

# Speaker Bios – 2014 Annual Conference

## **Lori Andrews, Esq.**

Lori Andrews is a Distinguished Professor of Law at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law and Director, Institute for Science, Law and Technology, IIT Chicago-Kent. The ABA Journal describes Professor Andrews as “a lawyer with a literary bent who has the scientific chops to rival any CSI investigator.” She is an internationally recognized expert on emerging technologies. Her most recent book is [I Know Who You Are and I Saw What You Did: Social Networks and the Death of Privacy](#) (2012).

## **Mike Antares**

Mike is the Membership, Circulation, and Engagement Manager at The Texas Observer.

## **Rod Arakaki**

Rod is Audience Development Director at Yes! magazine.

## **Madeleine Bair**

Madeleine curates the [Human Rights Channel](#) for WITNESS, a Brooklyn-based human rights organization. The HRC is a Webby-nominated collaboration with Storyful, hosted on YouTube, and the first YouTube channel dedicated to curating citizen video of human rights abuse.

## **Joe Baker**

Joe Baker is the Vice President of Advocacy and Editorial at Care2. He oversees the site’s editorial content, social media and media outreach, SEM, fulfillment of lead generation campaigns for non-profit clients, and the growth and retention of Care2’s audience. Prior to joining Care2, Joe was Executive Director of the Nonprofit Technology Network (NTEN). Before that, he spent many years working for Amnesty International USA in grassroots organizing, government relations, and managing its online campaigning and fundraising.

## **Mary Bottari**

Mary Bottari, the Center for Media and Democracy’s Deputy Director, is an experienced policy wonk and consumer advocate who has served as a senior analyst on trade. Her project publishes the only monthly tally of the Total Wall Street Bailout Cost (\$4.7 trillion with \$2 trillion outstanding) in the SourceWatch wiki, CMD’s flagship publication with over 6 million visitors a year. This work has been used by CNN, Bill Moyers Journal, MSNBC, and is featured in Dollars and Sense Magazine.

## **Jennifer Choi**

Jennifer Choi is a program officer for McCormick Foundation’s Journalism Program. Jennifer joined the Foundation in 2012, and guides grantmaking in community-based news literacy, youth media and journalism training. She also monitors the changing landscape of journalism, from audience research to evaluating the social impact of journalism on civic engagement. Prior to joining the Foundation, Jennifer served as Chicago Public Media/WBEZ’s director of institutional initiatives.

## **Sandy Close**

Sandy Close has served as Executive Director of Pacific News Service and its project New America Media since 1974 where she founded YO! Youth Outlook, a monthly magazine of youth writing and art in 1991; and co-founded in The Beat Within, a weekly writing journal by incarcerated youth in 1996. Among her many awards and recognitions, in 1995, Sandy received a MacArthur Foundation “Genius Award” Fellowship; and in 1997, she co-produced the Academy Award-winning short documentary, Breathing Lessons.

## **amalia deloney**

As Associate Director of the [Center for Media Justice](#), amalia coordinates the media policy initiatives of the Center for Media Justice and the [Media Action Grassroots Network](#) (MAG-Net). She has over 15 years

of experience in community and cultural organizing, with a specific interest in human rights, cultural rights and traditional knowledge. At CMJ, amalia uses her extensive experience for field-building, community-building, and policy advocacy.

### **Brian Conley**

Brian is the founder of Small World News, which supports, equips, and trains community members and under-served populations to become journalists, storytellers, and documentarians in order to broaden the geopolitical perspectives available to the international community. Brian is the lead designer of Storymaker, an app designed to simplify video news journalism.

### **Jana Diesner**

Jana Diesner is an Assistant Professor at the iSchool at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), and an affiliate at the Department of Computer Science and the Information Trust Institute. Jana conducts research at the nexus of network science, natural language processing and machine learning. She is particularly interested in covert information and covert networks.

### **Diana Del Olmo**

Diana del Olmo is currently Communications Manager at The Guardian Project. Diana is interested at the intersection between human rights and technology and is currently bridging the gap between those who creates technology and those who need it the most. Previously, she worked extensively in conflict and post conflict countries such as South Sudan where she was working with the UN and Afghanistan where she worked for the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She holds a Masters of Public Administration from Columbia University and a BA in Economics with Development Studies from Sussex University.

### **Bea Edwards**

Beatrice Edwards is the Executive Director of the Government Accountability Project (GAP), a legal representative of Edward Snowden in the US. GAP has promoted anti-retaliation measures for more than thirty-five years and defends whistleblowers through the Congress, the media and the courts. Bea holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from American University and is the author of the forthcoming book *The rise of the American Corporate Security State*.

