



15th Annual

Gloria L. Negri

FIRST AMENDMENT
INSTITUTE

Gloria L. Negri First Amendment Institute
October 2025 | Boston University

About the Gloria L. Negri First Amendment Institute

Named after the late trail-blazing Boston Globe journalist, the Gloria L. Negri First Amendment Institute (formerly the New England First Amendment Institute) is an annual, multi-day, intensive training program on freedom of information law and investigative reporting techniques. It is offered each year exclusively to 25 working New England journalists and a select group of students.

The Negri Institute is provided by the New England First Amendment Coalition. It gives editors, reporters and producers the support and training necessary to become accomplished investigative journalists, well versed in the access laws that govern today's difficult reporting landscape.

Many exceptional, award-winning journalists and outstanding First Amendment attorneys give their time to

make the Negri Institute an extraordinary learning experience. Presenters and fellows span print, broadcast and online media. A goal of the Negri Institute is to change the culture of journalism in New England by way of the ripple effect — our fellows are required to share what they have learned with colleagues at their media outlets.

WHO IS IT FOR? The Institute is designed for both up-and-coming and veteran print, digital and broadcast journalists working in the region. Applicants should have at least two years of professional news reporting experience and long-term plans to stay within the profession.

WHAT DOES IT COST? The fellows selected for this year's Institute will attend at no cost to them. A limited number of scholarships are available to cover hotel and travel expenses, if necessary to attend.

SUPPORTERS

Primary support for our Institute is generously provided by the Estate of Gloria L. Negri and the following:



Rhode Island Foundation

NEFAC appreciates the support of all its donors and Sustaining Members. In addition to those named above, we would like to thank the following Leadership Circle donors and Major Supporters for their contributions: John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Boston Globe, Paul and Ann Sagan, the Robertson Foundation and Hearst Connecticut Media Group.

Former Institute Fellows

CONNECTICUT

2011

Richard Campbell

The Register Citizen

Jenna Cho

The Day

JC Reindl

The Day

Alexandra Sanders

New Haven Register

Julie Stagis

Hartford Courant

2012

Shawn Beals

Hartford Courant

Beau Berman

WTIC-TV

Alexander Goldstein

The Day

Kevin Litten

Republican-American

Erin Logan

WTNH

Fran Silverman

Hearst Newspapers

2013

Lisa Backus

The Bristol Press

Jenna Carlesso

Hartford Courant

Tina Detelj

WTNH

Jessica Glenza

The Register Citizen

Maggie Gordon

Hearst Newspapers

David Iversen

WTNH

Alec Johnson

Republican-American

Viktoria Sundqvist

The Middletown Press

2014

Jason Bagley

TruthInAdvertising

Kelly Catalfamo

The Day

Jennifer Swift

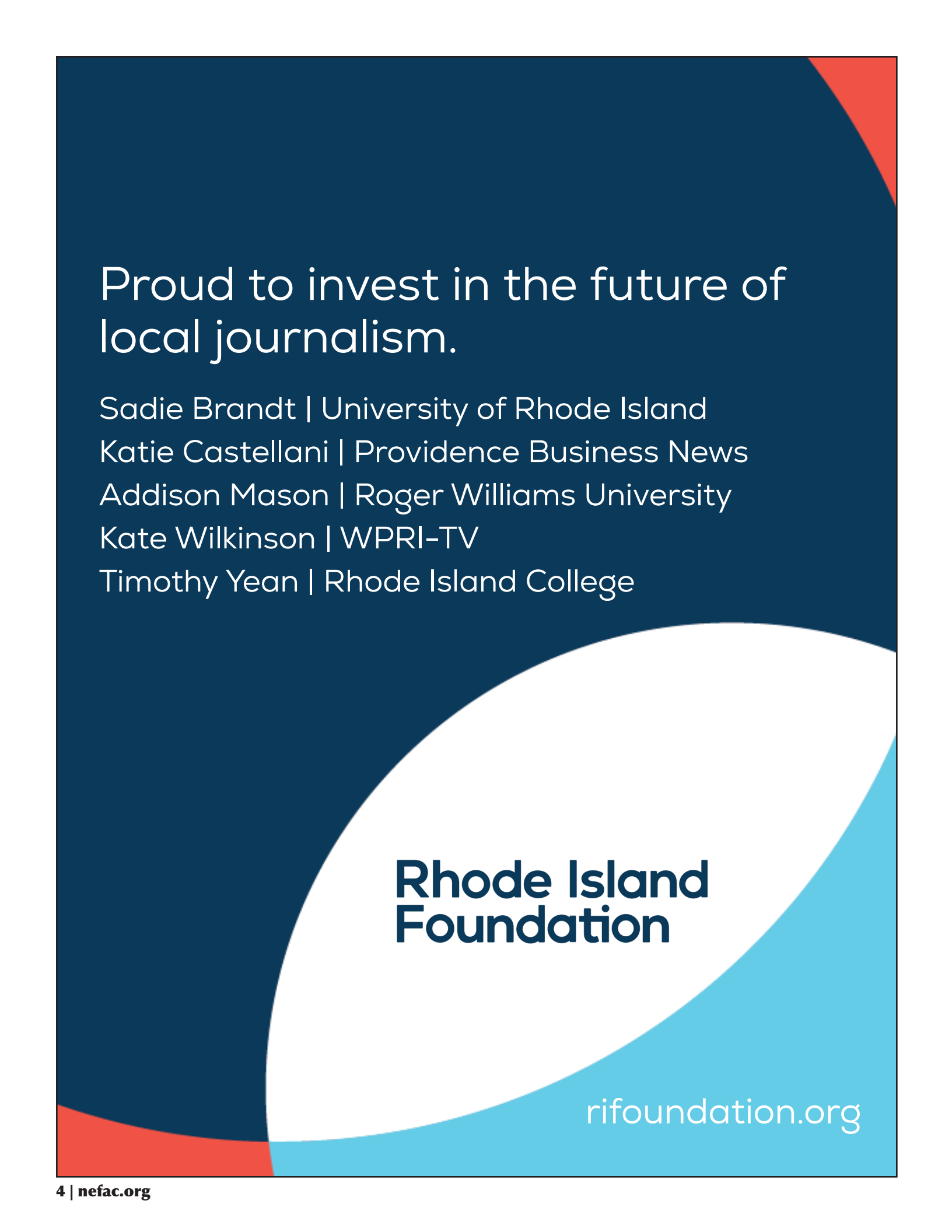
New Haven Register

Tess Townsend

The Day

2015	Alex Putterman Hartford Courant	David Harry The Forecaster	2020	David Riley MetroWest Daily News
Lindsay Boyle The Day	Elizabeth Regan The Day	2014	Molly Shelly The Morning Sentinel	Rory Schuler Taunton Daily
Suzanne Carlson Hartford Courant	2022	Jon Chrisos CBS13/Fox23	Terry Stackhouse WMTW News 8	Matthew Stout The Enterprise
Susan Haigh The Associated Press	Richard Chumney Hearst Connecticut	Michael Shepherd Kennebec Journal	Andrea Swiedom Sun Media	2012
Esteban Hernandez New Haven Register	Emily DiSalvo Hearst Connecticut	2015	2021	Alex Bloom The Enterprise
Patrick Skahill WNPR-Connecticut	Walter Smith Connecticut Public	Jordan Bailey Courier Publications	Lynda Clancy Penobscot Bay Pilot	George Brennan Cape Cod Times
2016	Randolph Connecticut Public	Nate Holst WMTW-Portland	2022	Deirdre Fernandes The Boston Globe
Julia Bergman The Day	Sten Spinella The Day	David Sherwood Maine Center for Public Interest	Kaitlyn Budion Morning Sentinel	David Eisenstadter The Transcript
Anna Bisaro New Haven Register	2023	Reporting	Joaquin Contreras Sun Journal	Sarah Favot Lowell Sun
Mikaela Porter Hartford Courant	Amy Coval Hearst Connecticut Media Group	2016	Emily Duggan Kennebec Journal	Martine Powers The Boston Globe
2017	Ashad Hajela Connecticut Public	Matthew Daigle Sun Journal	Sawyer Loftus Bangor Daily News	Patrick Ronan Patriot Ledger
Stephen Busemeyer Hartford Courant	Kate Seltzer Connecticut Public	Stephanie Grinnell The Republican Journal	Kay Neufeld Sun Media Group	Shaun Sutner Worcester
Jill Konopka WVIT-Hartford	Jared Weber Hearst Connecticut Media Group	Kyle Jones WMTW News	Vanessa Paoella Sun Journal	Telegram & Gazette
Kaitlyn Krasselt Norwalk Hour	2024	Joshua Moore Maine Center for Public Interest	2023	Ryan Walsh WWLP
Martha Shanahan The Day	Liz Hardaway Hearst Connecticut Media Group	Reporting	Joseph Charpentier Sun Journal	2013
2018	Jeniece Roman WSHU	Marina Villeneuve Associated Press	Stephanie Grindley WGME-Portland	Doug Fraser Cape Cod Times
Skyler Frazer New Britain Herald	Jessica Simms Greenwich Time	2017	Norah Hogan WMTW-Portland	Wes Lowery The Boston Globe
Ben Lambert New Haven Register	Abby Weiss Hearst Connecticut Media Group	Abigail Adams Lincoln County News	Zara Norman Morning Sentinel	Joshua Miller The Boston Globe
Barry Lytton The Stamford Advocate	2019	Charles Eichacker Kennebec Journal	Kathleen O'Brien Bangor Daily News	Shawn Musgrave MuckRock
Erica Moser The Day	<u>MAINE</u>	Callie Ferguson The Forecaster	2024	Neena Pathak Schuster Institute
2019	2011	2018	Anna Coon WGME	Neal Simpson The Patriot Ledger
Kimberly Drellich The Day	Susan Cover Maine Today	Anne Berleant Penobscot Bay Press	Jake Freudberg Morning Sentinel	Schuyler Velasco Christian Science Monitor
Meghan Friedmann Hearst Connecticut	Emily Guerin The Forecaster	Joe Glauber WMTW-Portland	Dylan Tusinski Morning Sentinel	2014
Jo Kroeker Hearst Connecticut	Jesse Nankin Watchdog New England	Rachel Ohm Morning Sentinel	Marie Weidmayer Bangor Daily News	Sean F. Driscoll Cape Cod Times
Justin Papp Hearst Connecticut	Eric Russell Bangor Daily News	Amanda Post WGME-Portland	<u>MASSACHUSETTS</u>	Beryl Lipton MuckRock
2020	2012	2019	2011	Priyanka McCluskey The Boston Globe
Tatiana Flowers Hearst Connecticut	Will Graff The Forecaster	Sarah Craighead Dedmon	Keith Eddings Eagle-Tribune	Alexa Mills The Boston Globe
Peter Yankowski Hearst Connecticut	Lindsay Tice Sun Journal	Dan Lampariello WGME-Portland	Jim Haddadin Arlington Advocate	Alex Ruppenthal Medford Transcript
2021	2013	Patty Wight Maine Public Radio	Laura Hutchinson WWLP 22News	Eli Sherman Waltham News Tribune
Verónica Del Valle Hearst Connecticut	Matthew Curren WGME		Lyle Moran Lowell Sun	
Currie Engel Hearst Connecticut				

