years at WBUR and NPR

working on the midday news magazine "Here & Now," where he served as senior managing editor.



Melinda Ulloa is a copy editor for CGTNA-merica. She has decades of experience as a news producer/writer/editor and video news editor for both digital and

traditional broadcasts. Ulloa has worked for the Associated Press, Thomson Reuters, CBS News, Telemundo and Univision.



Barbara Vancheri is the former movie editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the fifth and final newspaper of her career. During her 32 years at the paper, she

covered five Oscar ceremonies, attended 11 Toronto International Film Festivals, and interviewed many notables.



Kym France Wilson is a two-time Emmy Award-winning producer with nearly 30 years of experience in television and media. She's currently supervis-

ing producer at CGTN America. She has produced news, features, reality television, community-based programming, talk shows and more.



Chris Woodyard is a reporter for Newswell, a nonprofit based at Arizona State University aimed at transforming local news. He was Los Angeles bureau chief

for USA Today. He also was a staff reporter for the Houston Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Herald Examiner, Associated Press and Las Vegas Sun.



Kristi York Wooten is a digital editor and journalist based in Atlanta. She works as a director of digital news at Georgia Public Broadcasting. Her work

appears in *The New York Times, The Economist, The Atlantic, Newsweek, Rolling Stone* and others.

LA **46** PC

# NAEJ

# **FINALISTS**

# M1. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT NEWS STORY, STUDENT

- Kimberly Aguirre, AnnenbergMedia, "Mexican food as resistance: Celebrating cultural heritage through cooking"
- Tare Ebimami, AnnenbergMedia, "Kaufman dancers grapple with racism and a canceled gala performance"
- Kaia Mann, *The Valley Star*, "Nearly \$1 billion of construction inches toward finish line"
- Warren Riley, *Daily Bruin*, "Theatre Palisades continues legacy of community, creativity after LA County fires"
- Maddie Sims, *Lamar University*, "Finding Joy in Creation"

# M2A. BEST ARTS OR CULTURE FEATURE, STUDENT

- Lauren Benson, Long Beach Current,
  "Southeast Asian refugee experiences told
  through art in 'Pink Donut Boxes"
- Athena Cheris, The Los Angeles Loyolan, "Spilling the tea: A guide to LMU's tea options"
- Sidra Ganni, *University Press*, "Exploring the Unseen"
- Makayla Idelburg, *Dímelo at AnnenbergMedia*, "La comunidad LGBTQ+ en Día de los Muertos"
- Social Media Storytelling Team Spring 2024, Cal State LA's University Times Community News, "Los Angeles' Latinx Landmarks"

# M2B. BEST ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE, STUDENT

- Nicholas Corral, *AnnenbergMedia*, "USC alum put his career on hold to chase 'Survivor' dream"
- Kaitlyn Han, el Don, "The Nobödy's are bringing back Santa Ana's music culture one intersection at a time"
- Katherine Contreras Hernandez, Valeria Macias, Sara Alvarez, *Dímelo at AnnenbergMedia*, "Homies, Healing and Harmony: The unofficial story of Homeboy Industries takes center stage"
- Juan Mendoza, Los Angeles Collegian, "Un Tango Triste for Oscar"
- David Sosa, Yvonne Abedi, *Dímelo at*AnnenbergMedia, "Celebrate Black History
  Month with these Afro Latine artists"

# M3. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT PROFILE, STUDENT

Arianna Chavarria, el Don, "Heritage BBQ's Brenda Castillo is the backbone of its expanding empire"

- Dante Estrada, Long Beach Current, "Meet Kennedy Ghaill, trans filmmaker, programmer and curator"
- Kami Greene, *University Press*, "Fruit City to Big Apple"
- Emma Russell, Grace McNeill, *The Los*Angeles Loyolan, "Lyrics of letting go in Los
  Angeles Remy Smith's ('22) pursuit of
  authenticity in music"
- Liam Wady, AnnenbergMedia, "Dancing for them: the making of the dance short film 'Baraye"

# M4. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO, STUDENT

- Marissa Ding, AnnenbergMedia, "Suki Waterhouse: A mesmerizing night at The Roxy Theater"
- Selin Filiz, *Daily Bruin*, "Ballad of Water' dance" Kat Hampton, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "Hunchback Rings Bells"
- Katie McClave, The Los Angeles Loyolan, "ASLMU's Springchella: An eventful evening of talent"
- Jeremy Ruiz, *The Crown*, "Paint Steel and Subversion"

# M5. BEST COMMENTARY/CRITIQUE, STUDENT

- Delfino Camacho, Long Beach Current, "Crude meets clever as comedy musical Urinetown makes a splash"
- Arianna Chavarria, *el Don*, "I'm glad club culture died"
- Jackie Mutkoski, AnnenbergMedia, "USC's School of Dramatic Arts debuts their production of Sophie Treadwell's 'Machinal'"
- \*Martin Sevcik, *Daily Bruin*, "Technical Difficulties: The Onion buys InfoWars but is insufficient in bringing extremist media to tears"
- Maddie Sims, *University Press*, "Review: 'Constellations' is out of this world"

# L1. BEST JOURNALISTIC USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO TELL OR ENHANCE A STORY BY AN INDIVIDUAL NOT TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

- Michael Blackshire, *Twitter*, "Asap Rocky Trial Coverage"
- Phoebe Eaton, Substack: Here Be Dragons, "GOP Woodstock: Inside the Madding Crowd at Donald Trump's MSG Rally"
- Emilie Hagen, Substack, Instagram, TikTok, "Paid Protestors: Everything is a Psyop"

- Scott Hays, OC World, "Danny Kwock's Surfing Inspiration"
- Scott Hays, OC World, "Early IMAX Camera"

# L2. BEST JOURNALISTIC USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO TELL OR ENHANCE A STORY BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

- Rachel Cohn, Jack Newsham, *Business Insider*,
  "Artists use Covid taxpayer grants for
  private jets and shopping sprees"
- Ryan Fish, Anaja Smith, Lucie Soares, Jason Rovou, THR Staff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The White Lotus"
- Brad A. Johnson, *OLTRE*, "How to eat fried worms: Four Seasons Tamarindo"
- Nic Cha Kim, Lauren Donia, Cristina Galvan, Angela Boisvert, Jaime Morgan Munoz, PBS SoCal, "Superchief Gallery Response to Wildfires"
- On the Red Carpet Staff, ABC7, "Maia Kealoha dishes on landing the role of Lilo"

# K35. ENTERTAINMENT BLOG BY AN INDIVIDUAL NOT TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

- Alex Ben Block, *BlockandTackle.biz*, "Will Israel's Oct. 7 Hero Ever Be Seen In America?"
- Alyson Camus, *US Rocker*, "Morrissey Rings In 'Happy New You' at The Hollywood Palladium"
- Rick Ellis, *AllYourScreens.com*, "AllYourScreens.com"
- Holly Gleason, *HollyGleason615*, "Moments of Forever: Kris Kristofferson's Love for ALL Defined His Life"
- Lyndsey Parker, *Lyndsanity.com*, "Lyndsanity"

# K36. ENTERTAINMENT BLOG BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

- Aaron Couch, Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Heat Vision"
- Janet R. Nepales, *GMA-7*, "Elias J: From rubber tree tapping to performing on the global stage"
- Ruben V. Nepales, *Rappler*, "Only IN Hollywood"
- Jackie Strause, Rick Porter, James Hibberd, Etan Vlessing, Tony Maglio, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Live Feed"
- Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*, "WaxWord"

# F1. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, FILM PERSONALITIES, PRINT/ONLINE

Christian Blauvelt, *IndieWire*, "David Lynch Dead at 78: The World's Most Influential

- Filmmaker Redefined Cinema and Became an Adjective"
- Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Lynda Obst, Veteran Film Producer, Writer and Champion of Women in Hollywood, Dies at 74"
- Holly Gleason, hollygleason.com, "MOMENT OF FOREVER: Kris Kristofferson's Love for ALL Defined His Life"
- Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, "Remembering Val Kilmer, a Powerful Actor Who Remained a Reluctant Movie Star"
- Fred Schruers, *IndieWire*, "Robert Towne Dead at 89"

# F2. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, TV PERSONALITIES, PRINT/ONLINE

- Kate Aurthur, *Variety*, "Remembering Shannen Doherty: A Gen X Icon Who Fought Like Hell to Live"
- Sarah Bahr, *The New York Times*, "George Lowe, 67, Secret Weapon Who Voiced 'Space Ghost' on Cartoon Network"
- Dan Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Critic's Appreciation: Bob Newhart Was an Everyman With a Comic Voice Like No Other"
- Melanie McFarland, Salon, "How do we define Lynchian? Look to some of the most audacious TV you'll know it when you see it"
- Alan Sepinwall, *Rolling Stone*, "Twin Peaks' Was the Most Bizarre Show on TV and David Lynch's Biggest Success"

# F3. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, MUSIC PERSONALITIES, PRINT/ONLINE

- A.D. Amorosi, *FLOOD Magazine*, "The Warmth of the Sun, The Burden of Genius: Remembering Brian Wilson"
- Ramy El-Etreby, Zócalo Public Square, "The Egyptian Diva Who Connected Me to My Ancestors"
- Holly Gleason, *PASTE*, "If You Have Crying Eyes: JD Souther Will Be Here At Closing Time" Rob Sheffield, *Rolling Stone*, "So Long, Marianne Faithfull: The Woman Who
- Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Brian Wilson, In Appreciation: His 20 Greatest Songs"

#### F4. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, THEATER AND OTHER ARTS PERSONALITIES, PRINT/ONLINE

Refused to Go Quietly"

Katya Kazakina, Artnet News, "The Last of the Great Art Patrons: What Happens After Leonard Lauder?"

- Charles McNulty, Los Angeles Times,
  "Appreciation: Playwright Athol Fugard
  proved the pen could be mightier than the
  sword"
- Gwen Muranaka, *Zócalo Public Square*, "The Mexican American Photographer Who Captured Little Tokyo"
- Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "Farewell Gavin Creel, a Masterful, Charming—and Very Honest—Broadway Star"
- Victoria Thomas, Local News Pasadena, "Lourinda Bray: The Long Ride Home"

# H5. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, TV/FILM PERSONALITIES, BROADCAST

- ABC News Studios, ABC News, "ABC News Studios: The Last Days of Gene Hackman" Larry Mantle, LAist 89.3, "LA Press Club: David Lynch, visionary filmmaker behind 'Twin
- Peaks' and 'Mulholland Drive,' dies at 78" George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, *ABC7*, "Remembering Comedy Legend Bob
- Newhart"

  Mo Rocca, Jay Kernis, Emanuele Secci, Rand
  Morrison, CBS Sunday Morning, "CBS Sunday
  Morning: Gene Hackman Remembrance"
- Mo Rocca, Kay M. Lim, Joseph Frandino, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "CBS Sunday Morning: Here's Desi…"

# H6. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION, MUSIC AND OTHER ARTS PERSONALITIES, BROADCAST

- ABC World News Tonight with David Muir, ABC News, "Remembering Brian Wilson" John Lee, Lauren Barnello, Young Kim, Rand Morrison, CBS Sunday Morning, "Appreciation: Corky Lee"
- George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, ABC7, "Bobby Sherman's Journey"
- George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, ABC7, "Mitzi Gaynor's Marvelous Life"
- Mo Rocca, Kay M. Lim, Lauren Barnello, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "CBS Sunday Morning: Curtain Going Up...Bobby Darin"

#### C3. HUMOR WRITING, ANY MEDIA

- Mia Galuppo, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Are You Ready for a Netflix Theme Park? We Are!"
- James Hibberd, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "That's It, The F-Word is Officially Boring" Phil Hopkins, *Local News Pasadena*, "Honey, There's a Russian Propagandist from Las Vegas at the Door"

- Miles Klee, Rolling Stone, "Tom Cruise Wants You to Know That It's Just Not a Movie Without Popcorn"
- Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "On Election Night, 'Kornacki Cam' Drives Steve Kornacki Fans Wild"

# G21. FILM/TV INDUSTRY FEATURE (UNDER 1,000 WORDS), PRINT

- Ryan Gajewski, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood Flashback: When Clint Eastwood Saved the Day"
- Lina Lecaro, Los Angeles Magazine, "Robert Eggers Sinks his Cinematic Teeth Deep Into 'Nosferatu'"
- Naman Ramachandran, *Variety*, "Inside the Painstaking Restoration of John Woo's 'Hard Boiled' Set for Cannes Classics Spotlight (EXCLUSIVE)"
- David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Jaws': The Prototype Summer Blockbuster Turns 50, Losing None of Its Bite"
- Rebecca Rubin, Naman Ramachandran, Variety, "How China's 'Ne Zha 2' Beat 'Inside Out 2' to Become the Highest-Grossing Animated Film in History"

# G17. FILM INDUSTRY FEATURE (OVER 1,000 WORDS), PRINT

- Sarah Bahr, *The New York Times*, "Oscars Rewind: How 'American Beauty' Lost Its Luster"
- Patrick Brzeski, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "What Happens to Hollywood When the U.S. Is No Longer the Good Guy?"
- Mia Galuppo, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Big Squeeze: Why Everyone in Hollywood Feels Stuck"
- Rebecca Rubin, Variety, "How Hollywood Finds Its Stars: Behind the Scenes With Casting Directors, the Most Important and Least Understood Job in Movies"
- Joshua Rothkopf, Los Angeles Times, "Meet the proud parents of 'M3GAN,' Adrien Morot and Kathy Tse, who welcome us to their design shop"

# G18. TV INDUSTRY FEATURE (OVER 1,000 WORDS), PRINT

- Pamela Chelin, Los Angeles Times, "Come on down to the 10,000th episode of 'The Price Is Right"
- Rene Chun, Emmy Magazine, 'How the "Oner' Became a Television Art Form"
- Meg James, Los Angeles Times, "A small New York town played host to Hollywood. Then something terrible happened"