### **Kim Elliott**

Kim is the publisher of Rabble.ca

### **Laura Flanders**

Best-selling author and broadcaster Laura Flanders is a contributing writer to **The Nation** and the “local economies reporting fellow” at **Yes! Magazine**. She hosts The Laura Flanders Show on [GRITtv.org](http://GRITtv.org), an independent online channel featuring in-depth interviews with forward thinking people. Find her at [GRITtv.org](http://GRITtv.org) or follow her on twitter @CommonomicsYes or @GRITlaura.

### **Eva Galperin**

Eva is a Global Policy Analyst at EFF. A lifelong geek, Eva misspent her youth working as a Systems Administrator all over Silicon Valley. Since then, she has seen the error of her ways and earned degrees in Political Science and International Relations from SFSU. She comes to EFF from the US-China Policy Institute, where she researched Chinese energy policy, helped to organize conferences, and attempted to make use of her rudimentary Mandarin skills. Her interests include aials, rock climbing, opera, and not being paged at 3 o'clock in the morning because the mail server is down.

### **Juan Gonzalez**

Juan has co-hosted *Democracy Now!* since that show's inception in 1996 and has been a staff columnist with New York's *Daily News* since 1987. A founder and former president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, he is the author of four books, including *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*, and *News for All the People: The Epic Story of Race and the American Media*.

**Mark Hallett**

Mark Hallett is a senior program officer in the journalism program of the McCormick Foundation. Mark joined the foundation in May 1995, and coordinates grantmaking in a number of areas, including youth journalism, press freedoms, diversity in journalism, and First Amendment initiatives.

**Jennifer Halperin**

Internship and Special Projects Coordinator at Columbia College Chicago

**Jay Harris**

Jay Harris is the publisher of The American Prospect and a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Demos. From 1991 to 2009, Jay was the president and publisher of Mother Jones. Jay is the president of the board of the Public Intelligence Foundation (publishers of the Hightower Lowdown) and serves on the board of the First Amendment Coalition and the communications advisory board of Human Rights Watch.

**Jennifer Helsby**

Jennifer Helsby is a researcher and security enthusiast.

**Michael Holloway**

Michael Holloway is a legal fellow at the Institute for Science, Law & Technology with interests at the intersection of law and information technology.

**Linda Jue**

Linda Jue is editor/executive director of the G.W. Williams Center for Independent Journalism, a public interest investigative reporting center based in San Francisco. She is also a former executive committee member of The Media Consortium. In her past life, Linda directed national journalism programs as associate director of the Independent Press Association; worked as an associate of the Center for Investigative Reporting; and was an editor at KQED-TV's San Francisco Focus magazine and a correspondent for C-SPAN.

**Jo Ellen Green Kaiser**

Jo Ellen is the Executive Director of the Media Consortium. Prior to the best job of her life, she worked as an editor, publisher, and consultant for independent magazines, including Tikkun, Zeek, LiP, and the Independent Press Association. She has a special interest in Jewish social justice, and is co-editor of Righteous Indignation: A Jewish Call for Justice. In her previous life she was an assistant professor of modern American poetry and literary theory at U. Kentucky.

**Steve Katz**

Steve Katz is Publisher for Mother Jones and its non-profit publisher, the Foundation for National Progress. He joined MoJo in 2003 after several years as Vice President of Development for Earthjustice, the nation's leading non-profit environmental law firm. While at Mother Jones, Steve helped found and was the first Project Director for The Media Consortium, a network of more than 60 independent, progressive media organizations around the United States.

**Channing Kennedy**

Channing Kennedy is an Oakland-based writer, video producer and media strategist who's worked at the intersection of racial justice and technology for the last six years. He's trained over fifty community organizers on how to produce no-budget advocacy video that engages both with their issues and with the modern media landscape. After several years at Colorlines, he's become Director of Digital Strategy at Alliance for a Just Society

**Patrick Kitano**

Patrick Kitano is the founder of the Breaking News Network, which curates the best media and blog news feeds in 350 cities, delivered in real time 24x7 to an aggregate 500,000 local readers. We're non-commercial and devoted to the social good.

**Sarah Leonard**

Sarah is an editor at Dissent.

**Joel Luellwitz**

Joel Luellwitz is a software developer and open source software and privacy advocate.

**Kari Lydersen**

Kari Lydersen is community fellowship director of the Social Justice News Nexus at the Medill School of Journalism at Medill, a new fellowship program which brings together graduate student and community fellows to collaborate in covering specific current issues through a social justice lens. She is also a Chicago reporter and author specializing in energy, environment and labor stories. She previously worked for The Washington Post in the Chicago bureau, The New York Times through the Chicago News Cooperative and other outlets.