2015 Samantha Allen Worcester Telegram & Gazette Jonathan Dame GateHouse Media Nicole Dunga The Boston Globe Jenna Fisher GateHouse Media Allison Manning Boston.com Jordan Mayblum Wellesley Townsman Jan Ransom The Boston Globe 2016 Zeninjor Enwemeka WBUR Jordan Frias Boston Herald Phil Marcelo Associated Press Tom Relihan The Recorder Susan Spencer Worcester Telegram & Gazette Gerry Tuoti Gatehouse Media 2017 Collin Binkley Associated Press Amanda Drane Berkshire Eagle Melissa Hanson MassLive Brad Petrishen Worcester Telegram & Gazette Greg Ryan Boston Business Journal 2018 Sarah Betancourt Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism Michael Bonner The Standard Times Lisa Creamer WBUR-Boston Dialynn Dwyer Boston.com Jennifer Lu Independent Angela Rowlings Boston Herald	Bridget Turcotte The Daily Item Grant Welker Worcester Business Journal 2019 Amanda Burke Fall River Herald News Jo C. Goode Fall River Herald News Zoe Greenberg The Boston Globe Gal Tziperman Lotan The Boston Globe Haven Orecchio-Egresitz Berkshire Eagle 2020 Dusty Christensen Daily Hampshire Gazette Vernal Coleman The Boston Globe Jessica Hill Cape Cod Times Jennifer Huberdeau The Berkshire Eagle Lucia Maffei Boston Business Journal Samantha Mercado Patch.com Dasia Moore The Boston Globe Shira Stoll NBC 10 Boston Julia Taliesin Somerville Journal 2021 Dugan Arnett The Boston Globe Greta Jochem The Berkshire Eagle Anastasia Lennon New Bedford Light Alex Newman Patch Emma Platoff The Boston Globe Tiana Woodard The Boston Globe 2022 Marco Cartolano Worcester Telegram & Gazette Audrey Cooney Fall River Herald News	Samantha Gross The Boston Globe Faith Imafidon Boston Neighborhood Network Media 2023 Toni Caushi Worcester Telegram & Gazette Theresa Gaffney STAT Peter O'Neil Needham Observer Julian E.J. Sorapuru The Boston Globe 2024 William Dowd The Marblehead Current Grace Ferguson New Bedford Light Colin Hogan New Bedford Light Anjali Huynh The Boston Globe Namu Sampath The Republican Walter Wuthmann WBUR <u>NEW HAMPSHIRE</u> 2011 Joseph Cote Nashua Telegraph Mark Davis Valley News Maddie Hanna Concord Monitor 2012 Maggie Cassidy Valley News Maryalice Gill Nashua Telegraph Meg Heckman Concord Monitor Annmarie Timmins Concord Monitor 2013 Todd Bookman NH Public Radio Sarah Brubeck Valley News Christopher Garofolo Eagle Times Kathryn Marchocki Union Leader	Kaitlin Mulhere The Keene Sentinel 2014 Emily Corwin NH Public Radio Alyssa Dandrea The Keene Sentinel Nora Doyle-Burr Valley News Peter McGuire Forecaster Newspapers Kerry Miller Eagle Times 2015 Jeremy Blackman Concord Monitor Megan Doyle Concord Monitor Rob Wolfe Valley News 2016 Peter Biello New Hampshire Public Radio Tim Camerato Valley News Meghan Foley The Keene Sentinel Allie Morris Concord Monitor Ella Nilsen Concord Monitor 2017 Caitlin Andrews Concord Monitor Allison DeAngelis Eagle-Tribune Casey McDermott New Hampshire Public Radio Paige Sutherland New Hampshire Public Radio 2018 Breanna Edelstein The Eagle Tribune Sierra Hubbard The Keene Sentinel Meg McIntyre The Keene Sentinel 2019 Hadley Barndollar Portsmouth Herald Paul Cuno-Booth The Keene Sentinel	Mary McIntyre New Hampshire Public Radio Leah Willingham Concord Monitor 2020 Olivia Belanger The Kenne Sentinel Madeline Hughes The Eagle-Tribune Alexander LaCasse Seacoast Media Group 2021 Julia Furukawa New Hampshire Public Radio Amanda Gokee New Hampshire Bulletin Cassidy Jensen Concord Monitor Jordan Phelan Eagle Times Jack Rooney Keene Sentinel 2022 Ryan Spencer Keene Sentinel Michaela Towfighi Concord Monitor 2023 Jamie Costa Concord Monitor Hunter Oberst The Keene Sentinel Olivia Richardson New Hampshire Public Radio 2024 Sruthi Gopalakrishnan Concord Monitor Charlotte Matherly Concord Monitor Catherine McLaughlin Concord Monitor <u>RHODE ISLAND</u> 2011 Amanda Milkovits Providence Journal David Scharfenberg Providence Phoenix Karen Ziner Providence Journal 2012 Lynn Arditi Providence Journal
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Proud to invest in the future of local journalism.