LA 48 PC



- Alan Sepinwall, *Rolling Stone*, "What Is ... the Greatest Game Show of All Time?"
- Adam B. Vary, Variety, "HBO Says 'Harry Potter' Series Will 'Benefit' From J.K. Rowling's Involvement: She 'Has the Right to Express Her Personal Views"

#### **K20. FILM FEATURE, ACTORS, ONLINE**

- Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Fernanda Torres Has Already Won"
- Ethan Alter, *Gold Derby*, "What balls!" Apollo 13' star Kathleen Quinlan on firing off notes to Ron Howard, secret dinner with Tom Hanks, and why her Oscar-nominated role was more than just 'the wife"
- Lauren Huff, Entertainment Weekly, "Now entering the arena: Paul Mescal and Pedro Pascal unsheathe 'Gladiator II'"
- Ruben V. Nepales, *Rappler*, "At 62, Demi Moore finally feels 'liberated' from her own self"
- Hanh Nguyen, Salon, "What second chances mean': Ke Huy Quan's career love story as a sidekick no more"

# K21. FILM FEATURE, FILMMAKERS, ONLINE

- Matthew Frank, *The Ankler*, "Al Wars Hit Film School: Profs Teach It, Students Rage. 'What About Our Jobs?'"
- Jeff Goldsmith, Danny Munso, *Backstory Magazine*, "Oscar Lessons: The Writer-Director Anora"
- Jason Guerrasio, *Business Insider*, ""Hitch' at 20: How Will Smith's first rom-com went from near-disaster to instant classic"
- Jazz Tangcay, *Variety*, "How Ludwig Göransson Fueled the Electrifying 'Sinners' Soundtrack With the 1932 Dobro Cyclops: 'I Want the Kids to Go Home and Want to Play Guitar"
- Drew Taylor, *TheWrap*, "'Midnight Rider' Director Randall Miller Breaks His Silence on the Deadly Set Accident That Sent Him to Prison (Exclusive)"

#### K22A. FILM FEATURE, PRODUCTION/ HISTORY—ABOVE-THE-LINE CREATIVES, ONLINE

- Leo Barraclough, *Variety*, "Mr. Nobody Against Putin' Director on Lifting the Lid on Kremlin Pro-War Propaganda in Sundance Documentary"
- Leila Jordan Berger, IndieWire, "Netflix Canceled the Release of a Gore Vidal Biopic Eight Years Ago — for the Filmmakers, the Story Isn't Over"
- Todd Gilchrist, Variety, "Pulp Fiction' Turns 30: How Quentin Tarantino's Masterpiece Saved Careers, Conquered Film Festivals and Changed Cinema Forever"

- Andy Greene, Rolling Stone, "The Tensions Were So Crazy': An Oral History of 'What About Bob?"
- Beth Harpaz, *The Forward*, "Did 'The Scarlet Pimpernel' inspire Raoul Wallenberg's Holocaust heroism?"

#### K22B. FILM FEATURE, PRODUCTION/ HISTORY—BELOW-THE-LINE CREATIVES, ONLINE

- Lily Ford, The Hollywood Reporter, "How 'The Substance' Makeup Team Turned Demi Moore and Margaret Qualley Into "Monstro Elisasue" (Exclusive Photos)"
- Katie Grant, Cinemontage Magazine, "Cutting Through the Noise: How Toj Mora and Other Deaf Editors are Giving Hollywood a New Lens"
- Naman Ramachandran, *Variety*, "Inside the Painstaking Restoration of John Woo's 'Hard Boiled' Set for Cannes Classics Spotlight (EXCLUSIVE)"
- Jazz Tangcay, Variety, "How 'Sinners'
  Cinematographer Pulled Off That Surreal
  Juke Joint Music Sequence and Made
  History By Shooting on 65mm Imax Film"
- Michaela Zee, *Variety*, "How Alexandre Desplat Crafted the Score for Wes Anderson's 'The Phoenician Scheme' — With a Nod to Stravinsky"

# K23A. TV/STREAMING FEATURE, CREATIVES, ONLINE

- Kate Aurthur, Michael Schneider, Variety, "Variety TV Editors Recount What It Was Like Shooting a Cameo for the 'Hacks' Premiere: 'I Went Into a Fugue State'"
- Lauren Huff, Entertainment Weekly, "Raising the stakes: Natasha Lyonne bets on 'Poker Face' season 2 with her Rolodex of famous friends"
- Katie Kilkenny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Saving the Sword: An L.A. Fire Victim's Quixotic Quest"
- Ruben Nepales, *Rappler*, "Nude scenes 'incredibly liberating,' says 'Hacks' star Hannah Einbinder"
- Ethan Shanfeld, *Variety*, "Nathan Fielder Created a Fake Singing Competition for 'The Rehearsal.' One Contestant Lost \$10,000 and Feels Betrayed: 'I Signed Up to Be a Singer, Not a Lab Rat""

# K23B. TV/STREAMING FEATURE, SHOWS, ONLINE

- Daniel D'Addario, Kate Aurthur, William Earl, Selome Hailu, Variety Staff, Variety, "The 100 Greatest TV Performances of the 21st Century"
- Lily Ford, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Rage of 'Adolescence': Inside the Single-Shot

- Sensation Blowing Up the Manosphere" Elaine Low, *The Ankler*, "Love-Love: How Tennis Took Over Hollywood (and Dealmaking)"
- Melanie McFarland, Salon, ""Severance' and the important, mysterious job of speaking the language of work"
- Leena Tailor, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Inside 'Bluey's World': How a Cute Aussie Puppy Became an Estimated \$2B Juggernaut"

#### **K24. THEATER FEATURE, ONLINE**

- David Buchanan, *Gold Derby*, "Every beat is meticulously crafted': An oral history of the Pulitzer Prize- and Tony-winning play 'Purpose"
- John Lavitt, *The Hollywood Times*, "Doña Perón and the Detailed Deconstruction of Historical Trauma by Ballet Hispánico"
- Chris Rovzar, *Bloomberg Pursuits*, "Greg Nobile Is Big on Broadway. Now He Wants to Go Small"
- Rebecca Rubin, Variety, "Cole Escola Can't Process the Meteoric Success of Broadway's 'Oh, Mary!"
- Chris Willman, Variety, "'Randy Newman's Faust,' the Songwriter's Brilliant but Rarely Produced Stage Musical, Rises Again for a Weekend in L.A. at the Soraya"

#### **E5. FEATURE PHOTO**

- Ash Barhamand, Alison Edmond, Naomy Pedroza, Peter B. Cury, Paola Kudacki, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Harris Dickinson"
- Michael Blackshire, Los Angeles Times, "Erykah Badu, Playboi Carti, MF Doom tribute, Sexyy Red and more bring the heat to Camp Flog Gnaw on Day 2"
- Alyson Camus, *US Rocker*, "Pulp with Dynamic Frontman Jarvis Cocker Make Long-Awaited Return to Delight Fans"
- Osceola Refetoff, *PBS SoCal*, "No Pasar Piedras Rojas, Salar del Carmen, Atacama Desert, Chile – 2024"
- Gino Terrell, Scream Sheets 26, "First stop on World Tour: Minneapolis for Kendrick Lamar & his GNX"

#### N. THE DAVID ROBB INVESTIGATIVE \$5,000 CASH PRIZE — ANY PLATFORM

- Olivia Carville, Cecilia D'Anastasio, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "Roblox's Pedophile Problem"
- Phoebe Eaton, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Anonymous No More: Inside the Complicated Life of Harvey Weinstein's Key Accuser"
- Umberto Gonzalez, Sharon Knolle, *TheWrap*, "It's All One Giant Charade': Steroids and Hollywood's Drive for Super(hero)-Perfection"

- Kory Grow, Jon Blistein, Tomás Mier, Rolling Stone, "'Brilliant, Lost, Damaged': Inside the Tragedy of Liam Payne"
- Stacy Perman, Los Angeles Times, "It was just a free-for-all': What happened to Kanye West's Donda Academy?"

# O. NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT, \$500 CASH AWARD — ANY PLATFORM

- Sarah Clothier, American Film Institute, "The Daughter of Dawn"
- Nic Cha Kim, Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, Ben Boyd, *PBS SoCal*, "PST ART: Fusing Art & Science: Future Imaginaries: Indigenous Art, Fashion, Technology"
- Martha Ross, *Bay Area News Group*, "Dugan Aguilar, California's famed Native American photographer, found the beauty in his people"
- Rebecca Sun, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Write for Your Communities, Don't Write for the White Man': Inside the Sundance Native Lab"
- Zachary Woolfe, *New York Times*, "Lakota Music Project Merges Two Traditions for One Common Cause"

# K25A. MUSIC FEATURE, INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS, ONLINE

- Jon Burlingame, *Variety*, "New Seth MacFarlane Album Boasts Never-Before-Heard Sinatra Arrangements"
- Jonathan Landrum Jr., The Associated Press, "Jon Batiste's reimagined Super Bowl anthem highlighted wife's painting and set stage for new music"
- Lyndsey Parker, *Gold Derby*, "Sean Ono Lennon on his 'Mind Games' Grammy nomination and stewarding his family's legacy: 'I'm trying to do good by my own father"
- Rip Rense, *Best Classic Bands*, "Country Joe McDonald is more than Woodstock---About 40 albums more"
- Chris Willman, *Variety*, "How Taylor Swift's Eras Tour Took Over the Entire World"

#### K25B. MUSIC FEATURE, GROUP/ INDUSTRY ARTISTS, ONLINE

- Julius Miller, Los Angeles Times, "Coachella may be 'notorious,' but Kneecap just needs '12 Irish' to get the crowd going"
- Lyndsey Parker, *Gold Derby*, "40 years later, Simple Minds still don't regret turning down 'Breakfast Club' song publishing: 'Just look what we got out of it'"
- Leena Tailor, *Spin*, "Blink-182: All the Big Ways 'All the Small Things' Still Resonates 25 Years Later"

- Victoria Thomas, Local News Pasadena, "Gypsybilly Rockin'The Barkley"
- Chris Willman, Variety, "Shania Twain and Brandi Carlile on Teaming Up for an All-Female-Headliner Festival, and Why Women Supporting Women Is Always 'Right on Time"

#### K26. VISUAL ARTS/DESIGN/ ARCHITECTURE FEATURE, ONLINE

- Evan Jacoby, LAist, "The race to save historic Altadena fireplace tiles because they're all that's left"
- Leslie Katz, Forbes, "The Novel Way AI Is Helping Immigrants Keep Their Heritage Alive"
- Katya Kazakina, *Artnet News*, "How a Young Woman Built Her Dream Art School Into an \$1.85 Billion Empire"
- Matthew Ponsford, Bloomberg CityLab, "A Vast Wetland Park Seeks to Slake a Thirsty Megacity"
- James Tarmy, Bloomberg Pursuits, "How John Singer Sargent Became the Gilded Age's Most Famous Portrait Painter"

# K27. LITERATURE/FOOD/CULTURE FEATURE, ONLINE

- Pamela Chelin, Los Angeles Times, "The hidden vintage Japanese car club that's redefining car culture in L.A."
- Whitney Friedlander, Salon, "The cautionary tale of the real-life Snow White who lived among us in Hollywood"
- Simi Horwitz, *BistroAwards.com*, "Crowdfunding: The Do's, The Don'ts, The Virtues, The Liabilities"
- Jennifer Mercieca, *Zócalo Public Square*, "What Happens When You Trade Doomscrolling for Hopescrolling"
- Natalia Molina, *Zócalo Public Square,* "Making Guisados of Our Grief"

#### K4. SOFT NEWS, FILM, ONLINE

- Alexei Barrionuevo, *TheWrap*, "Hollywood Workers Grapple for a Foothold in an Industry at a Crossroads"
- Phoebe Eaton, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Harvey Weinstein's Life Behind Bars: 'He's Still Running Sh\*\*"
- Miles Klee, Rolling Stone, "'Pope Crave' Meme Artist Explains How'Conclave' Fan Account Became a Real Vatican News Feed"
- Rebecca Rubin, Jazz Tangcay, Variety,
  "Moviegoers Tune Out Election By Going
  to 'Venom: The Last Dance,' Juror #2' and
  More: 'We Need a Break Before the Storm"
- Jazz Tangcay, *Variety*, "What's the Difference Between 'Filmed for Imax' and 'Shot With Imax'?"

#### **K5. SOFT NEWS, TV/STREAMING, ONLINE**

- Abrar Al-Heeti, CNET, "Al-Powered Closed Captions Could Open Up New Possibilities – and Pitfalls"
- Lucas Manfredi, *TheWrap*, "'The White Lotus' Halo Effect Blooms for Tourism and Local Economies"
- Ruben V. Nepales, *Rappler*, "Netflix's 'Adolescence,' each episode filmed in one shot, grapples with male rage"
- Ethan Shanfeld, *Variety*, "What Jon Stewart Told 'The Daily Show' Audience After Cameras Stopped Rolling on Election Night"
- Beatrice Verhoeven, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood TV Writer Morenike Balogun Was Reeling From the Writers Strike. Then She Lost Her Home in the Palisades Fire."