**Joe Macare**

Joe is Director of Donor Development at Truthout.

**Gavin MacFadyen**

A highly respected veteran international investigative reporter, Gavin MacFadyen is founder and director of the London-based Centre for Investigative Journalism, a professional training center established to counter the decline in top-level training opportunities for investigative reporters and to raise the standard of investigative reporting to high professional levels world wide. Gavin also founded Britain's first whistle blowers organization, which led him to become involved with Julian Assange in 2007. Subsequently, Gavin helped produce the first television film of the Iraq War Logs and has spoken publicly in 20 countries on WikiLeaks, Chelsea (nee Bradley) Manning and Edward Snowden.

**Freddy Martinez**

Freddy Martinez has worked on various open source projects, volunteers to organize cryptoparties and works on social justice issues.

**Dan Massoglia**

Dan Massoglia is a law student and writer interested in secure communication and international digital rights.

**Mike Maxwell**

Mike is associate publisher at High Country News.

**Julie McCarroll**

Julie is the Director of Publicity and Marketing at The New Press. The New Press publishes books that promote and enrich public discussion and understanding of the issues vital to our democracy and to a more equitable world.

**Timothy J. McNulty**

Timothy J. McNulty is lecturer and co-director of the National Security Journalism Initiative at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. McNulty is a veteran journalist whose career in national and foreign news coverage includes roles as both a war correspondent and White House correspondent. As the national and later foreign editor of the Chicago Tribune, he helped direct the newspaper's coverage of the September 11 tragedy, the American strike into Afghanistan and the invasion of Iraq.

**Charlie Meyerson**

Charlie is a journalist in Chicago. He is head of news for the smartphone-based startup Rivet News Radio ([tinyurl.com/GetRiveted](http://tinyurl.com/GetRiveted)<<http://tinyurl.com/GetRiveted>>). He's also an adjunct professor of journalism at Roosevelt University and an occasional contributor to WBEZ-FM, Crain's Chicago Business and WXRT-

FM, where he worked from 1979-89. He's been an adjunct lecturer in the graduate program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and at Columbia College Chicago. Meyerson holds undergraduate and graduate journalism degrees from the University of Illinois, where he began his broadcasting career. He consults in content strategy through his practice, Meyerson Strategy.

### **Steve Michelson**

Steve Michelson is the Executive Producer for Specialty Studios and the Video Project. The company celebrating its 30th year in 2013 and focuses on films about the Environment, Social Justice and Sustainability. The company has recently launched its own digital platform called the MediaHUB. Steve has functioned as the Executive Producer on many award-winning documentary films.

### **Jim Miller**

Jim has been with BNF for 8 years and most recently produced the documentaries 'Koch Brothers Exposed', 'War on Whistleblowers' and 'Unmanned: America's Drone Wars'. His film experience began over 25 years ago working on the film 'Bull Durham' and includes being the Director of Development for The Shooting Gallery, an independent film company which produced '[Sling Blade](#)' and '[You Can Count on Me](#)', and Head of Acquisitions for Cinema Park Distribution. Immediately prior to the BNF, Jim produced the star-studded 'Les Girls' charity benefits for the National Breast Cancer Coalition.

### **Maliheh Monshizadeh**

Maliheh Monshizadeh is a PhD student in the Department of Computer Science at University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research interests lie on web security and programming languages.

### **Lauren Pabst**

Lauren Pabst is a program officer at the MacArthur Foundation. She works on the journalism, media, documentary and special initiatives funding portfolios, and also works with the Foundation's Migration program.

### **Mike Popalardo**

A native New Yorker, Mike has been developing and managing audiences for magazine publishers for more than 25 years. In 2002, he co-founded Next Steps Marketing, the company's tagline "we get audiences" expresses their focus on developing effective call-to-action marketing strategies and campaigns in print, online, and at retail for independently owned and nonprofit media organizations.

### **Daniel Raymer**

Daniel Raymer was a senior technician with Apple before coming to Kent, and currently works under Prof. Staudt in the Center for Access to Justice & Technology.

### **Karen Reilly**

Karen is Development Director at The Tor Project, responsible for fundraising, advocacy, general marketing, and policy outreach programs for Tor. Tor is a software and a volunteer network that enables people to circumvent censorship and guard their privacy online. Karen takes technical information and translates it for diverse audiences, producing tips for staying safe online for activists, journalists, and the general public. She studied Government and International Politics at George Mason University.