Sadie Brandt | University of Rhode Island

Katie Castellani | Providence Business News

Addison Mason | Roger Williams University

Kate Wilkinson | WPRI-TV

Timothy Yean | Rhode Island College

Rhode Island Foundation

rifoundation.org

Ian Donnis
Rhode Island
Public Radio

Kathleen Mulvaney
Providence Journal
2013

Bill Malinowski
Providence Journal

Mark Reynolds
Providence Journal
2014

Randal Edgar
Providence Journal

Paul Grimaldi
Providence Journal

Janine Weisman
Newport Mercury
2015

Jennifer Bogdan
Providence Journal

Alex Kuffner
Providence Journal

Steph Machado
WPRI-Providence
2016

**Jacqueline
Tempera**
Providence Journal
2017

Kate Bramson
Providence Journal

Susan Campbell
WPRI-Providence

Derek Gomes
Newport Daily News

Diana Pinzon
WPRI-Providence
2018

Brian Amaral
Providence Journal

Parker Gavigan
WJAR-Cranston

Kim Kalunian
WPRI-Providence
2019

Jessica Botelho
WJAR-Cranston

Laura Damon
The Newport
Daily News

Hannah Dickison
WPRI-Providence

Nadine Maya Sebai
The Public's Radio

2020
Madeleine List
Providence Journal

2021
Jeremy Bernfeld
The Public's Radio

Lauren Clem
The Valley Breeze

Sarah Guernelli
WPRI-Providence

Rachel Nunes
Patch

Amy Russo
Providence Journal

2022
Temi-Tope Adeleye
WJAR

Wheeler
Cowperthwaite
Providence Journal

**Jacqueline
Gomersall**
WPRI

Nina Sparling
The Public's Radio

Zane Wolfgang
Newport Daily News
2023

Colleen Cronin
ecoRI

Savana Dunning
The Newport Daily News

Cheryl Hatch
The Public's Radio

Alexandra Leslie
WPRI-Providence

Stella Lorence
Woonsocket Call
2024

Ben Berke
The Public's Radio

Nancy Lavin
Rhode Island Current

Chris Shea
Rhode Island Current

Rob Smith
ecoRI

Alex Torres-Perez
WPRI

VERMONT
2011

John Briggs
Burlington Free Press

Anne Galloway
Vermont Digger

Shay Totten
Seven Days
2012

Dan D'Ambrosio
Burlington Free Press

Jennifer Cleveland
Caledonian-Record

Andrew Stein
Vermont Digger
2013

Nathan Burgess
Stowe Reporter

Olga Peters
The Commons

Jennifer Reading
WCAX
2014

Taylor Dobbs
Vermont Public Radio

Abby Ledoux
Milton Independent

Allison Teague
The Commons
2015

April Burbank
Burlington Free Press

Lola Duffort
Rutland Herald

Lesley Engle
Fox44/ABC22

Courtney Lamdin
Milton Independent
2016

Jess Aloe
Burlington Free Press

Colin Flanders
The Essex Reporter
and Colchester Sun

Stephanie Gorin
NBC5-Vermont

Katie Jickling
The Herald

Elizabeth Murray
Burlington Free Press
2017

Alicia Freese
Seven Days

Tommy Gardner
Stowe Reporter

Hilary Niles
Independent

Adam Silverman
Burlington Free Press

Greg Sukiennik
New England
Newspapers

2018
Catherine Buni
Independent

Staci DaSilva
WFFF-Burlington

Xander Landen
VTDigger
2019

Liam
Elder-Connors
Vermont Public Radio

Christopher Mays
Brattleboro Reformer

Alex Nuti-de Biasi
Journal Opinion

Orrin Schonfeld
WPTZ-Burlington

Cat Viglienzoni
WCAX-Burlington
2020

Devin Bates
Local 22/44

Tom Garris
WPTZ NBC 5

Anna Merriman
Valley News

Christopher Ross
Addison County
Independent

Tiffany Tan
Bennington Banner
2021

Dom Amato
WCAX-Burlington

Jack Lyons
VT Digger
2022

April Barton
Burlington Free Press

Kevin Gaiss
WCAX

Michael
Hoey-Lukakis
WVNY/WFFF

Lilly St. Angelo
Burlington Free Press
2023

Sophia
Buckley-Clement
Rutland Herald

Corey McDonald
Vermont Community
Newspapers

Katy Savage
Mountain Times

Megan Stewart
Burlington Free Press
2024

Emma Cotton
VT Digger

Shaun Robinson
VT Digger

Laura Ullman
WCAX

REGIONAL
2021

Maya Ergas
Shwayder
New England
Public Media

Kyle Stucker
Gannett New England

STUDENT
2023

Susan Azizi
Salve Regina University

Noble Brigham
Brown University

Lauren Drapeau
University of
Rhode Island

Tyler Jackman
Rhode Island College
2024

Juliannie Ayala
University of
Massachusetts Amherst

Caitlyn A. Bailey
Salve Regina University

Ava Berger
Boston University

Maria
Gabriela De Leon
Rhode Island College

Sonel Cutler
Northeastern University

Hannah Nguyen
Emerson College

Ellie Sennhenn
University
of Rhode Island

**Alexandra
Tavaglione**
Roger Williams
University

2025 Institute Schedule

Local Programming

CONNECTICUT

Oct. 10 | 10 a.m.

ACLU of Connecticut

765 Asylum Avenue, Hartford

Dan Barrett | ACLU of Connecticut
Mike Savino | NBC Connecticut

MAINE

Oct. 7 | 12 p.m.

Preti Flaherty

45 Memorial Circle #401, Augusta

Judith Meyer | MFOIC
Sigmund Schutz | Preti Flaherty

MASSACHUSETTS

Oct. 15 | 2 p.m.

The Boston Globe

One Exchange Place #201, Boston

Peter J. Caruso, Sr. | Caruso & Caruso
Laura Crimaldi | The Boston Globe

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Oct. 9 | 12 p.m.

ACLU of New Hampshire

18 Low Avenue, Concord

Gilles Bissonnette | ACLU of NH
Annmarie Timmins | NHPR

RHODE ISLAND

TBD

Oliverio & Marcaccio

30 Romano Vineyard Way, N. Kingstown

Ray Marcaccio | Oliverio & Marcaccio
Tim White | WPRI-Providence

VERMONT

Oct. 16 | 10 a.m.

Seven Days

255 So. Champlain Street, Burlington

Courtney Lamdin | Seven Days
Hillary Rich | ACLU of Vermont

Remote Programming

MEET AND GREET TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE

Oct. 1 | 7 p.m.

Megan Sherman | Westside Events

INTRODUCTION TO R PREP SESSION

Oct. 15 | 11:30 a.m.

Maggie Mulvihill | Boston University



Boston University

October 24

5:00 Registration

[Hotel Commonwealth]

5:30 – 8:30 Dinner Program

[Hotel Commonwealth]

All fellows will be meeting at the Hotel Commonwealth to network and enjoy NEFAC's annual awards ceremony.

Honorees for the evening include

John King at CNN, staff members of The Boston Globe, Nashua resident and open government advocate Laurie Ortolano, and Katherine Revello at the Connecticut Inside Investigator.

Scan QR code for full curriculum and links to class materials.



October 25

8:15 – 8:30 Announcements

[COM 209]

8:30 – 10:00 Common Pitfalls with FOI Requests and How to Respond [COM 209]

Lau Guzmán | NHPR
Ryan Kath | NBC10 Boston

Judy Meyer | MFOIC

Moderator: Jenifer McKim | GBH News

10:00 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 12:00 Effective Sourcing [COM 209]

Cindy Galli | IRE

Jenifer McKim | GBH News

Brad Petrishen | Telegram & Gazette

Moderator: Meghan Irons | Boston University

12:00 – 12:30 Break

October 25 (Continued)

12:30 – 2:45 Break-Out Classes

12:30 – 1:30 Class 1

1:30 – 1:45 Break / Lunch Served

1:45 – 2:45 Class 2

BUSINESS REPORTING [COM 206]

Robert Gavin | The Boston Globe

CLIMATE [COM 208]

Beth Daley | The Conversation

TRAUMA REPORTING [COM 213]

Naseem Miller | The Journalist's Resource

EDUCATION [COM 211]

Marina Villeneuve | The Hechinger Report

POLICE REPORTING [COM 215]

Brad Petrishen | Telegram & Gazette

STUDENT JOURNALISM [COM 214]

Meghan Irons | Boston University

2:45 – 3:15 Break

2:00 – 3:30 Intro to Copyright Law and Newsroom Legal Q/A
[COM 209]

Robert A. Bertsche | Klaris Law
Gregory V. Sullivan | NEFAC

Introductions: Justin Silverman | NEFAC Executive Director

5:45 – 6:45 Networking
[Hotel Commonwealth]

6:45 – 9:00 (or later) Dinner and Keynote Presentation
[Hotel Commonwealth]

Raney Aronson-Rath | FRONTLINE

Moderator: Shirley Leung | The Boston Globe

October 26

8:15 – 8:30 Announcements
[COM 209]

8:30 – 10:00 How AI Can Support Local Journalism [COM 209]

Nikita Roy | Newsroom Robots Lab

Introduction: Justin Silverman | New England First Amendment Coalition

10:00 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 12:30 Database Analysis Break-Out Classes

BASIC DATABASE ANALYSIS
[COM 213]

Brooke Williams | Boston University
Andrew Botolino | Boston University

INTRODUCTION TO R [COM 215]

Maggie Mulvihill | Boston University

12:30 – 2:00 Lunch [COM 209]

1:00 Keynote Speaker

Geeta Anand | VTDigger

Introduction: Gregory V. Sullivan | New England First Amendment Coalition

2:00 – 2:45 Photo/Break

2:45 – 4:15 Break-Out Classes

CONFRONTATIONAL INTERVIEWS
[COM 213]

Jim Hummel | The Hummel Report

WRITING WORKSHOP
AND NARRATIVE FLOW [COM 215]

Dick Lehr | Boston University

4:15 – 4:30 Break

4:30 – 5:30 Former Fellows Discussion [COM 209]

Grace Ferguson | New Bedford Light
Chris Shea | Rhode Island Current

Moderator: Justin Silverman | New England First Amendment Coalition

5:30 – 5:45 Concluding Remarks
[COM 209]

Justin Silverman | New England First Amendment Coalition



Join us each month for a new quick-hit lesson on journalism and the First Amendment.

View previous classes and register for upcoming ones at:
nefac.org/30minuteskills

Indispensable and unstoppable, Gloria Negri was at the heart of the Globe

By Thomas Farragher

There had been a shooting on the North Shore and as the all-male editors of The Boston Globe scanned their sparkling new newsroom on Morrissey Boulevard on that sleepy Saturday afternoon in the late 1950s, their options for quick coverage were slim.

The only reporter in sight was the new kid, a young woman fresh from the Miami Herald, a Brown University graduate named Gloria Negri. Surely they couldn't send a woman to a grisly crime scene, could they?

And then Negri walked up to the city desk and said something she would repeat countless times over the next half century. "Send me," she said.

When President Kennedy and his wife, Jacqueline, lost their infant son in August 1963 it was an eternally sad story that required just the right touch. "Send me," Gloria said.

When young women were turning up dead in their Boston apartments, strangled by a madman on the loose, the Globe dreamed up an idea that seems insane now. Let's put a woman on a park bench in the South End as bait for the killer. "Send me," Gloria said.

When men blasted off from Cape Kennedy, bound for the moon, somebody had to go to Florida to cover it. "Send me," Gloria said.

Race riots. Apartheid. Chappaquiddick. Assassinations. Papal visits. Pen-nant fever at Fenway Park. Presidential campaigns. The theft of a bronzed duckling at the Public Garden. Hundreds of deftly written obituaries, carefully crafted stories now framed by grateful families across Eastern Massachusetts.

All of it — the work of a pioneering newspaper woman — now carefully tucked into yellowing scrapbooks beneath her bed, and preserved on microfilm for posterity. It is the legacy of a woman who dedicated her life to this newspaper.

I ask for your indulgence today as we pay tribute to one of our own. If you're reading this, you were part of her extended family. The Boston Globe was in many ways Gloria's home. Her living room. Her den. Her kitchen. The place where she grew up.

Gloria died on Sunday morning as a fresh blanket of snow covered a breathtaking hillside in Hingham outside her

"A few years ago, I was invited to join some friends on a trip to Australia. I couldn't make up my mind to go until an hour before the flight left Boston. The travel agency had to speed my ticket over by special delivery. When I got to Sydney, my friends had left three days earlier. Never did catch up with them, though I came close in Fiji."

In 1997, I became Gloria's colleague and, in short order, her friend. We lived within a mile of each other. My kids mowed her lawn and shoveled her snow. And she would dote on them afterward with sweets and soft drinks. They learned that she appreciated the chores they did for her. But what she really loved was their company.

And what company it was.

Over Saturday afternoon beers at her kitchen table, the stories of Gloria's life and career spilled out in delightful detail.

If you had pulled up a chair next to me,

here's some of what you would have heard.