# J8. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, RADIO/PODCAST

- Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "Mane attraction: The therapy horses with a Hollywood connection bringing joy to seniors"
- Emily Guerin, *LAist*, "Meet the filmmakers who love AI"
- Josie Huang, LAist, "Charlie Chaplin. Kermit the Frog. John Mayer?! A brief history of The Jim Henson Company in Hollywood"
- Kelsey Ngante, KCRW, "Trans athletes find a home at T-Boy Wrestling"
- Lance Orozco, KCLU AM/FM, "World War Ii Was Over, But The Holocaust Wasn't"

# I13. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, FILM (OVER 5 MINUTES), TV

- Michael Brownlee, Scott Weber, KNBC, "Bob's Brush With Fame"
- David Martin, David Rothman, Joe Frandino, Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "'Warfare': Recreating an Iraq War firefight in real-time"
- Jaime Morgan Muñoz, Nic Cha Kim, Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, Ben Boyd, *PBS SoCal*, "PST ART: Fusing Art & Science: Color in Motion: Chromatic Explorations of Cinema"
- Jazz Tangcay, Nicholas Stango, Variety, "The Brutalist' Cinematographer Lol Crawley Breaks Down Filming in VistaVision in an Active Marble Mine in Tuscany"
- Tiffany Taylor, Lesley Corral, Jason Rovou, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Inside the Archives: Celebrating 100 Years of Columbia Pictures"

# I14. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, TV/ STREAMING (OVER 5 MINUTES), TV

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*,
"ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline:
Inside the Kim Kardashian Heist"

LA **50** PC



- Kyle Desiderio, Harry Buerkle, Lesley Corral, Jason Rovou, Mikey O'Connell, The Hollywood Reporter, "White Lotus' Cast Confessionals: Who is Most Likely to Reveal Spoiler, Make Mike White Laugh & More"
- Scott Hays, OC World, "Giving Days in the OC" Alison Martino, Make Fresh Productions and SoCal Scene Team, Spectrum News 1, "SCS Funky Junk Farms"
- Mo Rocca, Kay M. Lim, Joseph Frandino, CBS Sunday Morning, "CBS Sunday Morning: Here's Desi..."

#### **I15. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, MUSIC/ CULTURE/ARTS (OVER 5 MINUTES). TV**

- Lee Cowan, Deirdre Cohen, Ed Givnish, CBS Sunday Morning, "Finding his Voice"
- Nic Cha Kim, Corbett Jones, Anna Rau, Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, PBS SoCal, "Artbound: Case Study House #22: The Stahl House"
- Abby Narishkin, Nikita Grant, Mark Adam Miller, Bethany Johnson, Clancy Morgan, Business Insider, "Why A Ballet Team Spends \$1 Million A Year On Shoes"
- Mo Rocca, Kay M. Lim, Lauren Barnello, CBS Sunday Morning, "Curtain Going Up...Bobby
- Andy Schlachtenhaufen, Spectrum News 1, "93-Year-Old Disney Imagineer"

#### **I16. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, TV/FILM** (UNDER 5 MINUTES), TV

- Angela Boisvert, Matt Bass, Nathan Masters, Tamara Gould, PBS SoCal, "Lost LA: Inside the Walt Disney Animation Research Library" Michael Brownlee, Sean Browning, KNBC, "The
- Asian Girl with the Long Hair"
- Kyle Desiderio, Harry Buerkle, Lesley Corral, Mikey O'Connell, Jason Rovou, The Hollywood Reporter, "The White Lotus' Cast Impersonates Parker Posey's Character Victoria Ratliff"
- George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, JJ Zavalla, ABC7, "Harlan Boll's Harrowing Loss"
- Amanda Salas, Jasmin Sani, Tshaka Armstrong, KTTV FOX 11, "Marvel Prop Master Brings Smiles to Pediatric Cancer Patients"

#### K6. SOFT NEWS, MUSIC/ARTS, ONLINE

- Mesfin Fekadu, The New York Times, "Buddy Guy on 'Sinners': 'This May Help the Blues Stav Alive"
- Joseph Hudak, Rolling Stone, "The Hit Song About Cannibalism Written by a Yacht-Rock
- Katya Kazakina, Artnet News, "Porcelain Virtuoso Blows Up at the Frick"
- Gail Mitchell, LMU Magazine, "L.A.'s Mexican Melody"

Leena Tailor, The Hollywood Reporter, "Annette Bening, UFC, Brad Garrett and Nick Carter Get Behind New \$50M Las Vegas Community Center (Exclusive)"

#### **G19. MUSIC/PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY FEATURE (OVER 1,000** WORDS), PRINT

- August Brown, Los Angeles Times, "Fire charred two L.A. music utopias. Will they ever recover?"
- David Browne, Rolling Stone, "I Was Taken Hostage': How an American Metal Rocker Landed in Russian Prison"
- Mankaprr Conteh, Rolling Stone, "How the Inseparable Lijadu Sisters Fought for Afropop as We Know It"
- Brian Hiatt, Rolling Stone, "Timbaland's Al Reinvention: 'God Presented This Tool to
- Anna Nicolaou, Financial Times, "The making of a modern hit factory"

#### **G20. VISUAL ARTS/ARCHITECTURE** FEATURE (OVER 1,000 WORDS), PRINT

- Andy Coughlan, The Beaumont Enterprise, "Gauguin's World"
- Michael Forsythe, Graham Bowley, Elisabetta Povoledo, *The New York Times*, "The Search for van Gogh's Lost Masterpiece"
- Michael Goldstein, Forbes.com, "The Nova Festival Exhibit In Los Angeles Is Beautiful And Terrible"
- James Tarmy, Bloomberg Pursuits, "Hidden for Half a Century, Ancient Roman Treasures Return to the Spotlight"
- Anne K. Wallentine, Financial Times, "The Catholic nun - turned pop-art maverick who taught Angelenos how to love"

#### **G23. MUSIC/PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY FEATURE (UNDER 1,000** WORDS), PRINT

- Jeff Benjamin, Billboard, "Chartbreaker: How KATSEYE Delivered the Perfect 'Touch' of Pop to the Charts"
- Holly Gleason, HITS, "Shaboozey's Evolution" Brent Lang, Variety, "Nicole Scherzinger on Bringing 'Sunset Boulevard' to Broadway: 'I'm Gonna F—ing Go Out There Every Single Night Coming for Blood"
- Tim Teeman, The Times of London, "Prince Faggot' Is the Gay Royal Play Blowing Up in New York"

#### **G24. VISUAL ARTS/ARCHITECTURE** FEATURE (UNDER 1,000 WORDS), PRINT

Brian W. Carter, Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper, "Marcus Guillory's ABRACADABRA Casts Spell for the Mind" Andy Coughlan, The Beaumont Enterprise,

- "Art exhibition comes to Beaumont after showings in 'poles"
- Leslie Katz, The New York Times, "Visions of A.I. Art From OpenAl's First Artist in Residence"
- Andrew Travers, The Hollywood Reporter, "Did the Beanie Baby Founder Destroy a Bauhaus Masterpiece?"
- Anne K. Wallentine, Financial Times, "House museum: American poet Robinson Jeffers"

#### 117. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, MUSIC/ **CULTURE/ARTS (UNDER 5 MINUTES), TV**

- Luke Burbank, Chad Cardin, Young Kim, Rand Morrison, CBS Sunday Morning, "A spirited take on maple syrup'
- Christine Devine, KTTV Fox 11, "Adoption Innocent People"
- Cheryl L. Diano, Coleen Sullivan, ABC7, "Best in Drag Show: Fun and Frivolity for a Good Cause"
- Scott Hays, OC World, "Down for Dance" Phillip Palmer, KABC-TV, "Students on autism spectrum learn animation, computer skills at Exceptional Minds academy"

#### **IMPACT AWARD—MARLEE MAITLIN Introduction by Henry Winkler**

### **G8. DIVERSITY IN THE TV/FILM INDUSTRY,**

- Mesfin Fekadu, The Hollywood Reporter, "In 'Fellow Travelers,' Ron Nyswaner Writes About Gay Life In the 1950s. He Also Writes About Himself."
- Lisa Friedman Bloch, Beverly Hills Courier, "Candace Parker Powering Forward"
- Malina Saval, Los Angeles Magazine, "Empowering Neurodiversity: Marvels of Media Festival Celebrates Autism in Film"
- Adam B. Vary, Variety, "Joe Locke on 'Heartstopper' Embracing Sex, Being a Queer Marvel Star in 'Agatha' and Why 'There Are Days I Never Want to Play a Gay Character Again'''
- Abbey White, The Hollywood Reporter, "How 'Survival of the Thickest,' Mo' and 'Shrinking' Are Helping Destigmatize Therapy for Men of Color"

#### **G9. DIVERSITY IN THE MUSIC/PERFORM-**ING ARTS/ARTS INDUSTRY, PRINT

- Andy Coughlan, The Beaumont Enterprise, "AMSET show challenges cowboy masculinity"
- Jessica Doherty, Center Theatre Group, "Making It: Larissa FastHorse and Michael John Garcés on what it means to bring the world premiere of 'Fake It Until You Make It' to the Taper stage."
- Nicole Fell, The Hollywood Reporter, "K-pop Has Its Ellen Moment"

Holly Gleason, HITS, "Shaboozey's Evolution" Chris Willman, Variety, "Ex-Country Star Chely Wright on What's Changed for Gay People in the 15 Years Since She Came Out, and Why She's Made the Surprising Leap From Artist to Corporate SVP"

#### K12. DIVERSITY IN THE FILM INDUSTRY, ONLINE

- Tare Ebimami, AnnenbergMedia, "USC African American Cinema Society reflects on DEI at F.R.O. Festival"
- Ryan Gajewski, The Hollywood Reporter, "Lilo & Stitch' Live-Action Remake Ignites Debate Over "Harmful" Changes to Original's Story"
- Kristen Lopez, Variety, "Disabled Performers Advocate for Allies in Hollywood: 'Inclusion Needs to Be a Movement and Not a Moment"
- Gene Maddaus, Variety, "Gender-Neutral Bathrooms and Land Acknowledgements: How California's Film Diversity Rules Will and Won't — Change Life on Set"
- Adam B. Vary, Variety, "How Trans Coming-of-Age Comedy 'She's the He' Plays on Locker Room Hysteria to Tackle the 'Fear Around Every Corner' of the Trump Era"

#### **K13. DIVERSITY IN THE TV/STREAMING INDUSTRY, ONLINE**

- Wilson Chapman, IndieWire, "Ramy Youssef and Pam Brady on Tackling the War on Terror with Comedy in '#1 Happy Family
- Raquel Harris, TheWrap, "With DEI Rollbacks, the Business of Hollywood May Take a Hit" Kelly McClure, Salon, "Lesbians are still getting crumbs this Pride Month, but at least there's more of them"
- Naman Ramachandran, Variety, "Lee Sangil, Stars Detail Grueling Kabuki Journey on Cannes, Shanghai Film 'Kokuho': 'I Could Not Hear Anything Except My Own Heartbeats and Breath"
- Abbey White, The Hollywood Reporter, "Heartstopper' Creator and Stars on Season 3 Love Story: 'We're Breaking Boundaries"

#### **K14. DIVERSITY IN THE MUSIC/** PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY, ONLINE

- Joshua Crutchmer, Rolling Stone, "Being Trans in Country Is Dangerous. It Didn't Stop This Singer From Coming Out"
- Gail Mitchell, LMU Magazine, "L.A.'s Mexican Melody"
- Lola Olvera, Culture OC, "Orange County's First-Ever Black Literary Salon Positions Poetry as Empowerment"

- Leena Tailor, *Grammy.com*, "How Indian Artists, Beats & Collabs Are Taking Over Mainstream Music, From Coldplay To Coachella"
- Abbey White, Variety, "Disabled Comedians Speak Out on Performance and Career Barriers Due To Widespread Industry Inaccessibility: 'I Want There to Be More

#### **J3. DIVERSITY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT** INDUSTRY, RADIO/PODCAST

- James Baker, Texas Public Radio, "Momentos Musicales explores indigenous languages and classical music"
- Casey Coss, Local News Pasadena, "Decoding Homoerotic and Queer Art"
- Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "How a unique combination of dancing and disability is inspiring the next generation"
- Esther Kustanowitz, Erin Benmoche, The Bagel Report Podcast, "Breaking down 'The Prince of Egypt' with Tzivia Schwartz Getzug"
- Kelsey Ngante, KCRW, "Trans Athletes Find a Home at T-Boy Wrestling"

#### 13. DIVERSITY IN THE FILM INDUSTRY, TV

- ABC News Studios, ABC News, "ABC News Studios - Latinos in Hollywood: Owning Our Destiny"
- Angela Boisvert, Matt Bass, Nathan Masters, Tamara Gould, PBS SoCal, "Lost LA: A Hollywood Dream Job Made Real"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'Pablo Larrain'"
- Maria Hall-Brown, Todd Quartararo, Gregg Schwenk, Al Magallon, PBS SoCal, "8th Annual Newport Beach Film Festival UK & Ireland Honours"
- PBS SoCal, PBS SoCal, "2024 Media Access Awards"

#### **14. DIVERSITY IN THE TV/STREAMING** INDUSTRY, TV

- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'Sheryl Lee Ralph'" Joe Maxfield, George Pennachio, ABC7, "2024 Emmys mark historic year celebrating diversity in nominations"
- Rae Williams, Spectrum News 1, "Couple redefines Black love with authentic stories" Omar Younis, Sandra Stojanovic, Reuters TV, "Transgender influencer takes on Trump over passports"

### 15. DIVERSITY IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY,

- ABC News Nightline, ABC News, "Chappell
- Lydia Pantazes Garcia, Spectrum News 1, "Mariachi singer reveals how she became part of Kendrick Lamar's latest album"
- George Pennacchio, ABC7, "The Young Female songwriting duo behind Moana 2"
- George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, Susana Quintero-Chamberlin, Romeo Montiel, ABC7, "Lupita Infante's Musical Dream"
- Carlos Saucedo, Paul Sanchez, KTLA, "Mariachi Arcoiris de Los Angeles, the 1st LGBT mariachi group, celebrates 10 year anniversary"

