

ICFJ
AT
35



**IT TAKES A
JOURNALIST®**
2019 ANNUAL REVIEW

IT TAKES A JOURNALIST®

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OUR MISSION

ICFJ empowers a global network of journalists to produce news coverage that leads to better governments, stronger economies, vibrant societies and healthier lives.

ICFJ HAS WORKED WITH

140,000+ JOURNALISTS

FROM

180 COUNTRIES

OVER

35 YEARS

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friend,

Across the globe, our unparalleled network of journalists produces news stories that have tremendous impact. With our training and support, these journalists:

Hold the powerful to account even in the darkest corners of the world where autocratic forces threaten their safety.

Combat disinformation as fake news spreads across every platform – from local radio in the smallest village to the social media giants.

Give voice to the forgotten, such as poor children denied an education or women deformed in vicious acid attacks.

On our 35th anniversary, we are committed to expanding our vast network of journalists, who are pursuing the truth despite the risks.

Join our efforts to support the truth tellers in these perilous times. To ensure free and vibrant societies, it takes a journalist.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joyce L. Barnathan'.

Joyce Barnathan, President, ICFJ



BLAZING THE TRAIL

ICFJ has stayed ahead of the trends to ensure that journalists can provide the highest quality content.



1984

Founded by three pioneering journalists – Tom Winship, Jim Ewing and George Krinsky – to share knowledge with peers around the world

1989

Led the **rise of independent journalism** in the former East Bloc after the Berlin Wall fell

1994

Trained a **new generation of South African journalists** for the post-apartheid era

2001

Helped U.S. and Arab journalists **combat stereotypes** after 9/11

2007

Launched the **first Global Business Journalism master's program** in booming China

2009

Supported the **first mobile news service** in one of the poorest rural regions of India

2010

Helped **professionalize citizen journalists** to use social media before the Arab Spring

2014

Trained the **first network of African health journalists** to cover deadly diseases such as Ebola

2016

Nurtured cross-border **investigative journalism networks** that helped break the Panama Papers story

2017

Formed Chicas Poderosas to **empower women journalists** in Latin America, ahead of the #MeToo movement

2018

Developed new storytelling techniques to **combat the spread of disinformation** in the world's largest democracies

2018

Spearheaded a pioneering **network of women data journalists** in Africa

2019

Building new business models for **independent news startups** in the Americas

OUR NETWORK

Journalists in ICFJ's vast network are working across borders to...

SPREAD INNOVATION

ICFJ Knight Fellows foster a global culture of news innovation that enhances digital journalism and strengthens business models.

DEBUNK LIES

Our TruthBuzz initiative uses creative storytelling techniques to fight disinformation in five of the world's largest democracies.

EXPOSE CORRUPTION

Our investigative networks enable journalists to collaborate across borders to hold the powerful to account.

FIGHT STEREOTYPES

Our international exchanges embed scores of journalists in U.S. newsrooms to build strong partnerships, and send U.S. journalists abroad to learn and report.

BUILD EXPERTISE

Our specialty programs give journalists the expertise to cover complex topics, such as business, health threats and environmental hazards.



IJNet.org is the single best resource worldwide for the latest journalism trends, practical tips, training opportunities and community forums.

Produced by ICFJ, IJNet reaches nearly 2 million journalists in Arabic, Chinese, English, Persian, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian each year.



ICFJ gave me my first formal training in journalism – what questions to ask, how to frame them, and how to write investigative pieces that would start difficult conversations.

SHARMEEN OBAID-CHINYOY

Journalist, Oscar-winning filmmaker and ICFJ Knight Award winner, Pakistan

OUR IMPACT

Astudestra Ajengrastri

INDONESIA



THE FACT CHECKER

ICFJ TruthBuzz Fellow Ajengrastri has helped Indonesian media do their first live fact-checking of a presidential debate – pushing politicians to be more truthful. One candidate admitted he was less likely to make false claims because he knew Ajengrastri’s team would debunk them.

She is part of the TruthBuzz network working to ensure that truthful information prevails on social media in five of the world’s largest democracies.

THE HEALTH REPORTER

Authorities in India’s Rajasthan state suspended three doctors and four nurses – and took disciplinary action against seven other staff members – after Bhatt broke the story in the Daily News and Analysis that 86 infants had died in a hospital in just two months.

His piece is one of nearly 700 published since March 2017 by health journalists from around the world in ICFJ’s Early Childhood Development Reporting Fellowship.



Amit Bhatt

INDIA

Bedour Al-Mutairi

KUWAIT



THE DIGITAL PIONEER

Al-Mutairi founded a pioneering news site called Berwaz Online News, which she grew from a Twitter account. She applied lessons learned from the IJNet Arabic Mentoring Center for Media Startups in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The site is a rarity in the MENA region, owned and operated by women journalists. It emphasizes citizen voices in its investigative reports on topics that range from culture to politics to economics. Correspondents across the MENA region also produce multimedia content for its growing audience.

THE SECURITY EXPERT

Sierra launched the Border Center for Journalists and Bloggers, an ICFJ-backed organization that helps investigative journalists to stay safe as they produce high-quality reports from along the dangerous U.S.-Mexican border.

An expert on media security, Sierra previously served as an ICFJ Knight Fellow, equipping journalists from 130 news outlets to tackle security risks.



Jorge Luis Sierra

THE AMERICAS



ICFJ Knight Fellows are empowering journalists to deliver trustworthy news essential for vibrant, democratic societies.