She sipped whiskey at the LBJ ranch in Texas with Lady Bird Johnson, where her dress somehow got ripped and repair work was done with the help of LBJ's daughters.

She spent a year in South Africa, once driving all night across bush country for an interview with Desmond Tutu.

She went on a morning run with Joe Frazier in 1971 when he was training for his titanic fight with Muhammad Ali.

She rode an elephant in the circus, rang the Salvation Army bell over a red kettle at Christmastime, followed Margaret Heckler to Dublin, flew to Northern Italy when a major earthquake struck, and had to be told to leave Saigon during the height of the Vietnam War.

"Gloria Negri wants to stay," members of the Associated Press's Saigon bureau



window and Christmas carols played softly in the background.

She was whip-smart, funny, feisty, stubborn, loyal, deeply appreciative of any kindness to come her way, and wonderfully absent-minded. She also was a poet at her keyboard. The woman could flat-out write. Lyrical.

She was a columnist for the old Evening Globe, a job shoehorned between regular assignments and coverage of breaking news. She would write late at night on her trusty Royal typewriter and — very early in the morning — summon Globe photographer Dan Sheehan to collect her copy and drive it to the Globe for publication that afternoon.

She was a world-class procrastinator. The woman simply could not — would not — make up her mind.

Here she is from a May 1973 Globe column headlined, so aptly, "Manana."

wrote to their superiors in New York, who forwarded the message to Globe publisher Bill Taylor in Boston.

Taylor, who feared for her life, had a succinct reply: “No,” he wrote back.

So Gloria came back to Boston, much to the delight of her editors.

“I could send you out to cover clothes drying on a clothes line and you’d come back with a great story,” an editor once told her. It was a compliment any reporter would treasure. And she did.

Over the past 20 years, at doctor’s appointments with Gloria or during our long commutes to and from the South Shore, I marveled at the length and breadth of her career.

You can learn a lot about a person during times like those. I learned that Gloria first heard George Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue,” his 1924 musical composition, as a young girl while on a train heading for Boston. She loved it.

I learned that she once, with an old boyfriend, sneaked a shaker full of martini into the bleachers at Fenway Park — not far from her beloved home on the “Fabulous Fenway.” It helped to cement

her lifelong love of the Red Sox.

I learned that once, on assignment for the Globe, she interviewed Officer Obie on Main Street in Stockbridge. Obie is featured in the Arlo Guthrie song “Alice’s

done as a kid fresh out of college.

“And when the presses are rolling at night, I still feel that tingle,” she said.

Gloria had a stock answer whenever I asked, as I did nearly every day, “How are you doing?”

“Oh, I’m falling apart at the seams,” she would answer without fail.

It wasn’t true. Until it was.

When Gloria died the other morning, there was a beautiful picture of her beloved mother hanging on the wall over her bed.

Shortly before she drew her last breath, she sat up and seemed to reach for that picture.

“I want my mother,” she often told me in recent weeks.

And the image of that reunion gives me comfort — gives comfort to her entire Globe family — as we say goodbye to a Boston Globe original, my friend, the great Gloria Negri.



Restaurant,” and that interview has always struck me as an emblem of Gloria’s far-flung, remarkable journalism career.

Even in the twilight of her 53-year Globe career, Gloria told me that she still could feel the competitiveness and the thrill of producing stories just as she had

This tribute to Gloria originally appeared in The Boston Globe on December 11, 2017. It is republished here with permission from the Globe and Thomas Farragher.



The Academy of New England Journalists

Proud sponsor of the
Gloria L. Negri
First Amendment Institute

The Academy of New England Journalists is a proud sponsor of The Gloria L. Negri First Amendment Institute. Congratulations to the 2025 Negri Institute fellows, who are among the very best and brightest journalists in our six-state region.

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

Richard K. Lodge, *Chair*
Academy of New England Journalists



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

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

Keynote Speakers

Raney Aronson-Rath FRONTLINE



Raney Aronson-Rath is the editor-in-chief and executive producer of FRONTLINE, PBS' flagship investigative journalism documentary series produced at GBH in Boston. She's a leading voice on the future of journalism and has cemented FRONTLINE's reputation as a trustworthy source. Aronson-Rath oversees FRONTLINE's acclaimed reporting, and directs

the series' editorial vision — executive producing more than 20 in-depth documentaries each year on critical issues facing the country and the world. Under her leadership, FRONTLINE has investigated the impact of Russia's war on Ukraine, the deep historical and regional context behind the Israel-Hamas war,

threats to democracy in the U.S. and abroad and the world's response to a global coronavirus pandemic. She has expanded FRONTLINE's reporting capacity, leading an initiative to bolster local journalism in news deserts, and guided FRONTLINE's evolution from a longstanding documentary series to a multi-platform journalism organization committed to uncovering vital stories and telling them in new ways. One such example is the award-winning project Un(re)solved, an examination of a federal effort to grapple with America's legacy of racist killings. FRONTLINE has won every major award in broadcast journalism under Aronson-Rath's leadership, including Peabody Awards, Emmy Awards, and, in 2019, the first Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Gold Baton to be awarded in a decade. FRONTLINE's reporting has been recognized with myriad journalism honors including Overseas Press Club Awards, Scripps Howard Awards, the Nieman Foundation's Bingham Prize for Investigative Journalism and the Peabody Institutional Award.

Geeta Anand VTDigger



Geeta Anand is editor-in-chief of VTDigger and former reporter for The Boston Globe. A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author and former university dean, Anand's career includes nearly 30 years of investigative and public service journalism. Before joining VTDigger, she served as dean of the University of California Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism and worked as

a foreign correspondent for The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal, reporting from India on a range of international issues. Anand began her career in Vermont, covering southern Vermont and Rutland for The Rutland Herald, where her reporting on credit reporting errors led to congressional action. She later covered City Hall for The Boston Globe and is the author of "The Cure," a book about a family's search for medical answers that was adapted into the film "Extraordinary Measures," starring Harrison Ford. Anand's commitment to rigorous, community-focused journalism has shaped her career, from small-town reporting to global stories.

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Faculty and Other Speakers



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Dan Barrett is the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut's legal director. His interests in the law include anonymous speech, freedom of movement, mass surveillance, and maximizing democratic control of government through open courts and open records. Prior to coming to the ACLU of Connecticut, Barrett directed the litigation at the ACLU of Vermont for seven years and clerked for the Hon. Janet Bond Arterton of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut.



Robert Bertsche
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Rob Bertsche joined Klaris Law in late 2021 because today's creative world is moving too fast for any of us to stand still. As an adviser, counselor, and fighter for media entities for several decades, Bertsche wanted to be sure his clients had access to the very latest expertise as new forms of creative messaging evolve. So he brought his journalistic chops, boundless curiosity, and hard-won legal wisdom to a firm that can help him apply it to emerging media and technologies. Bertsche thrives on working with journalists, documentary filmmakers, editors, producers, and all manner of creative types. His idea of success is when he has helped a writer, photographer, or artist fulfill their vision while managing and minimizing their real-world risk — and has done so without leaving any telltale legal footprints. Perhaps that's because he started his working life as a newspaperman, then studied publishing, then helped fact-check and edit a start-up magazine — all before attending law school and cultivating a lifelong love affair with the First Amendment. He remains a news junkie who works best when he's on deadline. Over many years, Bertsche has had the good fortune to craft a smorgasbord legal practice that complements his eclectic interests and skills: prepublication and pre-broadcast review; legal and editorial counseling; and litigation avoidance and management.



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Gilles Bissonnette is the Legal Director at the ACLU of New Hampshire, where he leads a team of three civil rights lawyers. He has litigated cases on the criminalization of poverty, voting, police and government accountability, public records, the First Amendment, immigrants' rights, and criminal justice issues. Bissonnette has testified before the New Hampshire legislature on hundreds of bills impacting civil liberties. He is the 2022 recipient of the New Hampshire Bar Association's Distinguished Service to the Public Award. In 2021, his legal team — along with co-counsel — received the Granite State Advocacy Award from the New Hampshire Association for Justice.



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Peter J. Caruso, Sr., has represented the media in some of the most high-profile court cases in Massachusetts history since 1977. Caruso has represented print professionals in a vast spectrum of media litigation, including defamation, media and Internet law, newspaper access, advertising acceptance, news reporting, copyright and publications law. He is a Massachusetts Bar Fellow and a member of the American Bar Association and its Forum on Communications Law.



Laura Crimaldi
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Laura Crimaldi is an investigative reporter who joined the Globe newsroom in 2012. In 2021, she shared a Pulitzer Prize in investigative reporting for the Globe series, "Blind Spot," which exposed failures by state governments to share information about dangerous drivers and lax federal oversight of the trucking industry. Crimaldi frequently writes about the criminal justice system and her work has been recognized with a national Edward R. Murrow award, the Al Nakkula Award for Police Reporting from the University of Colorado in Boulder and Denver Press Club, a Sigma Delta Chi award from the Society of Professional Journalists, and honors from the Society for Features Journalism. During the Great Recession, Crimaldi covered the foreclosure crisis with reporting that was recognized by the New England Associated Press News Executives Association with the Sevellon Brown Public Service Award. She was also a finalist for a Livingston Award, which recognizes journalists aged 35 and younger. A graduate of Smith College, Crimaldi has been covering news in New England since 2001. At the Globe, she's been a metro reporter, a member of the "quick strike" investigative team, and a news and business producer for boston.com. Crimaldi is a former director for the New England First Amendment Coalition. A writing teacher in Milford, Mass., introduced her to journalism by putting her on the staff of the school newspaper, The Woodland Word. Her professional career began at her hometown newspaper, The Milford Daily News. Crimaldi lives outside Boston with her husband, a photojournalist, and their son.