#### **16. DIVERSITY IN THE ARTS INDUSTRY, TV**

- Michael Brownlee, Sean Browning, KNBC, "The Asian Girl with the Long Hair"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'Debbie Allen'"
- Nic Cha Kim, Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, Matt Bass, Suzanne Méjean Pinney, PBS SoCal, "Artbound: The Legacy of the Paul Robeson Players in 1970s L.A. Black
- Nic Cha Kim, Monesha Madison Lever, Carol Paik, Shannon Sun-Higginson, Bryant T. Griffin, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Black Art: '84 Olympic Freeway Mural Project Pulled Talent From Diverse L.A. Communities"
- Marie Targonski-O'Brien, Lisa McRee, Greg Payton, Spectrum News 1, "Trailblazing Chef Roy Choi"

#### **K15. CELEBRITY NEWS, ONLINE**

- Madeline Berg, Laura Italiano, Natalie Musumeci, Business Insider, "Rapper unraveled: How Diddy's world fell apart in one year"
- Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Rep: Beyoncé Is Not Performing at DNC; 'Was Never Scheduled' to Attend (Exclusive)"
- Marc Malkin, Variety, "Liev Schreiber Opens Up for First Time About Trans Daughter Kai: 'It's Important That She Goes, "I Am Trans, Look at Me" (EXCLUSIVE)"
- Ruben V. Nepales, Rappler, "At 62, Demi Moore finally feels 'liberated' from her own
- Tim Teeman, The Daily Beast, "Exclusive: Rosie Perez: Why Trump's Racist Rally Hit So Close to Home"

#### **G2. CELEBRITY NEWS OR FEATURE, PRINT**

Seth Abramovitch, The Hollywood Reporter, "How Ben Shapiro Conquered the MAGA-

LA **52** PC LA **53** PC



- Lisa Friedman Bloch, *Beverly Hills Courier*, "Candace Parker Powering Forward"
- Diedre M Johnson, Los Angeles Times, "Billy Bob Thornton on how Taylor Sheridan wrote 'Landman' with him in mind"
- Jason McGahan, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Friend in Need: Why Matthew Perry Couldn't Make It"
- Keiran Southern, *The Sunday Times Magazine*, "Elvis, Priscilla, Lisa Marie and the battle for Graceland"

#### **K28. CELEBRITY FEATURE, ONLINE**

- William Earl, Variety, "Sophie Thatcher in Control: The 'Yellowjackets' Star on Her 'Companion' Robot and How the Film's Toxic Relationship Goes 'Far Deeper Than I Ever Imagined'"
- Lily Ford, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Why George R.R. Martin Broke the 'Cardinal Rule of Hollywood' for a Childhood Friend"
- Ruben V. Nepales, *Rappler*, "Colin Farrell opens up on his son's Angelman syndrome, starts a foundation"
- Kevin EG Perry, *The Independent*, "Hollywood titans, unlimited In-N-Out and Bezos's bride-to-be: Inside the 2025 Vanity Fair Oscars party"
- Ethan Shanfeld, *Variety*, "Bill Burr on Adapting His 'A--hole Vibe,' Wanting a 'Hostile Crowd' for New Hulu Special and How a Rabbi Changed His Perspective on Censorship"

# G10. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY (OVER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Most Powerful Woman in Hollywood You've Never Heard Of"
- Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*, "Sebastian Stan Tells All: Becoming Donald Trump, Gaining 15 Pounds and Starring in 2024's Most Controversial Movie"
- Susan Karlin, *Pennsylvania Gazette*, "The Producer as Problem Solver"
- Brent Lang, Variety, "Todd Phillips Tells All on Making 'Joker 2': Musical Numbers, Method Acting and Joaquin Phoenix's Broadway Dream That Started It All"
- Seija Rankin, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Who's Afraid of Naomi Ackie?"

#### G11. PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV/ STREAMING INDUSTRY (OVER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Frank DeCaro, Emmy Magazine, "Hit List"
  Trish Deitch, Variety, "The Confessions of Keri
  Russell: On 'The Diplomat,' Falling in Love
  With Matthew Rhys and the Night Hillary
  Clinton Made Her Cry"
- Mikey O'Connell, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Tina Fey on Her New Netflix Series: 'It

- Saved Me From Just Shrinking Up Like a Little Granny Apple Head"
- Stephen Rodrick, Rolling Stone, "Jimmy Kimmel: 'Now I See Myself More as a Place to Scream"
- Adam B. Vary, Variety, "Noah Wyle Was Nearing a 'Nervous Breakdown.'Then Came 'The Pitt': It's 'Infuriating We Can't Come to a Consensus' on Masks and Vaccines"

# G12A. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC (OVER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Jem Aswad, *Variety*, "How Nick Cave Weathered Unimaginable Tragedy and Fell in Love With the World, Returning With a 'Joyful' Album, 'Wild God'"
- Hannah Dailey, *Billboard*, "State of Gracie" Andre Gee, *Rolling Stone*, "Clipse Are Dropping an Album and Headed on a National Tour"
- Brian Hiatt, Rolling Stone, "My Brother, Eddie Van Halen: Alex Van Halen Tells All" Angie Martoccio, Rolling Stone, "Stevie Nicks: 'I Believe in the Church of Stevie"

# G12B. PERSONALITY PROFILE, THEATER, CULTURE AND OTHER ARTS (OVER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Heartbreaking Rift of Staggering Intensity" Ashley Carman, *Bloomberg News*, "The True
- Story Behind MrBallen's Crime Podcasts"
  Shana Nys Dambrot, *Palm Springs Life*, "Local
  Artist Cristopher Cichocki Provides a
  Glimpse Inside The Elemental"
- Kevin Dolak, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Milo Yiannopoulos Makeover: The Alt-Right's Fallen Poster Boy Is Back for Trump 2.0"
- Jenelle Riley, Variety, "How Taylor Tomlinson Overcame 'Debilitating Fear' and Became the Sole Woman of Late Night With 'After Midnight'"

# G13. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY (UNDER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Carlos Aguilar, Los Angeles Times, "For 20 years, he's played 'Saw's' boogeyman. He doesn't see it as a trap"
- Sarah Bahr, *The New York Times*, "Who Makes the Red Carpet? Steve."
- Rachel Brodsky, *Rolling Stone*, "Mikey Madison's Cinderella Story Is Just Beginning"
- Todd Gilchrist, *Variety*, "How Jane Fonda's Feminism Evolved With Her Films: 'I'm Proud of Myself That I Didn't Settle"
- Seija Rankin, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Ethereal Power of Elizabeth Olsen"

#### G14. PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV/ STREAMING INDUSTRY (UNDER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Trish Deitch, Variety, "Handmaid's Tale' Star Bradley Whitford Wants His Old Boss Jeff Bezos to 'Speak the F— Up' Against Donald Trump"
- Mesfin Fekadu, *The New York Times*, "Why Beyoncé and BET Keep Calling Jesse Collins"
- Candace Hansen, Los Angeles Times, "For drag queen talk show host Delta Work, the phrase 'luxury public access' is more than a manifesto"
- Seija Rankin, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Sex and Death and Jenny Slate"
- Tim Teeman, Town & Country, "Michael Strahan and Daughter Isabella Got Through Her Cancer. Now the Real Work Begins."

# G15. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC INDUSTRY (UNDER 2,500 WORDS), PRINT

- Pamela Chelin, Los Angeles Times, "The Dude really rocks: Jeff Bridges leans into raw truth of his music on the old/new songs of 'Slow Magic'"
- Holly Gleason, The *New York Times*, "Megan Moroney Sings a Message About Messy 20-Something Life: It's Okay"
- Candace Hansen, Los Angeles Times, "Beverly Glenn Copeland's triumphant debut coincides with forthcoming doc about his
- Anna Nicolaou, Financial Times, "Superproducer Jack Antonoff: 'Don't make anything you wouldn't die for'"
- Jenelle Riley, *Variety*, "Thelma' Star June Squibb on Being Called 'The Dirtiest Mouth on Broadway"

#### G16. PERSONALITY PROFILE, THEATER, CULTURE AND OTHER ARTS (UNDER 2.500 WORDS), PRINT

- Thomas Floyd, *The Washington Post*, "Jake Gyllenhaal is the inner-demon actor of his generation"
- Whitney Friedlander, Los Angeles Times, "Kelsey Grammer reflects on sister's murder: 'It's not a badge of honor to have suffered grief like that"
- Joanie Harmon, Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper, "Odie Hawkins: A Life That's One for the Books"
- Kaitlyn Huamani, Los Angeles Times, "Alden Ehrenreich's mission to make L.A. a 'theater city' involves a 119-year-old trolley station"
- Elsa Keslassy, Variety, "Emmanuel Macron Gives Rare Sit-Down Interview About France's Cultural Boom, the Dangers of Al, Taylor Swift's Power and Losing 'Emily in Paris' to Rome"

#### **COMIC ALONZO BODDEN**

#### **E2. PORTRAIT PHOTO, FILM**

- Ash Barhamand, Alison Edmond, Peter B. Cury, Beau Grealy, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Mikey Madison"
- Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Zoe McConnell, Variety, "Benedict Cumberbatch" Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Mason Poole,
- Variety, "Paul Mescal"
  Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Greg Swales,
- Ada Guerin, Malina Saval, Irvin Rivera, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Colman Domingo
  Explains Why A24 Tearjerker 'Sing Sing' Is
  So Personal"

#### E3. PORTRAIT PHOTO, TV

Variety, "Demi Moore"

- Robert Ascroft, *Emmy Magazine*, "Elizabeth Debicki at the 76th Emmy Awards"
- Ash Barhamand, Alison Edmond, Simon Emmett, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Adolescence"
- Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Brian Bowen Smith, *Variety*, "Sterling K. Brown"
- Christina Gandolfo, Emmy Magazine, "Me and My Emmy: Gabriel Villarreal (Delta Work)"
- Bennett Taren, *Salon*, "Portrait of Bridgett Everett"

# E4. PORTRAIT PHOTO, MUSIC/THEATER/ARTS

- Ash Barhamand, Alison Edmond, Peter B. Cury, AB+DM, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "50 Cent"
- Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Jennifer Halper, Emilio Madrid, *Variety*, "Darren Criss and Cole Escola"
- Brad A. Johnson, *OLTRE*, "Herve with chickens at Rancho Lola"
- Osceola Refetoff, *PBS SoCal*, "Dot House of Dots Slab City, CA"
- \*Javier Vasquez, Center Theatre Group, "American Idiot: Lark Portrait"

# K16. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY, ONLINE

- Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Karolyn Grimes, Zuzu in 'It's a Wonderful Life,' Looks Back on a Life That Wasn't Always Wonderful"
- Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Scott Derrickson, Whose Home Was Destroyed by 2018 Woolsey Fire, Shares Lessons Learned From Devastation"
- Jason Guerrasio, Business Insider, "Growing Up Marvel"
- Naman Ramachandran, *Variety*, "Deepa Mehta on 30 Years of Boundary-Breaking

- Cinema: Facing Down Protests, Hanging Up on George Lucas and Her \$1 Deal With Salman Rushdie"
- Christian Zilko, *IndieWire*, "Ari Aster Desperately Wants a Reason to Be Hopeful"

#### K17. PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV/ STREAMING INDUSTRY, ONLINE

- Ky Henderson, *Rolling Stone*, "The Slings and Arrows of Being Tony Hale"
- Jonathan Landrum Jr., *The Associated Press*, "Snoop Dogg has exploded on the Olympics' global stage just being himself"
- Ryan Lattanzio, *IndieWire*, "Sarah Polley on Her'The Studio' Cameo, the Myth of the 'Mad Unwieldy Genius,' and Alice Munro's Complicated Legacy"
- Alex Ritman, Variety, "Adolescence' Duo Stephen Graham and Hannah Walters on the 'Possibility' of Season 2, 'Overwhelming' Global Response and What's Next for Their Company"
- Bonnie Stiernberg, *InsideHook*, "Michael Ian Black Is Just Trying to Figure It Out"

# K18. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC INDUSTRY, ONLINE

- Jayson Greene, Vulture, "Since Dorian Died" Dan Knapp, Out of the Blue, University of Kentucky, "Luck of the Irish"
- Anna Nicolaou, Financial Times, "Superproducer Jack Antonoff: 'Don't make anything you wouldn't die for'"
- Richard Stellar, *TheWrap*, "Music Beyond the 'Silo': Composer Atli Örvarsson's Emotional Connection to the Apple Series"
- Chris Willman, Variety, "Sheryl Crow on Settling Down but Still Fighting the Power in Nashville: 'I Call My Representatives Every Single Morning"

# K19. PERSONALITY PROFILE, PERFORMING AND OTHER ARTS, ONLINE

- Jim Farmer, ArtsATL, "Partners in the Arts: David and Billy Clifton-Strawn"
- Lina Lecaro, Los Angeles Magazine, "How Pamela Des Barres Finally Transcended 'The Band"
- Christine Terrisse, Los Angeles Times, "Larry Mantle's LA: The beloved radio host reflects on 40 years of 'AirTalk'"
- Victoria Thomas, LocalNewsPasadena.com, "Doyenne of the Diaspora" Kathryn VanArendonk, Vulture, "'I'm Not Letting You Laugh at Me. I'm Perfect."