ALBERTO IBARGÜEN

President and CEO, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



It's incredible to be recognized by ICFJ, especially at a time when the work they're doing is more necessary now than ever.

NIMA ELBAGIR

Senior International Correspondent, CNN, and ICFJ Award winner

OUR IMPACT

Suhelis Tejero

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

Working for the Dominican paper *Diario Libre*, Tejero revealed widespread corruption by Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro's regime, which traded oil for influence across Latin America and the Caribbean. A member of Connectas, the Latin American investigative reporting network backed by ICFJ, Tejero and other reporters analyzed more than 1,200 documents to uncover the Petrofraude scandal.

THE SCIENCE JOURNALIST

Murumba worked with laboratories in Kenya to test for counterfeit medicines and exposed problems with an anti-malarial drug sold in local pharmacies. After her "Chokers" series ran in the Nairobi-based *Business Daily*, Kenya's health minister ordered a batch of the drug withdrawn from pharmacy shelves. The government also launched a crackdown that resulted in the closing of 83 illegal pharmacies. Murumba's series was funded through impactAFRICA, a program of reporting grants supported by ICFJ and led by our partner Code for Africa.



Stellar Murumba

KENYA

Hannah Ojo

NIGERIA



THE DATA JOURNALIST

Authorities in Lagos, Nigeria, revoked the licenses of four water-bottling companies after Ojo's data-driven series in the Lagos-based *Nation* newspaper showed that packets of drinking water sold on city streets were contaminated. She is part of the WanaData (children of data) network created by ICFJ Knight Fellows to improve the use of data and digital tools by female journalists in Africa. The network now boasts 130 members in five African countries.

THE MUCKRAKER

Radu led a team of journalists to expose how Azerbaijani leaders used a \$2.9 billion slush fund to buy luxury goods, launder money and pay off European politicians in a bid to whitewash their international image as they arrested activists and journalists. Radu co-founded the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), an ICFJ partner. After his team revealed that members of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) had received the money, PACE's chairman resigned. PACE launched investigations into other allegations of corruption.



Paul Radu

FORMER SOVIET BLOC



In a defining way, ICFJ has contributed to our team's work on important journalism investigations in Mexico.

CARMEN ARISTEGUI

Founder, Aristegui Noticias, and ICFJ Knight Award winner, Mexico

AWARDS DINNER

Honoring journalists who change the world

Each year, ICFJ recognizes outstanding journalists for excellent coverage that has made an impact. The annual event, which attracts nearly 600 media luminaries and supporters, is Washington, D.C.'s top international journalism event.

In 2019, we honor Washington Post Executive Editor **Martin Baron** as one of the best newsroom leaders of all time. CBS News senior foreign correspondent **Elizabeth Palmer** is singled out for her courageous reports from global hotspots.

Our 2019 Knight International Journalism Award winners are Serbian investigative reporter **Stevan Dojčinović**, who exposes corruption at the highest levels, and Kenyan broadcast reporter **Rose Wangui**, who tackles tough and taboo subjects that others shy away from. CNN lead political anchor **Wolf Blitzer** serves as master of ceremonies.

Martin Baron

Executive Editor,
The Washington Post



ICFJ Founders Award for Excellence in Journalism



Elizabeth Palmer

Senior Foreign Correspondent,
CBS News

Excellence in International Reporting Award

Stevan Dojčinović

Co-Founder and Editor in Chief,
KRIK, Serbia



Knight International Journalism Award



Rose Wangui

Reporter,
NTV, Kenya

Knight International Journalism Award



“

It takes a journalist to fight corruption and human rights abuses, and to help people live healthier and more prosperous lives. And it takes ICFJ to support those journalists.

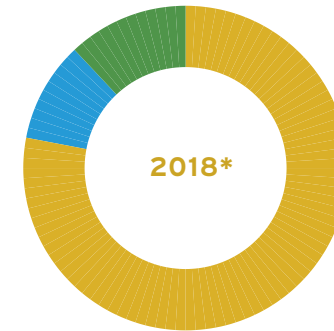
WOLF BLITZER

Lead Political Anchor,
CNN



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We are careful stewards of our donors' funds.



78.11% PROGRAMS

9.51% DEVELOPMENT + FUNDRAISING

12.38% GENERAL + ADMINISTRATIVE

**Financial data covers calendar year 2018.*



97.75%

CHARITY NAVIGATOR RATING

ICFJ's four-star track record with Charity Navigator places us among the top 2 percent of nonprofits evaluated.



PLATINUM

GUIDESTAR RATING

ICFJ also has a platinum-level rating from GuideStar, the highest ranking given.



I am so thankful to ICFJ for its unwavering support. It has come at a crucial time, when my organization and Philippine democracy are struggling to survive.

MARIA RESSA

Founder, Rappler, and ICFJ Knight Award winner, Philippines

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SUSAN TALALAY

SEYMOUR TOPPING

EDUARDO ULIBARRI

AMY WEBB

MARGARET WINSHIP

“

ICFJ gave me my first chance to do an in-depth report overseas. The coverage got me hired by the Associated Press, and I eventually became a correspondent in West Africa, where I began covering terrorism.

RUKMINI
CALLIMACHI

Reporter,
The New York Times



IT TAKES A JOURNALIST[®]
to make governments
more transparent,
economies stronger
and people healthier.



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