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Beth Daley is the Executive Editor and General Manager of The Conversation US. Previously Daley had a leadership position at InsideClimate News. A Pulitzer Prize finalist for climate reporting at The Boston Globe, she also worked at the New England Center for Investigative Reporting as a reporter and director of partnerships. As Director of Strategic Development

at InsideClimate, she worked to diversify the Pulitzer Prize-winning news outlet's revenue stream. Daley attended Stanford University as a John S. Knight Journalism fellow.



Grace Ferguson
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Grace Ferguson is an enterprise reporter for the New Bedford Light. She graduated summa cum laude from Boston University in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. As an undergraduate fellow for WBUR, she contributed public records research to award-winning police accountability investigations. Her investigative reporting has also appeared in WGBH and The Daily Dot.



Cindy Galli
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Cindy Galli is a board member of Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE) and was most recently the executive producer of ABC News' award-winning investigative unit, where she oversaw a team of reporters and producers specializing in investigations ranging from government fraud and corporate corruption to racial injustice, consumer and environmental issues. The team was recently honored with Peabody and Emmy nominations as well as a duPont-Columbia Silver Baton, national Murrow and Overseas Press Club awards for its work. Cindy also built and launched a collaborative team comprised of owned station and affiliate reporters, working closely with her team to share resources and innovate enterprise storytelling across many platforms.



Robert Gavin
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Rob Gavin is a long-time business journalist. He was an economics reporter at the Wall Street Journal and Boston Globe, covering the 2008 financial crisis and Great Recession before giving up honest work to edit the Globe's Sunday business section. He became energy editor and later business editor at the Houston Chronicle, retiring in 2022 and returning to Boston, where he teaches at Boston University and fills in on the Globe's business desk.



Lau Guzmán
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Lau Guzmán covers Latino and immigrant communities at NHPR. Her goal is to report stories for New Hampshire's growing population of first and second generation immigrants, particularly folks from Latin America and the Caribbean. Guzmán hopes to lower barriers to news for Spanish speakers by contributing to the WhatsApp news service, ¿Qué Hay de

Nuevo, New Hampshire? She also hopes to keep the community informed with the latest on how to handle changing policy on the subjects they most care about — immigration, education, housing and health.



Jim Hummel
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Jim Hummel has been a reporter in Rhode Island for more than 40 years across all mediums: he started with The Providence Journal in 1982, before moving to ABC6-TV in 1995, where he won the Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting. In 2009 he founded The Hummel Report, an online nonprofit investigative website - and in 2012 created The Rhode Island Spotlight series, running online and on Rhode Island PBS, where he is also the moderator of the station's weekly public affairs program, A Lively Experiment. Hummel's career has mirrored the changes in the journalism profession over the past three decades. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he majored in journalism and political science.



Meghan E. Irons
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Meghan Irons is an award-winning journalist who worked for the Boston Globe for more than two decades. She specializes in social justice issues and was part of a Globe team that were Pulitzer Prize finalists for local news in 2020. Irons currently works as a journalism professor at Boston University.



Ryan Kath
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Ryan Kath is a national award-winning investigative journalist with a reputation for uncovering problems, exposing taxpayer waste, protecting consumers, holding public officials accountable, and prompting positive changes in communities. His investigations have earned more than 30 regional Emmy Awards, including being nominated as an outstanding investigative reporter for the past 15 years. He has received 12 regional Edward R. Murrow Awards and a prestigious national honor from the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards for an investigative documentary about the missteps surrounding a natural gas explosion at a restaurant. Since joining NBC10 Boston in 2018, Kath and the investigative team have launched two award-winning series: To Catch a Contractor and Small Town Secrets. Before that, Kath spent three years in the Boston market at WBZ-TV, eight years at KSHB-TV in Kansas City, and two years at KTTC-TV in Rochester, Minnesota. Kath earned a master's degree in broadcast journalism at Boston University in 2004. He's maintained his connection to the campus as an adjunct professor since 2018. It was at BU where Kath met his wife. The couple are now proud parents of two daughters and also have a mischievous adopted pooch named Pancake. On the weekends, you'll find Kath on the sidelines coaching his daughters or chasing his misguided soccer aspirations in the New England over-the-hill league.



Courtney A. Lamdin
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Courtney A. Lamdin is a news reporter covering the city of Burlington, Vt. for the independent weekly newspaper Seven Days. Lamdin grew up in Central Vermont

and discovered her love for reporting after reading “All the President’s Men” in a high school journalism class. She studied journalism at St. Michael’s College, later returning there as a part-time adjunct professor. A 2015 Negri Institute fellow, Lamdin previously worked as the executive editor of three weekly papers serving Vermont’s largest county. At Seven Days, Lamdin has written extensively about police accountability, including stories that forced two police chiefs to resign in a matter of months.



Richard Lehr
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Dick Lehr is a professor of journalism, an author and podcast host. His books include “White Hot Hate: A True Story of Domestic Terrorism in America’s Heartland”; “Dead Reckoning: The Story

of How Johnny Mitchell and His Fighter Pilots Took on Admiral Yamamoto and Avenged Pearl Harbor”; “Trell: Nothing But the Truth,” a novel for young adults; “The Birth of a Movement: How Birth of a Nation Ignited the Battle for Civil Rights,” which was the basis for a PBS/Independent Lens documentary of the same title; “The Fence: A Police Cover-up Along Boston’s Racial Divide”; the New York Times bestseller, “Black Mass: Whitey Bulger, The FBI, and A Devil’s Deal”, and its sequel, “Whitey: The Life of America’s Most Notorious Mob Boss.” Black Mass was the basis for a Warner Bros. movie of the same title, starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Johnny Depp as the Boston gangster Whitey Bulger; Lehr is the host of ABC Audio’s podcast series, “Truth and Lies: The Informant”, and “Truth and Lies: The Boston Strangler.” Lehr previously wrote for The Boston Globe, where he was a long-time member of the Spotlight Team, a special projects reporter and a magazine writer. While a member of the Spotlight Team he was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in investigative reporting and won numerous national and local journalism awards. Before the Globe, he was a staff reporter at The Hartford Courant and The Weekly Old Lyme Gazette.



Shirley Leung
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Shirley Leung is an award-winning columnist at The Boston Globe, where she covers the intersection of business, politics, and workplace gender and diversity

issues. She has served as the Globe’s business editor and interim editorial page editor, and was featured on Boston Magazine’s list of ‘100 Most Influential People.’ Leung currently hosts the Globe Opinion podcast “Say More,” available wherever you listen to podcasts, and is a regular contributor to GBH’s “Boston Public Radio.” Before joining The Globe, she reported for The Wall Street Journal. A graduate of Princeton University, Leung began her career at her hometown paper, The Baltimore Sun.



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Raymond A. Marcaccio is the co-founder of Oliverio & Marcaccio LLP. Marcaccio enjoys a varied practice in trial and appellate advocacy, as well as conducting sensitive internal investigations concerning

misconduct, discrimination and sexual harassment. He has been representing the news media for over 20 years in all facets of media law, including pre-publication review, access to public records and meetings, and defending against defamation claims.



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Jenifer McKim leads the GBH News Center for Investigative Reporting and the Equity and Justice Unit for GBH News

in Boston. She specializes in social justice issues, including child welfare, human trafficking, criminal justice and financial inequity. Her multimedia investigations have earned numerous awards, including two national Edward R. Murrow Awards, a Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, and the Freedom of Information Award from the New England First Amendment Coalition. She also was a named finalist for the 2005 Pulitzer Prize in Public Service. McKim has worked as a staff reporter at The Boston Globe, the Orange County Register in Southern California, the San Juan Star in Puerto Rico and the New England Center for Investigative Reporting. McKim is a fellow at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. She tries to keep up her French and Spanish.



Judith Meyer
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Judith Meyer is a vice president of the Maine Freedom of Information Coalition and a former executive editor of the Sun Journal, Kennebec Journal, the Morning

Sentinel and seven weekly newspapers owned by the Sun Media Group. She is also a member of the Right to Know Advisory Committee to the Legislature. A journalist since 1990 and former editorial page editor for the Sun Journal, she was named Maine’s Journalist of the Year in 2003 and was inducted in the Maine Press Association Hall of Fame in 2021.



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Naseem Miller is senior editor for health at The Journalist’s Resource. She joined JR in 2021 after working as a health reporter in local newspapers and national

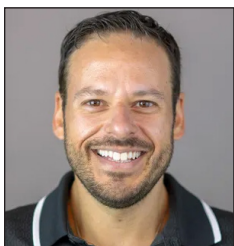
medical trade publications for nearly two decades. Before joining JR, she was a senior health reporter at the Orlando Sentinel, where she covered the Pulse nightclub mass shooting and was part of the

team that was a 2016 Pulitzer Prize finalist for its coverage of the tragedy. In 2017, she co-started the Journalists Covering Trauma Facebook group as a gathering place for reporters and editors and an information resource about journalists' mental health and responsible reporting of tragedies.



Maggie Mulvihill
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Maggie Mulvihill is a veteran reporter, data journalism trainer, news entrepreneur, First Amendment advocate and attorney. She has been a member of the BU Journalism faculty since 2009, where she developed the Journalism Department's first data journalism course and teaches the Law and Ethics of Media and reporting classes. Among other news outlets, her work has appeared in the Associated Press, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, The Maine Monitor, The New Bedford Light, The Cape Cod Times, The Worcester Telegram, The American Bar Association Journal, NBC Digital, New England Living, The Lawrence Eagle Tribune, The Berkshire Eagle, The Middlesex Daily News, The Patriot Ledger, The Contrarian Boston, The TAB newspapers, The Boston Herald, the Crime Report, Massachusetts' Lawyer's Weekly, The Center for Public Integrity, National Public Radio (NPR), WGBH and WBUR. Mulvihill's students have earned more than a dozen regional or national journalism awards for stories ranging from juvenile killers to the criminalization of the homeless, to uncovering serious deficiencies in workplace safety during COVID-19 and state lottery systems. Mulvihill and her students collaborate regularly with other local and national journalists and in 2023, her students were part of a collaboration that won first place for small newsrooms in the AI Neuharth Innovation in Investigative Journalism Award from the Online News Association. Also, in 2023, Mulvihill's students shared in the Shaufler Prize for Journalism for their reporting on flaws and discrimination within state lottery systems.