# 17. PERSONALITY PROFILE, FILM INDUSTRY, TV

ABC News Nightline, *ABC News*, "One on One with Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson" Varda Bar-Kar, Nic Cha Kim, Alessandra

- Pasquino, Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, PBS SoCal, "Artbound: The Cheech" Mikaela Bufano, Seth Doane, Lauren Barnello, Rand Morrison, CBS News, "How 'Wicked'
- star Cynthia Erivo is defying gravity"

  Scott Evans, Summer Break Studios, "Cynthia
  Erivo & Ariana Grande Wicked Pact"
- Jo Ling Kent, Dustin Stephens, Emanuele Secci, Rand Morrison, CBS News, "Wicked' director Jon M. Chu on the road to Oz"

#### 18. PERSONALITY PROFILE, TV/ STREAMING INDUSTRY, TV

- ABC News Nightline, ABC News, "Eric Dane Speaks: The Diane Sawyer Interview"
- Tiana DeNicola, *Variety*, "Bob's Burgers' H. Jon Benjamin Tries Voicing the Entire Belcher Family and Discusses His Career"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street
  Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1
  Team, Spectrum News 1, "LA Stories with
  Giselle Fernandez "Adam Nimoy""
- Elex Michaelson, Debbie Kim, KTTV FOX 11 Los Angeles, "Bill Maher: Is Anyone Else Seeing This?"
- Jane Pauley, Jay Kernis, Mike Levine, Rand Morrison, *CBS News Sunday Morning*, "Sunday Morning: Connie Chung"

# 19. PERSONALITY PROFILE, MUSIC INDUSTRY, TV

- ABC News Nightline, ABC News, "Missy Elliott on Tour"
- ABC News Studios, ABC News, "Bruce Springsteen: Backstage and Backstreets" Tiana DeNicola, Variety, "Tate McRae Takes Us
- Behind the Song 'Sports car''' Nic Cha Kim, Tadashi Nakamura, Quyên Nguyen-Le, Akira Boch, Evan Kodani, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Nobuko Miyamoto: A Song in Movement"
- Amol Mhatre, Lesley Stahl, Steven Tyler, CBS
  Sunday Morning, "Taking a Bow"

# 110. PERSONALITY PROFILE, ARTS AND CULTURE, TV

- Lexie Clinton, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Bennett Taren, Russell Root, Salon, "Rick Steves on embracing life's challenges and finding the joy of travel—even when it is political"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, Spectrum News 1, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez: Dr. Jane Goodall"
- Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, Nic Cha Kim, Richie Kulchar, Daniel Baghdasarian, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Blended Worlds: Larry Bell's Time Machine Lets Viewers Feel Time" Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*,

"15-Year-Old Accordion Champion"

LA **54** PC



Martha Teichner, Chad Cardin, Young Kim, Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Without a Net: Phillipe Petit"

# J4. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, FILM PERSONALITIES, RADIO/PODCAST

- Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*,
  "'Awards Chatter' Podcast With Sean Penn"
  Jeff Goldsmith, *The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith Podcast*, "White Lotus Season 3 Q&A Jason Isaacs"
- Jim Hemphill, *IndieWire*, "An Action Classic Turns 30: Keanu Reeves, Sandra Bullock, and Jan de Bont on 'Speed'"
- Angelique Jackson, Variety, "Marsai Martin on Navigating the Transition From Child Producer to Mogul in the Making: 'I've Learned What It Takes to Become a Legend'"
- Marc Malkin, *Variety*, "Barbra Streisand on Her New Album, Not Being Paid Enough for 'Meet the Fockers' and if She'll Ever Direct or Perform Live Again"

#### J5. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, TV/ STREAMING PERSONALITIES, RADIO/ PODCAST

- Deborah Zara Kobylt, *YouTube, iHeart Radio Podcasts*, "News Anchor Marla Tellez talks about finding her father homeless"
- Marc Malkin, *Variety*, "Ryan Phillippe on 'Motorheads,' Becoming 'Yoda' to Young Co-Stars and the Popularity of Showing His Butt in 'Cruel Intentions'"
- Michael Schneider, Variety, "The Daily Show's' Ronny Chieng on Recently Becoming a U.S. Citizen: 'It's a Weird Time to Do It'"
- Sarah Shachat, Mary Pelloni, Trevor Wallace, IndieWire, "Why Netflix's 'Adolescence' Had a 'No Dicks' Policy"
- Matt Wilstein, *The Daily Beast*, "Why 'Borat' Director Stopped Speaking to Sacha Baron Cohen and Larry David"

# J6. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, MUSIC PERSONALITIES, RADIO/PODCAST

- Jon Burlingame, *Dolby Creator Talks*, "The Music of Wicked"
- Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Awards Chatter Podcast With Bruce Springsteen"
- Brian Hiatt, Rolling Stone, "My Life with Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers: Mike Campbell Looks Back"
- Lance Orozco, KCLU AM/FM, "Ventura County filmmakers tell the story behind the iconic rock band 'America'"
- John Rabe, *Classical California*, "Notes from the Fires: The violin helps Nina Evtuhov rebuild her life"

#### J7. ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEW, ARTS/ CULTURE PERSONALITIES, RADIO/ PODCAST

- Justin Chapman, Apple Podcasts, "Well Read with Justin Chapman (featuring Gerry Adams)"
- Austin Cross, *LAist*, "A Beloved Character From Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood of Make-Believe Turns 80"
- Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "The rise of the Nazis with a side of dancing: Cabaret comes to town!"
- Deborah Zara Kobylt, *YouTube, iHeart Radio Podcasts*, "Tom Dreeson talks about life on the road with Sinatra & discovering his dad was his uncle"
- Lisa Niver, *Make Your Own Map Podcast*, "Tara Schuster Isn't Afraid to Go There—And You'll Be Glad She Did"

#### **E7. PHOTO ESSAY**

- Ash Barhamand, Ava Selbach, Naomy Pedroza, Peter B. Cury, Chelsea Archer, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Postcard From the Edge: L.A. in the Line of Fire"
- Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Peggy Sirota, Variety, "Actors on Actors (Emmys)"
- Chris Knight, *Emmy Magazine*, "Work/Life Talents"
- Osceola Refetoff, *PBS SoCal*, "High & Dry: Slab City – Creative Homesteading in a Desert of Extremes"
- Irvin Rivera, Los Angeles Magazine, "Colman Domingo"

#### **E8. ILLUSTRATION**

- Nabila Adani, *Zócalo Public Square*, "In Syria, the Caged Bird Raps"
- Toby Fox, *Rolling Stone*, "The Cure" Haley Kluge, Jennifer Dorn, Ryan Garcia, *Variety*, "NBCUniversal Pie"
- Jason Lord, *Zócalo Public Square*, "The B-Movie Maker Who Preserved the Music of L.A.'s Black Churches"
- Tiana McGee, Daisy Chung, Dea Bankova, Travis Hartman, Julia Wolfe, *Reuters*, "Cozy Games"

#### **E9. GRAPHIC**

- Robert Gottenbos, Hollywood International Filmmaker Magazine, "AI Versus Actors" Jimmy Jiang, Hollywood International Filmmaker Magazine, "Coppola Steps Into
- the Unknown"

  Ben Kellerman, Ally J. Levine, Tiana McGee,
  Travis Hartman, *Reuters*, "Met Gala looks"
  Tiana McGee, *Reuters*, "Disney live action"
  Tiana McGee, *Reuters*, "Candidate tracks"

#### **E10. ANIMATION/MOVING GRAPHIC**

- Mimi Balancia, *Mimi's Method Design News Website*, "94.7 - The Grave"
- Ash Barhamand, Ava Selbach, Alison Edmond, Peter B. Cury, Heather Hazzan, The Hollywood Reporter, "Ben Stiller Takes Control"
- Deanna McClure, Cheyne Gallarde, Javier Vasquez, *Center Theatre Group*, "American Idiot Cast Member Animation"
- Tiana McGee, Daisy Chung, Dea Bankova, Travis Hartman, Julia Wolfe, *Reuters*, "Cozy Games"
- THR Art Dept, Ada Guerin, Luke Lucas, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "White Hot Lotus"

### J11. BEST USE OF SOUND, RADIO/

- Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "How a filmmaker from Ventura County created one of the most popular fiction podcasts in the country"
- Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "Musical tradition with its roots in slavery is revived to celebrate emancipation"
- Andrea Gutierrez, Ravenna Koenig, NPR, "1931 film Drácula gets its first film score, just in time for Halloween"
- Evan Jacoby, *LAist*, "The race to save historic Altadena fireplace tiles"

#### C2. MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE, ANY MEDIA

- Davey Alba, Leon Yin, Julia Love, Ashley Carman, Priyanjana Bengani, *Bloomberg News*, "The Second Trump Presidency, Brought to You by YouTubers"
- Aliza Aufrichtig, Stephanie Goodman, Alicia DeSantis, Leah Greenblatt, Josh Katz, *The New York Times*, "100 BEST MOVIES OF THE 21st CENTURY"
- Jack Eidt, Osceola Refetoff, *PBS SoCal*, "High & Dry: Slab City Creative Homesteading in a Desert of Extremes"
- Tiana McGee, Daisy Chung, Dea Bankova, Travis Hartman, Julia Wolfe, *Reuters*, "Cozy Games"
- Mary Pelloni, Chris O'Falt, *IndieWire*, "Career Blueprint: It All Led to 'Dune"

# 118. DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL PROGRAM, SHORT, TV

- Angela Boisvert, Matt Bass, Nathan Masters, Tamara Gould, *PBS SoCal*, "Lost LA: Animation"
- Bobby Gonzalez, Carly Armendariz, Megan Telles, Carlos Saucedo, Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*, "Honoring Hispanic Heritage"
- Elex Michaelson, Debbie Kim, Michelle Pulfrey, Julio Duran, Gino Arias, *KTTV FOX* 11, "The Issue Is: MLB on FOX Turns 30" Mark Potts, *Los Angeles Times*, "How We

- Printed the Paper: The Closing of a Printing Plant"
- Tara Lynn Wagner, Kristopher Gee, Seth Katz, Diana Romo, Luca Desando-grassi, Spectrum News 1, "A showcase of PST art exhibitions across SoCal"

# 119. DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL PROGRAM, FEATURE, TV

- ABC News Studios, ABC News, "Will Reeve: Finding My Father"
- Varda Bar-Kar, Nic Cha Kim, Alessandra Pasquino, Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, PBS SoCal, "Artbound: The Cheech"
- Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, Nic Cha Kim, Richie Kulchar, Daniel Baghdasarian, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Blended Worlds: The Fusion of Art & Science at JPL"
- Nic Cha Kim, Tadashi Nakamura, Quyên Nguyen-Le, Akira Boch, Evan Kodani, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Nobuko Miyamoto: A Song in Movement"
- Lacey Rose, Jason Rovou, Stephanie Fischette, Lesley Corral, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Full Stand-Up Comedy Roundtable: Jamie Foxx, Sarah Silverman, Chelsea Handler, Hasan Minhaj & More"

#### **E11. PAGE LAYOUT**

- Toby Fox, *Rolling Stone*, "Chappell Roan: Pain & Pleasure of a Supernova"
- Haley Kluge, Jennifer Dorn, Ted Keller, Variety, "What Trump 2.0 Would Mean for Hollywood?"
- Haley Kluge, Jennifer Dorn, Ted Keller, *Variety*, "Wicked"
- THR Art Dept, Ada Guerin, Nicholas Brawley, Neil Davies, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Succession"
- THR Art Dept, Ada Guerin, Nicholas Brawley, Clare Ramirez, Kirsten Hageleit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "White Hot Lotus"

#### **E12. COVER ART**

Ash Barhamand, Peter B. Cury, Kevin Cooley, The Hollywood Reporter, "What We Saw. What We Lost. What We Saved. What's Next." Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Richard Maltz, Joe Toreno, Variety, "Taylor Swift Fandom" Toby Fox, Rolling Stone, "Chappell Roan Cover" Toby Fox, Rolling Stone, "Ice Spice Cover" THR Staff, Maer Roshan, Ada Guerin, Justin Metz, The Hollywood Reporter, "Succession Hollywood Style"

#### **D1. NON-FICTION BOOK**

- Alessandra Mattanza, PRESTEL/Random House, "The World of Banksy"
- Alessandra Mattanza, Schiffer Publishing, "Digital Art: 20 Pioneers Redefining Its Boundaries"

# LUMINARY AWARD—LARRY MANTLE, LAIST

#### **Introduction by Patt Morrison**

G3. BUSINESS, FILM, PRINT

# Kirsten Chuba, Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood Is Obsessed With Red

- Carpet Influencers But Are They Worth
- Lily Ford, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How London Became the New Hollywood"
- Sohee Kim, Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg News*, "China's Biggest Blockbuster Has the Film Industry Depressed"
- Brent Lang, *Variety*, "Netflix's Origin Story: How the Streamer Killed Blockbuster Video, Snagged 'House of Cards' From HBO and Changed Hollywood Forever"
- Tatiana Siegel, Variety, "Inside the 'Joker: Folie à Deux' Debacle: Todd Phillips 'Wanted Nothing to Do' With DC on the \$200 Million Misfire"

#### **G4. BUSINESS, TV/STREAMING, PRINT**

- Katie Kilkenny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Would You Do It Again? A Year After Strikes, Hollywood Reckons With the Aftermath"
- Sandra McDonald, Los Angeles Times, "Dozens of anime piracy websites have gone dark this week. Fans are in mourning"
- Michael Schneider, Variety, "Inside the Cable TV Hospice: Can NBCUniversal's Divorce From MSNBC, Syfy, E! and More Prolong the Life of Once-Popular Channels?"
- Todd Spangler, *Variety*, "YouTube at 20: How the Video Colossus Launched the Creator Economy and Turned From Hollywood Foe to Friend"
- Keith Underwood, Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper, "Saxton Moore Brings African Fantasy to Life with 'Iyanu: Child of Wonder'"