### **Susan Smith Richardson**

Susan Smith Richardson is the editor and publisher of The Chicago Reporter. Richardson is an award-winning journalist with more than 25 years of experience as a reporter, editor and columnist. Her work has focused on race, poverty and social inequality, with an emphasis on blending narrative and data-driven journalism.

### **Lisa Rudman**

Lisa is Executive Director of Making Contact National Radio Project. Lisa's roots in community media go back to PCTV in the 1980s where she created award-winning television documentaries on political

prisoners, US military intervention, social justice and feminist issues. She has taught media production at Laney College and Bay Area Video Coalition.

### **Dyan Ruiz**

Dyan Ruiz is the Co-Founder, Producer and Reporter of the non-profit media organization [people. power. media](http://people.power.media). [people. power. media](http://people.power.media)'s mission is to create media that amplifies voices from marginalized communities to empower their efforts to impact public policy. They create mostly video-based news features on housing, immigration and poverty issues. She is currently based in San Francisco.

### **Tiffany Shackelford**

Tiffany Shackelford is the Executive Director of the Association of Alternative Newsmedia, which represents 120 alternative news organizations across the U.S. and Canada. Previously, she served as Executive Director of Capitolbeat, the Association of Capitol Reporters and Editors, a group she helped create in 1999. She also served as director of communications and marketing at Phase2 Technology in Virginia, where she also oversaw the publishing practice.

### **Maya Schenwar**

Maya Schenwar is Truthout's executive director. Her book, *Locked Down, Locked Out: Why Prison Doesn't Work and How We Can Do Better*, will be out from Berrett-Koehler Publishers in October.

### **Benjamin Schneer**

Benjamin Schneer is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Government at Harvard University and an affiliate of the Institute for Quantitative Social Science. He studies political communication, elections and public opinion.

### **Rinku Sen**

Rinku Sen is the President and Executive Director of Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice Innovation and the Publisher of the award-winning news site [Colorlines](http://Colorlines.com). Race Forward brings systemic analysis and an innovative approach to complex race issues to help people take effective action toward racial equity through research, media, and practice.

### **Lisa Skube**

Lisa is the founder of the Journalism Accelerator, a crowdsourced, testing ground of analysis informed through cross-expertise conversations and examination of emerging practices and new news business models.

### **Phillip Smith**

Phillip Smith is a veteran digital publishing consultant. For almost two decades he has provided expert advice and hands-on help to innovative and progressive publishers around the globe. He's passionate about many things seemingly outdated in a fast-moving world, like reading instead of skimming, sticking with the same project for years, and good ol' e-mail over social media.

### **Joseph Smooke**

Joseph is a co-founder of [people.power.media](http://people.power.media).

### **Peter Snyder**

Peter Snyder is a Computer Science Ph.D. student at UIC interested web-space security and machine learning.

### **Josh Stearns**

Josh Stearns is Press Freedom Campaign Director at Free Press where he runs national advocacy campaigns to amplify the voice of local people in the policy debates that shape our media. Stearns is the author of numerous reports on journalism, press freedom and public media, and speaks regularly about

community engagement, the future of news and public policy. His articles have appeared online at the Columbia Journalism Review, Mother Jones, Orion Magazine, BoingBoing and YES Magazine. Stearns is a founding board member of the Freedom of the Press Foundation.

**Vince Stehle**

Vince Stehle is the Executive Director of Media Impact Funders, a network of funders, working broadly on media and technology issues, in order to create social change. Vince was one of the founders of the Media Consortium.

**Brian Stewart**

Brian Stewart is the Communications Director for Generation Progress, where he oversees the editorial work, public relations and rapid response, and online strategy of the organization. Previously, Brian was editor of The Daily Iowan, managing a daily print newspaper, nightly newscast, and website, which collectively reach more than 50,000 people daily.

**Ariel White**

Ariel White is a doctoral student in Government at Harvard University, with research interests in media, race, representation, immigration policy, voting rights, and incarceration. Before entering the PhD program, she worked at a legal services office.

**Gregg Zachary**

G. Pascal (“Gregg”) Zachary is a professor of practice at the Cronkite School at Arizona State University. His four books include “The Diversity Advantage: Multicultural Identity in the New World Economy” (2003) and “Endless Frontier: Vannevar Bush, Engineer of the American Century” (1997), which won the IEEE Literary Award and was described as “deeply informed” by the New York Times. Before arriving in academia, Gregg was a senior writer for the Wall Street Journal covering Silicon Valley, Senior Editor at Time Inc.’s Business 2.0, and wrote the “Ping” column for the New York Times. He started his journalistic life at altweeklies, and remains a staunch supporter of the independent media.