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Brad Petrishen has worked as a journalist in Massachusetts since graduating in 2008 from Framingham State University, where he served as editor of the school newspaper. He has been recognized numerous times by the New England Newspaper & Press Association for his work, including for investigative journalism. He has reported on several regions in the state, including for The MetroWest Daily News in Framingham, the Winchester Star, and, since 2014, the T&G in Worcester.



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Hillary Rich joined the ACLU of Vermont as its first legal fellow in October 2021. After graduating from the State University of New York at Geneseo, Rich worked as a research coordinator in Rochester, New York, managing projects studying reproductive healthcare and abortion access. She received her law degree from Cornell Law

School, where she focused on the intersection of immigrants' rights and gender justice. Prior to joining the ACLU of Vermont, Rich represented asylum seekers and detained families at the U.S. southern border as an immigration staff attorney with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid.



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Nikita Roy is a data scientist, journalist, and Harvard-recognized AI futurist. She is the founder of Newsroom Robots Lab, an AI training, strategy, and product development company for media organizations, currently incubating at Harvard Innovation Labs. She also hosts the Newsroom Robots Podcast, which has ranked among the top technology podcasts in more than 30 countries on Apple Podcasts. As a Knight Fellow at the International Center for Journalists, Roy led global efforts to accelerate responsible AI adoption in journalism. She launched and led the AI Journalism Lab at the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY, supported by Microsoft, and serves on the school's AI Advisory Board. She was named one of twelve pioneers and power players shaping the future of news in the 2025 Future Today Strategy Group Tech Trends Report. Roy also serves on the national board of the Canadian Association of Journalists and is co-chair of its 2026 national conference. An alumna of Harvard University and the University of Toronto, Roy champions responsible AI in media through strategy, product development and hands-on training.



Mike Savino
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Mike Savino is the political reporter for NBC Connecticut, making sure Connecticut's government officials work on behalf of the voters. Savino is a lifelong Connecticut resident who loves telling the stories of his home state. He's an alumnus of the University of Connecticut and a graduate of E.O. Smith High School. Prior to joining NBC Connecticut, Savino worked for several newsrooms around Connecticut. He started his career as a staff writer for the Chronicle in Willimantic, then moved on to the Journal Inquirer in Manchester and the Meriden Record-Journal. He then made the switch to TV, joining a local Connecticut station.



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Sigmund D. Schutz represents the news media in First Amendment matters, defamation and privacy, state and federal freedom of information, newsgathering and cyber law. As a partner at Preti Flaherty, LLP and media law counsel for the Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram for more than 25 years, Schutz has served as counsel in many precedent setting public access cases in Maine. They have involved access to transcripts of 911 calls, the right to attend jury selection in criminal cases in Maine state court, access to "draft" settlement



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Christopher Shea covers politics, cannabis, transportation and housing for Rhode Island Current. He previously was editor of Dartmouth Week for nearly two years after rising from a reporter position. During his time there, he broke the story in Massachusetts of the closure of the former ICE facility at the Bristol County House of Corrections. A Wisconsin native who is fluent in Spanish, Shea graduated from the University of Minnesota and interned at The Minneapolis Star Tribune.



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Gregory V. Sullivan is president of the New England First Amendment Coalition and served as general counsel for the Union Leader Corporation for more than 40 years. He has represented Union Leader and many other media organizations regarding First Amendment issues in federal and state courts. Sullivan serves on the New Hampshire Supreme Court's Committee on the Judiciary and the Media, and served on the Committee for Public Access to Courts, and is president of the Hingham, Mass.-based media law firm, Malloy & Sullivan. Sullivan has successfully argued before the New Hampshire Supreme Court and in several landmark First Amendment and public access cases including Union Leader v. U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security in 2014.



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Annmarie Timmins is the education and youth reporter for New Hampshire Public Radio. Prior to joining NHPR, she covered health for the nonprofit New Hampshire Bulletin, which she helped found in 2021, and social justice issues for the Concord Monitor. During her year as a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, Timmins studied the intersection of mental illness and criminal justice.



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Marina Villeneuve is an investigative reporter with a passion for uncovering inequality. She previously covered Trump's legal battles and the Supreme Court for Salon. She also was an investigative producer at a local Boston television station, where she specialized in data reporting and led an

Emmy award-winning investigation into abuse at public schools. She worked for over six years as a statehouse reporter for The Associated Press covering New York and Maine, where she chronicled the administrations of former Govs. Andrew Cuomo and Paul LePage. She has also covered Colombian peace negotiations for the Washington Post, Congress for the L.A. Times and Gannett Washington Bureau, and northern New Jersey municipalities for The (Bergen) Record. She is a board member of Investigative Reporters and Editors and the financial officer for the New England chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. In 2023, she received a national fellowship from the USC Annenberg Center for Health Journalism. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College, where she majored in government with a focus on constitutional law. She has also earned a certificate in data journalism from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.



Tim White
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Tim White is an investigative reporter and managing editor for the CBS affiliate in Providence, R.I. White joined the 12 News team in September 2006 and is the recipient of seven New England Emmy Awards, including five for investigative reporting. He was also part of a team that was honored with a 2022 national Edward R. Murrow Award for overall excellence. White is the co-author of the book "The Last Good Heist," a true-crime story about a brazen robbery at a secret bank used by members of the New England crime family and their associates.



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Brooke Williams is an investigative reporter, professor of the practice of computational journalism, and co-founder of the Justice Media Computational co-Lab at Boston University. Her data-driven investigative reporting has contributed to a Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting, a George Polk Award and a Gerald Loeb Award, among many others. As a contributor to The New York Times, she co-authored and built the database behind a series of front-page investigations into think tanks, foreign governments, corporations and influence.



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Emily Allen is the courts reporter for the Portland Press Herald, where she tackles it all: jury trials, criminal cases, lawsuits and the many ways Mainers come into contact with their legal system. Her investigative coverage has included stories on Maine's public defense crisis and the state's complicated relationship between local police and federal immigration officials. Before joining the Press Herald in 2022, she was a Report for America fellow for West Virginia Public Broadcasting and covered City Hall for the Grand Forks Herald in North Dakota.



Emily Bader
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Emily Bader is a health care reporter for The Maine Monitor where she covers substance use, mental health and access to care. She is passionate about combining data and human voices to tell powerful stories about how these issues affect Mainers' everyday lives, how communities are seeking solutions and in serving as a watchdog on decision-makers. She was a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation Health Coverage Fellow in 2024 and is a two-time Reporting on Addiction grantee. Prior to joining The Monitor in 2023, Emily was a reporter for three years at Maine papers covering health care and local news. She was a USC Center for Health Journalism Data Fellow in 2021, the same year she was named best young journalist by the Maine Press Association. She has additionally earned recognition from the New England Newspaper & Press Association, Maine Public Health Association and National Newspaper Association Foundation. She is a member of Investigative Reporters & Editors and the Association of Health Care Journalists. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Bader holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations-History from Wellesley College and now lives in Portland.



Eleonora Bianchi
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Eleonora Bianchi is a multimedia reporter with The New Bedford Light, where she covers immigration. Originally from Switzerland and Italy, Bianchi is a graduate of UC Berkeley's School of Journalism, where she specialized in investigative reporting. She began her career in 2015 at RSI, the Italian-language branch of SRG SSR, Switzerland's national radio and television broadcaster. Around the same time, she traveled to Iraq to document life in refugee camps. Her solo travels during her undergraduate studies in International Law took her across Central America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, deepening her

commitment to global issues through storytelling. In 2019, she earned a bachelor's degree in Human Rights and International Relations and completed a diploma in war reporting. While at UC Berkeley, she led an investigation for Al Jazeera into organ trafficking scams run by impostors posing as U.S. surgeons. Her fieldwork in India exposed the scale of the scam and the efforts to dismantle it. At The New Bedford Light, she has reported on immigrant communities affected by federal and state policies, immigration raids, and the 2024 presidential election. Her stories have also explored issues such as suicide in county jails, fentanyl poisoning, and homelessness.



Jessica Bravo
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Jessica Bravo is a breaking news reporter with Hearst Connecticut Media Group. She graduated from Central Connecticut State University in May 2023 with her bachelor's in journalism. Bravo worked at the Connecticut Mirror as a general assignment reporter starting in her junior year of college until the end of her senior year. She was also working with her school newspaper, The Recorder, and a fellow with the Emma Bowen Foundation. Bravo is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists and the Investigative Reporters and Editors.



Aaron Calvin
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Aaron Calvin is a writer and journalist living in northern Vermont. He is a staff writer for the Stowe Reporter and News & Citizen newspapers, and a frequent contributor for the Stowe Guide & Magazine. He was named the Reporter of the Year for 2024 by the New England Newspaper and Press Association in their annual Better Newspapers contest earlier this year.



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Katie Castellani is a reporter for Providence Business News where she mainly covers the health care and real estate beats. She was named "Rookie of the Year" for 2024 by the New England Newspaper and Press Association and has received several awards for individual stories. Before joining PBN in 2023, Castellani was the metro reporting intern for the Richmond Times Dispatch. She graduated from the University of Richmond with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and minor in Business Administration in 2023. While in college, she was named Writer of the Year in 2022 for The Collegian. Castellani is originally from Sudbury, Massachusetts and enjoys running, reading and competitive horseback riding in her free time.