#### G5. BUSINESS, MUSIC/THEATER/ PERFORMING ARTS, PRINT

- Sarah Bahr, *The New York Times*, "Why 'The Great Gatsby' and Other Broadway Shows Are Turning to Influencers"
- Ashley Carman, *Bloomberg News*, "Greatest Hits Albums, Once a Must Purchase, Have Lost Their Mojo"
- Holly Gleason, *POLLSTAR*, "Bruno Del Grenado on the State and Global Influence of Latin Music"
- Julia Jacobs, The New York Times, "Inside the Sean Combs Hotline: The Makings of a Mass Tort"
- Anna Nicolaou, *Financial Times*, "The making of a modern hit factory"

#### G6. BUSINESS, TECH/DESIGN/ARTS, PRINT

- Lina Lecaro, Los Angeles Magazine, "Unwrapped: Diane von Furstenberg Reflects on Her Influence as Skirball Exhibit Opens"
- Jason Schreier, Cecilia D'Anastasio, *Bloomberg News*, "Switch 2 Arrives With Stores Expecting Long Lines, Busy Websites"
- Keith Underwood, Los Angeles Sentinel, "Black Stunt Performers React to Oscars' Long-Awaited Recognition"
- Alex Weprin, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Creators Are Building Their Own Supersized Studio System As Hollywood Cuts Back"

#### H1. BUSINESS, TV/FILM, BROADCAST

- ABC News Studios, *Hulu*, "ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline Tracy Anderson: Fitness, Fame and Hollywood"
- Cher Calvin, Micah Ohlman, Nick Greitzer, KTLA, "Predicting the hits and misses of the 2025 Summer Movie Season"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street
  Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1
  Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories
  with Giselle Fernandez 'Tony Vinciquerra"
- Rollo Ross, *Reuters*, "How Lewis Hamilton and Apple brought F1 racing to the movie screen"
- Sarah Welch, Cher Calvin, Micah Ohlman, Scott Mantz, Nick Greitzer, KTLA, "Hollywood shaken as President Trump calls for 100% tariff on films made overseas"

#### H2. BUSINESS, MUSIC/THEATER/ PERFORMING ARTS, BROADCAST

- Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, Jaime Morgan Muñoz, Nic Cha Kim, Suzanne Méjean Pinney, *PBS SoCal*, "PST ART: Fusing Art & Science: Energy Fields: Vibrations of the Pacific"
- Robert Garrova, *LAist 89.3*, "After losing his home in the Eaton Fire, this Altadena musician is helping others build back their gear"
- Maria Hall-Brown, Paul Hodgins, Al Magallon, Kevin King, *PBS SoCal*, "Under the Baton: Pacific Symphony's Carl St. Clair"
- Nic Cha Kim, Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, Matt Pappas, Suzanne Méjean Pinney, *PBS SoCal*, "PST ART: Fusing Art & Science: Open Sky"
- Rollo Ross, Allysyn Landrum, *Reuters*, "Striking US video game actors say Al threatens their jobs"

#### H3. BUSINESS, TECH/ARTS, BROADCAST

Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, Jaime Morgan Muñoz, Nic Cha Kim, Suzanne Méjean Pinney, *PBS SoCal*, "PST ART: Fusing Art & Science: Counter Surveillance"

LA **56** PC



- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street
  Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1
  Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories
  with Giselle Fernandez 'David Nussbaum'"
- Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street
  Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1
  Team, Spectrum News 1 SoCal, "LA Stories
  with Giselle Fernandez 'Sol Trujillo'"
- Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, Nic Cha Kim, Richie Kulchar, Daniel Baghdasarian, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Blended Worlds: The Fusion of Art & Science at JPL"
- Rollo Ross, *Reuters*, "Issa Rae immerses in classic Hollywood for 'Black Mirror' episode"

#### **K7. BUSINESS, FILM, ONLINE**

- Ashley Cullins, *The Ankler*, "Fighting for a Greenlight: The Art of Selling an Original Film in '25"
- Miles Klee, Rolling Stone, "Filmmakers Accuse Angel Studios of Attempted 'Hostile Takeover' in New Lawsuit"
- Kristen Lopez, Variety, "SoCal Soundstage Owners Fear They Won't Survive Till 2025: 'We Have Maybe Four or Five Months Stored and Then That's It"
- J. Kim Murphy, *Variety*, "Juror No. 2' Could Be Clint Eastwood's Last Film — So Why Is Warner Bros. Burying It?"
- Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*, "Moguls Take Aim at Zaslav's Vision of WBD as Company Splits: 'It Was a Failure'"

#### **K8. BUSINESS, TV/STREAMING**

- Kayla Cobb, Adam Chitwood, *TheWrap*, "Kids TV Is Dead, Long Live Kids TV"
- Kayla Cobb, Tess Patton, *TheWrap*, "Why a Half-a-Trillion-Dollar Creator Economy Is Just the Beginning"
- Natalie Jarvey, *Like & Subscribe*, "YouTube vs. Spotify vs. Netflix: The Creator Arms Race Gets Spicy"
- Coleman Spilde, Salon, "There's more film and television for you to watch than ever before — good luck finding it"
- Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "CBS Put 'Evening News' Through Massive Overhaul. Now It Needs People to Watch"

#### K9. BUSINESS, MUSIC/THEATER/ PERFORMING ARTS, ONLINE

- Joel Beers, *Culture OC*, "Ticket Trauma: How Local Performing Arts Organizations are Affected"
- Philip Boroff, *Broadway Journal*, "Jujuamcyn Profit Revealed in Rare Disclosure"
- Matt Donnelly, Variety, "Casey Wasserman Tabloid Scandal Brings Professional Fallout for Agency Owner and L.A. Olympics Chief (EXCLUSIVE)"

- Holly Gleason, *POLLSTAR*, "Megan Moroney: The 'Emo Cowgirl'/'Bad Bitch' of Country Sells Out Radio (2x), Sheds, Arenas & More"
- Leena Tailor, The Hollywood Reporter, "The Lucrative Business of Becoming Taylor Swift: Tribute Acts Are Saving Lives, Pocketing Paychecks and Finding Fame"

## K10. BUSINESS, TECH/DESIGN/ARTS, ONLINE

- Susan Carpenter, *Spectrum News*, "Is it live or is it Al?"
- Richardson Handjaja, Animenomics, "Tariff threats loom over U.S. anime merch imports"
- Katya Kazakina, Artnet News, "Millennials and Gen Zers Are Coming Into Great Fortunes. What Art Do They Want to Buy?"
- Jonathan Landrum Jr., *The Associated Press*, "Immersive Bono, 'Matrix' and Metallica draw audiences closer"
- Lucia Moses, Geoff Weiss, Dan Whateley, Business Insider, "What MrBeast can teach Hollywood"

#### **G7. INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING, PRINT**

- Andy Greene, Rolling Stone, "Eric Carmen Was a Power-Pop Legend. Then He Vanished" Jennifer Maas, Variety, "Video Game Companies Release 'Best and Last' Offer to SAG-AFTRA Addressing Al Demands Amid 9-Month Strike (EXCLUSIVE)"
- Hannah Miller, Bloomberg Businessweek, "Can Dr. Phil's Streaming Makeover Find an Audience in the MAGA Era?"
- Stacy Perman, Los Angeles Times, "It was just a free-for-all': What happened to Kanye West's Donda Academy?"

#### **K11. INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING, ONLINE**

- Jem Aswad, Variety, "Who Is Mo Elmasri? Searching for Janet Jackson's Elusive Fake 'Manager' Who Issued an Unauthorized Apology on Her Behalf"
- Olivia Carville, Cecilia D'Anastasio, Bloomberg Businessweek, "Roblox's Pedophile Problem" Phoebe Eaton, The Hollywood Reporter, "Anonymous No More: Inside the Complicated Life of Harvey Weinstein's Key Accuser"
- Umberto Gonzalez, Sharon Knolle, *TheWrap*, "'It's All One Giant Charade': Steroids and Hollywood's Drive for Super(hero)-Perfection"
- Anneta Konstantinides, *Business Insider*, "Inside the self-destruction of Miss USA"

# C1. CELEBRITY INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING, ANY MEDIA

ABC News Studios, ABC News, "ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline: Stealing Graceland"

- Kory Grow, Jon Blistein, Tomás Mier, Rolling Stone, "Brilliant, Lost, Damaged': Inside the Tragedy of Liam Payne"
- Alexandra Paul, *The Ankler*, "Stalked: A 'Baywatch' Star's 13-Year Nightmare"

#### **K1. HARD NEWS, FILM, ONLINE**

- Matt Donnelly, *Variety*, "Mike De Luca and Pam Abdy Under Fire at Warner Bros. Amid Box Office Flops: 'We Didn't Want to Fail' David Zaslav (EXCLUSIVE)"
- Brent Lang, Variety, "Controversy Swirls, Legal Threats Fly After Sundance Documentary 'The Stringer' Questions Origin of Iconic 'Napalm Girl' Photo"
- Gene Maddaus, *Variety*, "Trump's Movie Tariff Appeals to Some in Hollywood Who Lost Jobs to Foreign Subsidies"
- Drew Taylor, *TheWrap*, "Animated Films Dominate the Box Office, So Why Aren't Their Directors Allowed Into the DGA?"
- Carly Thomas, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Did Blake Lively, Justin Baldoni Have a Rift Over 'It Ends With Us'? Sleuthing TikTokers Think So"

#### **K2. HARD NEWS, TV/STREAMING, ONLINE**

- Kayla Cobb, *TheWrap*, "Why Adult Animation Might Be Saving TV"
- Tony Maglio, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Family-Vlogger Documentary Trend Magnifies a Serious Societal Problem"
- Lucia Moses, Geoff Weiss, *Business Insider*, "Netflix is eyeing video podcasts and once courted 'Call Her Daddy' star Alex Cooper"
- Michael Schneider, Variety, "L.A. Reporters Cover Devastation in Their Own Neighborhoods During Wildfires: 'Feels Like a Nightmare' and 'Fatique Is Setting In'"
- Lucas Shaw, Bloomberg News, "Disney Takes the Preschool Hit 'CoComelon' Away From Netflix"

#### **K3. HARD NEWS, MUSIC/ARTS, ONLINE**

- Jeff Benjamin, Forbes, "KG Of VCHA Exits Girl Group With Lawsuit Against JYP USA Alleging Child Labor Abuse"
- Emilie Hagen, *Instagram, Substack*, "Paid Protestors: Everything is a Psyop"
- Paul Hodgins and Richard Chang, *Culture OC*, "UC Irvine Pursues Management Negotiations with OCMA to 'Run the Museum"
- Anneta Konstantinides, *Business Insider*, "'Literal hell': Coachella festivalgoers say they've been waiting in traffic for 12 hours to get into the campgrounds"
- Anna Nicolaou, Financial Times, "Michael Jackson estate says accuser is trying to extract \$213mn"

#### **C4. HEADLINE, ANY MEDIA**

- Debra Birnbaum, *Gold Derby*, "The drama over 38 Down: The New York Times crossword declares 'The Bear' a 'TV drama'" Blake Hennon, *Los Angeles Times*, "The Man
- Behind the Man-Child" Sarah Hirsch, Emmy Magazine, "Kill Joy" Sandro Monetti, Hollywood International
- Vacation"
  Hanh Nguyen, Salon, "'Carry-On, Taron
  Egerton: There'll be peace when you are

done (with this TSA 'Die Hard' wannabe)"

Filmmaker Magazine, "The Shawshank

#### **E6. ACTION PHOTO**

- Donna Balancia, *US Rocker*, " Aloe Blacc Launches 'Stand Together' Tour Including U.S. and European Dates"
- Sylvia Borgo, *US Rocker*, "Green Day Fires Up Petco Park with Epic Anniversary Show -Photos + Review"
- Alyson Camus, *US Rocker*, "St. Vincent Rocks the Greek in LA on 'Born Screaming' Tour -Photos + Review"
- Notes From Vivace, *US Rocker*, "Caravan Palace Gets Frenzied Reception at the Novo"
- Gino Terrell, Scream Sheets 26, "SZA doesn't "Snooze" to miss this moment, she meets it"

# I11. HARD NEWS FEATURE (OVER 5 MINUTES), TV

- ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*, "IMPACT x Nightline: What Happened to Matthew Perry?"
- Dennis Ackerman, Andy Schlachtenhaufen, Spectrum News 1, "LA Times Today: Nearly everything Tommy Hawkins cherished in life was destroyed in the Palisades fire"
- Lesley Corral, Katie Kilkenny, Felipe Costa, Dave Katz, Jason Rovou, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Altadena Fire Victim Returns to Burned Down Home After L.A. Wildfires in Search of Family Heirloom"
- Ted Koppel, Deirdre Cohen, Ed Givnish, CBS Sunday Morning, "Finding Their Light"
- Norah O'Donnell, Sara Kugel, Julie Morse, Rand Morrison, Carol Ross, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "CBS Sunday Morning: The Kennedy Center"

# I12. HARD NEWS FEATURE (UNDER 5 MINUTES), TV

- Lydia Pantazes Garcia, Spectrum News 1,
  "Ozomatli concert paused, but the rhythm
  of resistance plays on"
- Susana Quintero-Chamberlin, George Pennacchio, Cheryl L. Diano, Lawrence Faulkner, *ABC7*, "Richard Cabral - Healing From The Flames"

- Tara Lynn Wagner, Spectrum News 1, "Blood of the Nopal"
- Rae Williams, Spectrum News 1, "'Rust' opens in theaters nearly four years after Halyna Hutchins' death, as friends remember the cinematographer's legacy"
- Omar Younis, Sandra Stojanovic, Reuters TV, "Transgender influencer takes on Trump over passports"