Jayne Chacko

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Jayne Chacko is a general assignment reporter for NBC Connecticut and joined the team in April 2025. In her short time with the station, she's worked on several

special projects, including a half hour special that looked back on the year since historic flooding in Southwestern Connecticut. Jayne aims to report with compassion and respect. She loves to learn something new in every story she covers. Prior to joining NBC Connecticut, she was a reporter and weekend anchor at WTNH News 8 for three years. Before that, she was a reporter at 13 WHAM in Rochester, New York, and WBOC in Salisbury, Maryland. Chacko was born and raised in New Jersey and is a proud Rutgers University graduate. When she's not reporting, Chacko loves to read, watch horror movies, and spend time with her family.



Jesse Collings

Worcester Telegram & Gazette

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Jesse Collings began his career in high school where he worked for all four years on his school paper, the Waltham Watch, at Waltham High School. He always knew he wanted to be a journalist, so it was an

easy decision to major in journalism while studying at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, where he spent six semesters as the sports editor for the MCLA Beacon. Heading into his senior year, Collings interned at GateHouse Media, covering the towns of Maynard and Stow, Massachusetts. During those six weeks, he gained incredibly valuable experience on learning what it took to be a local reporter, covering anything and everything that was taking place in our communities. Upon graduation, Collings was hired by the same company, serving as the only reporter covering the town of Bedford, where he spent a little over a year learning the ropes. Collings had several other stints covering other communities over the next several years, including Burlington, Lexington, Billerica, Arlington and Waltham. In 2022 Collings was hired by the MetroWest Daily News, his first job at a daily newspaper, covering the MetroWest area around Framingham. For two years he served as the primary news reporter, getting deeply entrenched in local politics, business and development stories, and covering education. It was through his education reporting that he got his current job, with the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, where he serves as the education reporter for the Worcester area. In Worcester, Collings covers a rapidly changing and developing scene that is constantly evolving as it faces different challenges from overcrowding to safety to funding uncertainty.



Sam DeCoste

WGME

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✂ samwgme

Sam DeCoste is the weekend anchor and reporter at WGME in Portland, Maine. DeCoste was born in Rochester, New York, but was raised in Princeton, New

Jersey. While DeCoste is not originally from New England, he considers it a second home. He studied communications and jour-

nalism at Emerson College in Boston. While DeCoste was still a full-time student, he interned as a Broadcast Associate at NESN, and was a writer at 7News WHDH. After graduating in 2022, he began his broadcasting career as a multimedia journalist at WOWK in Charleston, West Virginia. That is also where he started filling in on the desk as an anchor, and co-hosted the station's Friday Night Football show. He is especially proud of co-anchoring the 2024 Hispanic Heritage Special, in which he produced two feature packages which included interviews DeCoste conducted in Spanish.



Molly Farrar

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✂ molly_farrar

Molly Farrar is currently a general assignment reporter for Boston.com, focusing on education, politics, crime, and more. Previously, she worked as a digital

journalist for WHDH Channel 7 in Boston and as a freelance reporter in Cambridge, Newton, Brookline, and Belmont covering local politics. Her work has appeared in GBH News, The Boston Globe, The Intercept, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Her news and transportation reporting received two New England Newspaper & Press Association awards in 2025. Farrar attended Boston University, where she earned a degree in journalism and cello performance. While in school, she served as the editor-in-chief of the Daily Free Press, BU's independent newspaper, and was a statehouse reporter for the Milford Daily News. For fun, Farrar likes to read fantasy books, play the cello, and see live music.



Lau Guzmán

New Hampshire Public Radio

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Lau Guzmán is a bilingual journalist who is interested in telling stories at the intersection of identity, immigration, language and community. She covers Latino and immigrant communities at New Hamp-

shire Public Radio and contributes to their Spanish-language news broadcast on WhatsApp; ¿Qué Hay de Nuevo, New Hampshire? Guzmán previously covered the Latino communities of central Connecticut through a partnership between the Record-Journal of Meriden, CT and Report for America, a national nonprofit that places reporters in newsrooms to cover underserved communities. Guzmán is also a member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, SAG AFTRA and the (unofficial) Tiny Desk fan club.



Jackie Harris

New Hampshire Public Radio

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✂ jackienharris

Jackie Harris is the Morning Edition Producer at NHPR. She previously worked as a producer for "In the Bubble with Andy Slavitt" at Lemonada Media and New England Public Media. She's previously reported for Utah Public Radio and Connecticut Public Radio.



Shaniece Holmes-Brown
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 ✕ Spoken_Renee98

Shaniece Holmes-Brown is a municipal government reporter for Hearst Connecticut Media Group. She is from York, Pennsylvania and graduated from William

Penn Senior High School in 2017. While in school, she worked as a student journalist with the York Daily Record in its Teen Takeover training program. After graduation, she interned with the Pennsylvania Legislative Correspondents' Association at the state Capitol in Harrisburg, covering the legislature and former Gov. Tom Wolf. After her internship, she received a Keystone Media Award from the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association in 2022 for her collaborative coverage on the issue with signature matching. She graduated from Lincoln University of Pennsylvania in 2021, majoring in mass communications and creative writing. She served as a Hearst Newspapers Reporting Fellow from 2021-2023, working at both the Times Union in Albany, New York and the Houston Chronicle before joining the Connecticut Post. She received two awards from the Connecticut Society of Professional Journalists in 2024. When she's not working, she enjoys watching documentaries, cooking and spending time with her family (including her ferrets Nibbles and Lily).



Ethan Horton
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 ✕ ethanehorton1

Ethan Horton reports on local politics and the environment for the Kennebec Journal in central Maine. Horton joined the KJ in August 2024 after graduating from

the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he double majored in journalism and political science and was an editor for The Daily Tar Heel. While in college, he won awards for election coverage, breaking news, investigative sportswriting and excellence in writing. Horton always wanted to live in Maine, but he clings onto his North Carolinian identity a little too tightly. He often finds himself daydreaming about a good map or about Roy Williams' up-and-down Tar Heel basketball teams.



Daniel Kool
Portland Press Herald
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Daniel Kool is the Portland Press Herald's utilities reporter, covering energy policy, rising household bills and Maine's aging and rural infrastructure networks. He

takes a customer centered approach to covering utilities, focusing on the impact of rising costs on Maine families and businesses. He also covers tariffs, paying particular attention to Maine's reliance on Canadian materials, processing plants and energy. Kool joined the Press Herald staff in 2024 as the paper's night reporter, where he covered breaking news spanning local crime to federal funding cuts. Kool is a graduate of Boston University's College of Communication and was the city news editor of the campus newspaper, the Daily Free Press. He began his professional career at the Boston Globe. There, he covered the MBTA as years of deferred maintenance caught up with the beleaguered system, and as a new general

manager attempted to turn it around. He was also part of a team covering the state's then-growing population of migrants, some of whom slept in community centers and former courthouses.



Brooke Kushwaha
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 ✕ BrookeKushwaha

Brooke Kushwaha covers climate and the environment for The New Bedford Light. Prior to joining The Light, she covered education in underserved communities for

the Houston Landing and Texas politics for Chron.com. She also worked as a general assignment reporter for the Vineyard Gazette and served as associate editor for its sister publication, Martha's Vineyard Magazine, where she covered the environment, housing, immigration, and other topics. Her work has appeared in Teen Vogue and The New York Times.



Talia Lissauer
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Talia Lissauer covers Great Barrington and other southern Berkshire County towns for The Berkshire Eagle, reporting on everything from local government and business features to the town's water and

bridge issues. She graduated in 2025 from Boston University with a degree in journalism. While at BU, she spent two years as a metro correspondent for The Boston Globe and served as an editor and later a board member for The Daily Free Press, the university's independent student newspaper. Originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota, she began her journalism career in high school and was named the 2021 Minnesota Student Journalist of the Year.



Cate McCusker
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 ✕ catemccusker

Cate McCusker joined WMTW Channel 8 News in Portland as a general assignment reporter in June 2023, and she has since taken on a bigger role as political reporter

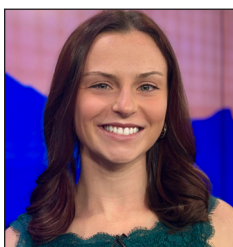
for Maine's Total Coverage. Beyond daily coverage of Maine's top stories, McCusker covers Maine's congressional delegation and the impact of federal politics. She has previously covered Maine's candidates for the 2024 election cycle and the New Hampshire presidential primary. McCusker has continued to report on the impact of the Lewiston tragedy in October 2023, from investigations into the police response and the ensuing lawsuit from victims. McCusker is originally from Westwood, Massachusetts, and she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Villanova University in May 2023. In her senior year, McCusker worked as the Senior White House Correspondent for AKSM Media while also working on the assignment desk for NBC10 Philadelphia. McCusker interned with WMTW's sister station, WCVB NewsCenter 5 in Boston, and she wrote for The Eagle Tribune, a daily newspaper in North Andover, MA in the summer of 2022. McCusker also interned at the UN's International Fund for Agricultural Development in Rome during the spring of 2022, and she ran her school newspaper, The Villanovan, as Co-Editor-in-Chief in 2021.



Jonathan Phelps
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 ✕ Jon_Phelps13

Jonathan Phelps is a reporter at the New Hampshire Union Leader where he covers courts and general assignments. He has been a reporter in New England for

more than 15 years where he has received numerous awards for crime/court reporting, general news, history reporting and spot news. Phelps previously worked for multiple publications in Massachusetts before deciding to call the Granite State home.