#### **G1. GENERAL NEWS, PRINT**

- Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Matthew Perry's 'Street Dealer' Managed High-End Rehab Where Client Died"
- Nicole Fell, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Unreleased Michael Jackson Tapes Discovered in Abandoned Storage Unit"
- Jessica Gelt, Los Angeles Times, "Inside the dash to save the Getty Villa from the Palisades fire: A timeline"
  Sean P. Means. The Salt Lake Tribune.
- "Sundance Film Festival is leaving Utah. Here's why, and what Utah offered it to stay."
- Adam B. Vary, Variety, "Toxic Fandom: How Hollywood Is Battling Fans Who Are 'Just Out for Blood' — From Social Media Boot Camps to Superfan Focus Groups"

#### **E1. NEWS PHOTO**

- Louise Barnsley, *People.com*, "Dick Van Dyke performs at age 99 wearing a Mary Poppins t-shirt."
- Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Greg Williams, Variety, "Emmanuel Macron Splash" Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, Mark Peterson,
- Variety, "Greg Gutfeld Cover"

  Gino Terrell, Scream Sheets 26, "Warren Moon

# J2. NEWS OR HARD NEWS FEATURE, RADIO/PODCAST

Speaks at Mall of America"

- ABC Audio, ABC News, "ABC Audio Bad Rap: The Case Against Diddy"
- Megan Jamerson, KCRW, "Hollywood's animation union wants to end a gender pay gap"
- Cynthia Littleton, *Variety*, "How COVID Changed TV Production Forever"

#### I2. NEWS, TV

- ABC News, ABC News, "The Sean 'Diddy' Combs Verdict"
- ABC News IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*, "Blake vs. Justin"
- Ruby Lovell, NTD TV, "Right on LA! With Ruby Lovell News Features"
- Tiffany Taylor, Kyle Desiderio, Lesley Corral, Jason Rovou, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Creative Coalition Unites Hollywood & Business Leaders to Fight for Arts Funding"

Sarah Welch, Cher Calvin, Micah Ohlman, Scott Mantz, Nick Greitzer, *KTLA*, "Hollywood shaken as President Trump calls for 100% tariff on films made overseas"

#### DISTINGUISHED STORYTELLER AWARD— KASI LEMMONS Introduction by Jurnee Smollett

# G28. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, MUSIC, PRINT

- Jeff Benjamin, *Billboard*, "Is Seunghan's Exit From RIIZE Setting an Impossible Precedent for K-Pop Stars?"
- Holly Gleason, HITS, "Country At A Crossroads"
- Holly Gleason, HITS, "Grammy Chew: Chewing on Country"
- Malina Saval, *Pasadena Magazine*, "Music and Memories"

  Chric Willman, Variaty, "Stop Plaming
- Chris Willman, Variety, "Stop Blaming 'Celebrity Endorsements' for Kamala Harris' Loss: We Need to Hear From Artists Now More Than Ever"

# K32. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, MUSIC, ONLINE

- Jem Aswad, Variety, "Was Chappell Roan's Grammys Speech Naive or Necessary? Why Both Sides of the Debate Are Right, and Sometimes Not"
- Alex Galbraith, Salon, "Bro-country has curdled"
- Barry Levine, *US Rocker*, "George Thorogood & The Destroyers Prove Their Music is Still Bad to the Bone"
- Rashida Z. Shaw McMahon, *Zócalo Public Square*, "Why Beyoncé Is Carving a Route Along the 'Chitlin' Circuit"
- Bonnie Stiernberg, *InsideHook*, "The Great Pop Star Realignment"

# G29. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, OTHER ARTS, PRINT

- Lorraine Ali, Los Angeles Times, "Elon Musk's courtship with MAGA has driven X into misinformation abyss"
- Kirsten Chuba, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How TikTok Can Make (or Break) L.A.'s Restaurants"
- Thom Geier, Musicals Magazine, "Times are changing when it comes to curtain up"
- James Tarmy, Bloomberg Pursuits, "When Provenance at Auction Makes a Difference in Price"
- Sheryl Turner, Local News Pasadena, "The Rose Queen and Court Need a Raise"

LA **58** PC



# K33. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, OTHER ARTS, ONLINE

Steve Ammidown, Zócalo Public Square, "Happily Ever After Is for Everyone" Clayton Davis, Variety, "Tony Hinchcliffe Called Puerto Rico a 'Floating Island of Garbage': His Hate Disguised as Comedy

Wasn't Funny or a Joke"
Ainsley Ferrell, AnnenbergMedia, "OPINION:
Plugged in or left out? Exploring the
struggle to escape the algorithm's toxicity
while still participating in pop culture"
James Hibberd, The Hollywood Reporter,

"Sometimes a Nazi Salute Is a Nazi Salute" Andi Zeisler, *Salon*, "Al can't have my em dash"

# G26. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, FILM, PRINT

Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*, "I Wanted My Four-Year-Old to Love Moviegoing. How Hard Could It Be?"

Clayton Davis, Variety, "Oscars: How Category Fraud, Social Media Scandals and Independent Film Defined an Unpredictable Season"

Brent Lang, Variety, "How Steven Spielberg's 'Jaws' Endured a Hellish Production to Become Hollywood's First Summer Blockbuster"

Michael Schneider, Variety, "A24's Doc 'The Sixth,' About the Terror of Jan. 6, Is Essential Viewing. So Why Are the Directors Struggling to Get It Seen?" Ethan Shanfeld, Variety, "Her' Is Here"

# K30. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, FILM, ONLINE

Leila Jordan Berger, *The AV Club*, "The awards story of Emilia Pérez illuminates Hollywood's fragile politics"

Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "Matt Walsh Is a Hypocrite for Submitting 'Am I Racist?' to the Oscars"

Chris Rosen, *Gold Derby*, "Oscar predictions manifesto: 5 lessons to remember for the next awards season"

Elena Smolina, Zócalo Public Square, "Why I Saw Russian Dissident Alexei Navalny in 'Snow White'"

Coleman Spilde, Salon, "Netflix's current Christmas slate has left us cold. What went wrong after its promising start?"

# G27. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, TV, PRINT

Matt Brennan, Los Angeles Times, "How Hollywood lost the culture war" Dan Fienberg, The Hollywood Reporter, "Critic's Notebook: 'The Handmaid's Tale'

and Trump, Reunited"

Mary McNamara, Los Angeles Times, "Commentary by Mary McNamara" Aramide Tinubu, Variety, "As 'Homicide: Life on the Street' Finally Debuts on Streaming, the Show Remains Astonishing Television" Jason Zinoman, The New York Times, "Johnny Carson and the Fantasy of America"

# 31. COMMENTARY ANALYSIS/TREND, TV, ONLINE

James C. Cobb, *Zócalo Public Square*, "How Television Made Willie Mays a Star" Brian Lowry, *TheWrap*, "For CBS and '60 Minutes,' It's a Slow-Motion Saturday Night Massacre"

Jackie Mansky, Zócalo Public Square, "Do Fires on Film Have Anything to Teach Us?"

Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "The L.A. Fires Proved the Urgent Need for Local News in an Age of Social Media Conspiracies and Outright Lies"

Adam B. Vary, Variety, "Netflix's 2025 Preview: Even With 'Stranger Things,' Ben Affleck, John Mulaney and More Than 190 Titles, the World's Biggest Streamer Still Sees Itself as an Underdog"

#### **G25. COLUMNIST, PRINT**

Gary Baum, The Hollywood Reporter Mesfin Fekadu, The Hollywood Reporter Thom Geier, Musicals Magazine Brad A. Johnson, OLTRE Esther Zuckerman, Bloomberg Businessweek

#### **K29. COLUMNIST, ONLINE**

Alison Herman, *Variety*James Hibberd, *The Hollywood Reporter*Katya Kazakina, *Artnet News*Kelly McClure, *Salon*Chris Willman, *Variety* 

#### **B3. TV CRITIC**

Dan Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*Angie Han, *The Hollywood Reporter*Alan Sepinwall, *Rolling Stone*Bonnie Stiernberg, *InsideHook*Aramide Tinubu, *Variety* 

#### **B4. THEATER/PERFORMING ARTS CRITIC**

Daniel D'Addario, Variety Thomas Floyd, The Washington Post Thom Geier, Culture Sauce David Rooney, The Hollywood Reporter Tim Teeman, The Daily Beast

#### **B5. MUSIC CRITIC**

A.D. Amorosi, *FLOOD Magazine* Jem Aswad, *Variety* Lina Lecaro, *Los Angeles Magazine* Timothy Mangan, *Culture OC* Caryn Rose, *Salon* 

#### **B6. ART/DESIGN/LITERATURE CRITIC**

Andy Coughlan, *The Beaumont Enterprise*Shana Nys Dambrot, *Freelance*Ben Davis, *Artnet News*Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*Robert Oventile, *Local News Pasadena* 

#### 8. FOOD/CULTURE CRITIC

Brian Addison, Longbeachize Brian Addison, Los Angeles Times Lorraine Ali, Los Angeles Times Ana Figueroa, Beverly Hills Courier Ashlie Stevens, Salon

#### **B2. FILM CRITIC (UNDER 1,000 WORDS)**

Siddhant Adlakha, *Variety*Carlos Aguilar, *Los Angeles Times*William Bibbiani, *TheWrap*Peter Debruge, *Variety*Katie Walsh, *Los Angeles Times* 

#### **B1. FILM CRITIC (OVER 1,000 WORDS)**

Jon Frosch, *The Hollywood Reporter* Amy Nicholson, *Los Angeles Times* Joshua Rothkopf, *Los Angeles Times* Nick Schager, *The Daily Beast* Divya Subbiah, *Ampersand at AnnenbergMedia* 

#### VISIONARY AWARD—SETH ROGEN AND LAUREN MILLER ROGEN Introduction by Evan Goldberg

#### J10. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT LIMITED SERIES PODCAST, RADIO/PODCAST

Holly Gleason, Rachel Bonds, Dub Cornett, *Audible*, "The Boar's Nest: Sue Brewer & the Birth of Outlaw Country"

Lawrence Lanahan, Osiris Media, "Rearranged: a podcast about musical reinvention"

Charlotte Silver, Joe Adalian, Rebecca Alter, Bilge Ebiri, Chris Lee, *Vulture*, "The Disney Dilemma"

#### J9. BEST ARTS OR ENTERTAINMENT REGULAR PODCAST, RADIO/PODCAST

Matt Brennan, Mark E. Potts, Yvonne Villarreal, Mark Olsen, Kelvin Washington, Los Angeles Times, "The Envelope Podcast" Jeff Goldsmith, The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith, "The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith Andor S2, White Lotus - Season 3, Wicked" Rico Gagliano, Tim Robey, MUBI Podcast

team, *MUBI Inc.*, "MUBI Podcast S7: BOX OFFICE POISON"

Lyndsey Parker, *Totally '80s*, "The Totally 80s

Podcast - Desperately Seeking: Madonna's Punk Roots"

Michael Schneider, Clayton Davis, Jazz Tangcay, Emily Longeretta, Jenelle Riley, Variety, "Variety Awards Circuit Podcast"

#### **K34. ENTERTAINMENT WEBSITE**

Gold Derby Staff, Gold Derby, "GoldDerby.com" Kevin Fallon, The Daily Beast's Obsessed, "TheDailyBeast.com/obsessed" IndieWire Staff, IndieWire, "IndieWire.com" On The Red Carpet Staff, ABC7, "OnTheRedCarpet.com" TheWrap Staff, TheWrap, "TheWrap.com"

# G30. ENTERTAINMENT PUBLICATION, PRINT

Gold Derby Staff, *Gold Derby*, "Severance Reverence (Emmy special edition)" Deanna McClure, Jessica Doberty, Robby

Deanna McClure, Jessica Doherty, Bobby Martinez, Javier Vasquez, Brett Webster, Center Theatre Group and Deaf West Theatre, "Performances Magazine: CTG and Deaf West Theatre's American Idiot"

Juan Morales, Maura Weber, Sarah Hirsch, Stephan Horbelt, Rich Bleiweiss, *Emmy Magazine*, "Emmy magazine Issue no. 8 2025 / Michael C. Hall"

Jasmin Rosemberg, Ada Guerin, Irvin Rivera, the LA Mag Team, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "The Movie Issue: The Leading Men of 2024"

The Hollywood Reporter Staff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Hollywood Reporter"

#### J1. ANCHOR/HOST, RADIO/PODCAST

Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Awards Chatter"

Caroline Feraday, KCLU Radio, "Disney earworm about global unity getting a new lease on life"

Jeff Goldsmith, *The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith*, "The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith Agatha All Along, Andor S2, White Lotus"

Lisa Niver, *Make Your Own Map Podcast*, "Make Your Own Map: Are YOU Ready to be BRAVE?"

Michael Schneider, Clayton Davis, Jazz Tangcay, Emily Longeretta, Jenelle Riley, Variety, "Variety Awards Circuit Podcast"

#### I1. ANCHOR/HOST, TV

Cher Calvin, Micah Ohlman, KTLA, "Paul Shaffer reflects on 50 years of 'Saturday Night Live"

Ruby Lovell, NTD Television, "Right on LA! with Ruby Lovell"

Nathan Masters, *PBS SoCal*, "Lost LA: Animation"

Lisa McRee, Spectrum News 1, "Lisa McRee Interviews"

George Pennacchio, ABC7, "George Pennachio - Entertainment Reporter"

#### **A1. PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**

Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*Mia Galuppo, *The Hollywood Reporter*Brad A. Johnson, *OLTRE*Katie Kilkenny, *The Hollywood Reporter*Chris Willman, *Variety* 

# A2. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

Stephen Rodrick, Rolling Stone Ethan Shanfeld, Variety Bonnie Stiernberg, InsideHook Drew Taylor, TheWrap Tim Teeman, The Daily Beast

# A3. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — INDEPENDENT

A.D. Amorosi, *Freelance* Mesfin Fekadu, *Freelance* 

Holly Gleason, Freelance Lyndsey Parker, Freelance Leena Tailor, Freelance

# A4. BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Giselle Fernandez, Spectrum News 1 Nic Cha Kim, PBS SoCal Ruby Lovell, NTD TV Rollo Ross, Reuters TV Rae Williams, Spectrum News 1

#### **A5. PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**

Osceola Refetoff, *PBS SoCal*Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*Sandra Stojanovic, *Reuters TV* 

LEGEND AWARD—PAUL ANKA Introduction by Ricahrd Marx

# Journalists and Media Professionals Take Care of Our Own. LET US TAKE CARE OF YOU.

If you're a journalist, editor, or media professional who's out of work or facing food insecurity, you are not alone. The Man/Kind Initiative is here for you and your family.