Sophia Thomas
WCAX
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Sophia Thomas is a broadcast reporter for WCAX in Vermont where she finds, shoots, writes, produces, and live front pieces on the morning show. Her beat is Energy and Environment, which has

led her to dig deeper on stories about everything from solar to pollution to wildlife. As a native Vermonter, Thomas is incredibly proud and grateful for the opportunity to tell these stories and get to know her state on another level. Before joining WCAX, Thomas studied print journalism and international studies at American University in Washington, D.C. There, she wrote for Her Campus and Street Sense Media, a newspaper that highlights and employs individuals experiencing homelessness. This was her first brush with really impactful journalism. It challenged Thomas to explore her community and talk to all kinds of people, from people camped outside of Union Station to advocacy groups to policymakers. This experience sparked her love for people-first pieces that get into the nitty-gritty of an issue. Her journey to TV reporting was one she never expected but is happily surprised by. After struggling to find a print job, Thomas decided to intern at WCAX to learn the ropes of broadcast reporting. Her writing skills gave her a solid start as she learned from talented colleagues who taught her how to bring words to life on screen. Today, Thomas feels like she's learning something new every day and is always looking for opportunities to tell more compelling, comprehensive stories. Thomas believes the Negri Institute is a fantastic way to develop her investigative toolkit to advance her reporting. She so looks forward to continuing to grow and doing Vermonters' stories justice.



Lucy Tompkins
Seven Days
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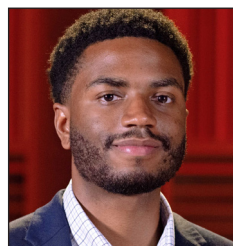
Lucy Tompkins covers immigration, new Americans and the international border for Seven Days. She is a corps member with Report for America, a national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms. Tompkins is a University of Montana graduate and a former Fulbright Scholar who has worked as a fellow for the New York Times. As part of that role, she embedded at the Texas Tribune. She has also written for USA Today and the Missoulian, for which she helped pen the award-winning "Troubled kids, troubled system" investigation of residential schools in Montana.



Rachel Wachman
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Rachel Wachman is the community editor at the Concord Monitor, a local newspaper located in New Hampshire's capital city. She oversees the Monitor's weekly arts publication, The Concord Insider,

and its quarterly lifestyle magazine, Around Concord. She also covers five small towns in the Suncook Valley and reports on the local creative economy and accessibility, as well as anything else that piques her interest. Wachman holds a degree in English and French from Wesleyan University.



Trajan Warren
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Trajan Warren is the Equity & Justice reporter with GBH News. He focuses on stories about systemic barriers and the work to overcome them. Before joining GBH, he covered banking, finance and

sports business — often through an equity lens — for the Boston Business Journal. He started his reporting career in North Carolina, covering higher education, health care and innovation at the Triad Business Journal. He's a graduate of East Carolina University and especially interested in stories that don't always get the spotlight — and making sure they're told with depth, accuracy and care.



Kate Wilkinson
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Kate Wilkinson is a reporter at WPRI Media. She has covered everything from the recent surge in ICE efforts in New England to the pause on Revolution Wind.

She has won a regional Murrow for her part in the investigative series on the Rhode Island Housing Crisis. During her time at WWLP in Springfield, MA, she covered President Joe Biden's visits to Massachusetts and Governor Maura Healey's gubernatorial campaign. She is a member of the Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists.



Emilia Wisniewski
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 ✕ emiliaxski

Emilia Wisniewski is a staff member at the Concord Monitor. In one role, she covers the city of Franklin and towns Henniker and Warner as a general assignment

reporter, covering municipal government and breaking news. In her other role as the paper's engagement editor, she edits op-eds submitted by local residents who discuss both state and national topics. Before joining the Monitor, Wisniewski graduated from Boston University in 2025 with a bachelor's in journalism and a minor in business administration. She worked at the student paper, The Daily Free Press.

2025 Student Fellows

NEFAC is pleased to announce its third class of student journalism fellows. With the support of the Rhode Island Foundation and the Estate of Gloria L. Negri, the coalition accepted this year a group of student journalists to attend along with 25 professional reporters, editors and producers from newsrooms throughout New England. The students were all nominated by faculty members at their respective Rhode Island or Massachusetts schools.



Sadie Brandt
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Sadie Brandt is a third-year journalism student at The University of Rhode Island, with minors in English and Gender and Women's Studies. After working as a staff reporter for URI's student-run newspaper The Good Five Cent Cigar, she now holds the position of news editor. Originally from Leonardtown, MD, Brandt is especially interested in political and investigative journalism.



Anna Rubenstein
Boston University
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Anna Rubenstein is a senior at Boston University studying journalism and English. Originally from West Windsor, New Jersey, she has spent time in her hometown, Boston, Baltimore and Pittsburgh reporting local news. She believes in the power of a good narrative and in making news more accessible, and cares deeply about listening to those who feel overlooked or misunderstood.



Luke Macannuco
University of
Massachusetts Amherst
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Luke Macannuco is a senior journalism student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. A graduate of Winchester High School in Winchester, MA, Macannuco found his passion for journalism after spending his freshman year at Goucher College in Baltimore, MD, where he wrote for The Quindecim, the school's independent student newspaper. Since transferring to UMass, he has written for the Massachusetts Daily Collegian and interned as a reporter for the Harvard Press and the Greenfield Recorder. Macannuco especially enjoys reading literary/new journalism, some of his favorite writers being John McPhee, John Jeremiah Sullivan and Susan Orlean.



Emily Spatz
Northeastern University
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✕ emilymspatz

Emily Spatz is a fourth-year journalism and political science combined major at Northeastern. She is currently the editor-in-chief of Northeastern's independent student newspaper, The Huntington News. Previously, she served as campus editor and helped lead the paper's coverage of the on-campus pro-Palestine encampment in April 2024. She's worked as a general assignment co-op at Boston.com and metro co-op for The Boston Globe, where she still works part-time. She wants to pursue a career in political reporting.



Addison Mason
Roger Williams University
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Addison Mason is a sophomore at Roger Williams University. She is a journalism major originally from Atkinson, New Hampshire. She participates in a branch of SPJ called the Capsized Tribune on the RWU campus and takes part in a campus radio show, Communities of Hope on their immigration segment.



Timothy Yean
Rhode Island College
yeantimothy@gmail.com

Timothy Yean is a sophomore communication major at Rhode Island College. Since his freshman year at Rhode Island College, he has been the main sports editor and sports writer for the student newspaper The Anchor, and has filmed weekly sports reports on RIC athletics for Anchor TV. Yean was also named sports manager for the student-run television station this year. He is the primary public address announcer for RIC home athletic events and one of the main public address announcers for Rhode Island Interscholastic League playoff events. Yean is the proud recipient of the 2024 Rhode Island PBS (and The Public's Radio) Scholarship which recognizes students that demonstrate promise of a successful career in broadcasting and journalism. His journey in broadcasting began during COVID. Moving to the city of Cranston in eighth grade and then transitioning to high school at Cranston East, Yean joined Thunderbolt Sports Media as a freshman to learn about the ins and outs of sports broadcasting.



Adam Nuñez
Emerson College
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Adam Nuñez is from Salem, MA. He is an organizer and journalist at Emerson College. His work has appeared in Unicorn Riot and The Daily Item, among other publications. He is editor-in-chief at Under The Broom and a harm reductionist at ONESTOP.

Journalism that makes a difference in people's lives.

Investigation launch

CONNECTICUT POST
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SEEC finds illegal 'straw contributions' made in Stratford
State elections panel levies no fines
By Ethel Rye

WAITING YEARS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS
Bridgeport has fallen into pattern of delaying stonewalling public records requests, routinely in violation of state law
By Jacqueline Rabe Thomas, Joshua Eaton and Brian Lockhart

January cannabis sales exceed \$13.3M
Preliminary data shows strong interest as legal adult sales begin in Conn.
By Jordan Nathaniel Foster

Will UConn basketball continue to play at Hartford's XL Center? 'You betcha'
By Paul Doyle

Shelton raises offer to \$1.44M for 26-acre Wells Family property
By Brian Givens

FOIA violations by municipality
Data from 2013 to 2018

Municipality	Violations
Bridgeport	21
New Britain	13
Meriden	11
Waterbury	9
West Haven	7
Stamford	6
Middletown	6
New Britain	4
New London	4
Norwalk	3
Springfield	3
Cheshire	3
Shelton	3
Norwalk	2

More in the series:
Bridgewater: An investigation into the town's handling of public records requests.
Middletown: An investigation into the town's handling of public records requests.
Norwalk: An investigation into the town's handling of public records requests.

5 months later

CONNECTICUT POST
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SCOTUS decision to impact 500K borrowers in the state
Biden's student loan forgiveness plan is blocked
By Jordan Nathaniel Foster

'Unhealthy' air quality expected to improve
Officials: Showers will help clear smoke from the Connecticut wildfires
By Peter Tasherski

'We're using everybody'
Bridgeport police staffing has never been lower
By Brian Lockhart

'To ensure the property can be enjoyed for generations to come'
Stratford mayor wants black box theater, music pavilion for Shakespeare site
By Michael Chomsky

Experts: Reforms further bolster state's public records law
Still, gaps remain as FOIA law has been gradually weakened over decades
By Jordan Nathaniel Foster and Jacqueline Rabe Thomas

Bridgeport pauses plan to remove parking downtown after backlash
By Brian Lockhart

At Hearst Connecticut Media Group, we strive to produce journalism that changes lives for the better, moves people in power to act and sheds light on problems that affect our communities.

Over many years, the largest city in Connecticut had developed a notorious reputation for thumbing its nose at transparency by routinely stonewalling and delaying turning over even the most basic public records. But just hours after our newsroom published a three-part series exposing Bridgeport's repeated violations of the state's public records law, Mayor Joe Ganim announced a host of reforms to address problems highlighted by our reporting. The series uncovered similar FOIA failures across the state prompting Connecticut lawmakers to pass legislation to strengthen the state's open records law for the first time in nearly 40 years.

In big ways and small ways, Hearst Connecticut Media Group works each day to help improve the lives of residents in our towns, cities and our state - by producing journalism that makes a difference.