#### We can:

- Connect you with food subsidies and support services
- Arrange direct delivery of fresh food to you and your loved ones
- Help you navigate this rough patch with dignity and zero judgment

### If you need help:

Please contact **Richard Stellar** at richard@mankindinitiative.org

### If you're able to help:

Please donate at mankindinitiative.org/donate

**See our website at** mankindinitiative.org



LA **60** PC

# Your Hosts and Guest 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. Bakewell is a board member of the USC Black Alumni Association and a life member

of the NAACP. He is a board member of the United Negro College Fund (Los Angeles) and president of the Los Angeles Press Club.



CHER CALVIN joined KTLA in 2005 and anchors the station's 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 p.m. nightly newscasts. The 10 and 11 p.m. broadcasts earned the Best Newscast Emmy, making Calvin an 11-time Emmy Award winner. She created, produced and anchored the KTLA "Breaking Bias: AAPI Hate" special. Calvin hosts the yearly event for

Forgotten Children Inc., YWCA's Racial Justice Breakfast, and Miss Philippines USA. She is the vice president of the Los Angeles Press Club.



CHRISTINE DEVINE is the longtime 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 in 2022.



EVAN GOLDBERG is a director, screenwriter, producer and co-founder of Point Grey Pictures, alongside long-time collaborators Seth Rogen and James Weaver. The company, named after their secondary school, is well respected for their multi-genre films and television anchored in dynamic

and authentic storytelling. Goldberg is known for his work on films including *Superbad*, *Knocked Up*, *Pineapple Express* and *Funny People*. He and Rogen together directed *This is the End* and *The Interview* as well as shows on AMC and Hulu. Goldberg and Rogen also produced films including *Sausage Party* and *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*. Goldberg is a co-creator, director, show-runner and executive producer of "The Studio," and has a number of projects in the works. Additionally, Goldberg founded the organization, Reel Start which focuses on the first steps towards addressing diversity and inclusion in the entertainment industry

by introducing career paths to young people from underrepresented communities.



ROBERT KOVACIK has been backstage for NBC4 and other affiliates at the Academy Awards, the Golden Globes, the Emmys and the Grammys. He has interviewed industry icons including Bob Barker, Jane Fonda, Hugh Hefner, Quincy Jones, Angela Lansbury, and Robert Redford. Earlier in his career, Kovacik was the youngest anchor in the

nation's largest television market, New York City. Kovacik is a former president of the Los Angeles Press Club.



RICHARD MARX is a Grammy-winning singer, songwriter and producer. His career has spanned four decades, and he boasts 45 million albums sold, 1 billion streams, and 14 No. 1 singles. He is the only male artist in history to have his first seven singles reach the Top 5 on the *Billboard* charts; his hits, including "Right Here Waiting," "Hazard," "Hold

On to the Nights" and "Satisfied," have become timeless staples. Marx is also a best-selling author, who released his memoir *Stories to Tell* in 2020. The year 2026 will bring a new album: *After Hours* will consist of an even mixture of standards from the Great American Songbook and new original songs written in the same retro vein; the album was recorded live with 24 musicians and consists of all complete takes. Marx is currently developing a slate of TV and digital projects, including the companion podcast and video series "Stories to Tell."



JACK MAXWELL hosted "Booze Traveler," "Booze Traveler: Best Bars" and "The Trip." His TV appearances include "Lost," "24," "House, M.D.," "Without a Trace" and "Beverly Hills 90210." He has shared the stage with Al Pacino, Jessica Chastain and Dianne Wiest in *Salome* and has appeared in other theatrical productions. He hails from South

Boston and is a lifetime member of the Actors Studio.



ELEX MICHAELSON is an anchor and correspondent for CNN and is based in Los Angeles. He anchors "The Story Is with Elex Michaelson" live weeknights from 9-11 p.m. (12-2 a.m. on the East Coast) on CNN and CNN International. Michaelson previously served as evening anchor at KTTV FOX 11 in Los Angeles,

where he created, hosted, and executive produced California's first statewide political show, "The Issue Is with Elex Michaelson," which aired in every TV market in the state.



PATT MORRISON writer and columnist for the *Los Angeles Times* and a longtime Southern California broadcaster/host in Southern California. Her work in print, television, and radio has earned her myriad honors, including a share of two Pulitzer Prizes, six Emmys and a dozen Golden Mike awards. Her two

nonfiction books, *Rio LA*, *Tales from the Los Angeles River* and *Don't Stop the Presses! Truth, Justice, and the American Newspaper*, were both best-sellers. And Pink's, the legendary Hollywood hot dog stand, named its vegetarian dog after her. She is a former president of the LA Press Club.



LYNDSEY PARKER is a music journalist, creator of Lyndsanity.com and Reality Rocks, and host of Licorice Pizza Records' LPTV and WMG's podcast/TV show "Totally '80s." She was host of SiriusXM's Volume West from 2018 to 2022 and was the longtime music editor at Yahoo. Parker is a seven-time National Arts & Entertainment Journal-

ism Awards recipient and has won seven SoCal Journalism Awards, including 2025's Independent/Freelance Online Journalist of the Year.



GEORGE PENNACCHIO is the longtime entertainment reporter for ABC7 Eyewitness News and is in his 28th year at the station. In addition to his news duties, he hosts the station's 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.



DINORAH PÉREZ is a reporter for Telemundo 52's weekday newscast "Noticiero Telemundo 52." Before joining Telemundo 52 in 2003, Perez was a reporter for the television program "Extra Jóvenes" and host of "Edición Impacto," which aired on Chilevision in her native Chile. Perez is a recipient of the John Swett Journalism Award from the California Teachers Association and was recognized as one of the most influential Latina journalists in L.A. by the CCNMA: Latino Journalists of California.



MELVIN ROBERT is an Emmy, Golden Mike, and Los Angeles Press Club award-winning journalist, and in March became KTLA's "Morning News" entertainment anchor/reporter. He previously served as co-anchor of "Good Day LA" weekday mornings and was senior correspondent and weekend host on the Emmy award-winning news

magazine "Extra." In 2018 he joined Spectrum News 1 as a member of their original talent team.



JURNEE SMOLLETT is an award-winning actress and activist. In 2020 she starred in HBO's "Lovecraft Country," which resulted in an Emmy nomination, as well as a Critics Choice Award and an NAACP Image Award for Best Actress in a Drama. That same year, she played Black Canary in Warner Bros.' Birds Of Prey. Smollett made her breakthrough

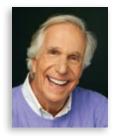
performance at the age of 11, starring in *Eve's Bayou* opposite Samuel L. Jackson. She later starred in *The Great Debaters* with Forest Whitaker and Denzel Washington and Tyler Perry's film *Temptation*. On the small screen, she starred in WGN's acclaimed drama "Underground," which followed the escape and risk-filled travel along the Underground Railroad. Other television credits include HBO's cult classic horror drama "True Blood." In addition to acting, Smollett is an activist for HIV/AIDS causes and Time's Up. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Children's Defense Fund.



RAE WILLIAMS is a multimedia journalist at Spectrum News 1. She received her Master's in Journalism at the University of Maryland and returned to her home of Jamaica where she reported and hosted "Entertainment Report" and "Smile Jamaica." In 2021 she released her first book, *Spotlight on Me*.

LA **63** PC

# Your Hosts and Guest for the Evening...



HENRY WINKLER has enjoyed over four decades of success in Hollywood and continues to be in demand as an actor, producer and director. For 10 years he played the iconic role of Arthur Fonzarelli, aka "The Fonz," on the TV series "Happy Days," for which he won two Golden Globe Awards, and was

nominated three times for an Emmy Award. He won an Emmy for Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy for his role on the series "Barry." On the big screen, Winkler's credits include Night Shift, Here Comes the Boom, The Waterboy and The Lords of Flatbush. Winkler has executive produced or produced TV series and specials for two decades, and directed several movies. His first book, Niagara Falls or Does It? Hank Zipzer the World's Greatest Under-Achiever, inspired by his struggles with learning challenges became a bestseller. He and his co-author, Lin Oliver, have written 34 children's novels.



ALONZO BODDEN is the Los Angeles Press Club's go-to comedian. A regular panel member on NPR's "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me," Bodden has been making audiences laugh for over 30 years. He was the season three winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing," and made appearances on shows including "Ghosts," "Dr. Ken," "Fresh Off the

Boat" and "Californication." Among his film credits are *Bringing Down The House, Scary Movie 4* and *The Onion Movie*, and his many talk show appearances include "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," and Comedy Central's "The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore." Additionally, Bodden has starred in the comedy specials "Stupid Don't Get Tired," "Heavy Lightweight," "Historically Incorrect" and "Who's Paying Attention." A car and motorcycle aficionado, Bodden hosted Speed Channel's "101 Cars You Must Drive" and has joined Jay Leno on his series "Leno's Garage." Bodden's comedy riffs have been compared to jazz solos by some the greats, from Marcus Miller to Robert Glasper to Dee Bridgewater.



### TOGETHER. WE HAVE THE POWER TO KEEP THE FUTURE BRIGHT

We are proud to sponsor the **18th National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards Congratulations to tonight's awardees.** 





# AFREE PRESS ISTHEPILLAR OF DEMOCRACY

#NotTheEnemy

# LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB

LAPressClub.org

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

ELENA 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.

Last year the awards were "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: Distinguished Storyteller Award; Impact, Luminary and Visionary Awards.; Legend Award.

#### 18TH ANNUAL

## National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

ABC7

Matthew Arkin and Batch22

**Center Theatre Group** 

The Hollywood Reporter

**Huntington Library** 

**KB** Collectibles

Francine Kiefer

Kat Kramer's Films that Changed the World

KNK Productions, Inc.

**KTLA** 

Live Nation Hewitt Silva

Los Angeles Philharmonic

Los Angeles Times

Millennium Biltmore Hotel

**Motivate Studios** 

George Pennacchio

Lisa Richwine

Roclord Studio Photography Pasadena

Scott Scozzola

Patricia Stephenson, Executive Limousine

**TCL Chinese Theatres** 

Variety

LA **67** PC



# Credits

#### **Awards Program**

Editor Diana Ljungaeus

Design Director Candice Ota

Contributors Danny Bakewell, Jr., Alex Ben Block,

John Gittelsohn, Jack Jason, Sarah Krouse, Bob Ladendorf, Diana Ljungaeus, Jon Regardie,

Lisa Richwine, Heather Robertson, Adam Rose, Jill Stewart, Chris Willman

Copy Editing Jon Regardie

Proofreading Bob Ladendorf

Printing Ace Commercial, Inc.

# 18th Annual National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards Gala

Producer Diana Ljungaeus

Technical Director Mark Drew

Camera Myles West

Reporter Jack Maxwell

Script and Creative Frank Megna

Consultant

Stage Manager Harry Karp

Sales Bill Moran

Executive Assistant Heather Robertson

and Bookkeeper

Web Designer Richard Martinez

Visual Service Encore, Millennium Biltmore Hotel

Photographers Betsy Annas, Gary Leonard

Social Media Ryder Maldonado

Red Carpet Meredith Thomas

Flower Design Diana Ljungaeus, Jean Marinelli

Volunteers Donna Balancia, Michael Blackshire,

Delfino Camacho, Donn Einstein,

Dante Estrada, Ron Fleury,

Danielle Gonzales, Mike Gregg, Sue Karlin, Chase Karng, Barbara Kingsley-Wilson, Vanessa Kolb, Bob Ladendorf, Jean Marinelli, Jack Maxwell, Angela Osorio, Louis Primavera, Doreen Sanchez, Jill Stewart, Raluca Topor;

Carla Williams, Chris Woodyard

#### **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 has produced the National A&E Journalism Awards Gala since its inception.

#### **Special Thanks to:**

Cheryl Diano, KABC; Lisa Perkins, Initiative PR; Jack Jason, Solo One Productions; Melissa O'Toole, Full Coverage Communications; Emily Duncan, Paul Anka Productions; Diana McHugh, Hilarity for Charity; Taylor Lomax and BeBe Lerner, ID Public Relations; Skyla Page and Kai Hartman, Black Bayou Productions; Jon Cohn, Katie Fuchs and Patricia Tumang, LAist; Jon Regardie; Jimmy Wu and Brenda Canales, Millennium Biltmore Hotel

An extra Special thanks to Edison and LAist for each providing 10 students with a ticket to this gala.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NOMINEES & WINNERS

LOS ANGELES PRESS CLUB
NATIONAL ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
JOURNALISM AWARDS





# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AVVARDS 2026

OS ANGELES PRESS CLUB

Enter our 68th Annual SoCal Journalism Awards Contest beginning in January 2026!

Gala: Sunday, June 28, 2026 • Crystal Ballroom, Millennium Biltmore Hotel

Past honorees have been recognized with these awards:

The President's Award For Impact on Media

The Daniel Pearl Award For Courage and Integrity in Journalism

The Joseph M. Quinn Award For Lifetime Achievement

The Bill Rosendahl Public Service Award For Contributions to Civic Life

The Guardian Award
For Contributions to Press Freedom





Call for Entries Starts in January!





