DESIGN THINKING, IN FIVE DAYS

MEDILL EXPERIENCES

HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT CLASS OF 2017
Congratulations to Shane Bauer of Mother Jones

Winner of the 2017 John Bartlow Martin Award for Public Interest Magazine Journalism

Bauer’s piece, “My Four Months as a Private Prison Guard,” was published in the July/August 2016 edition of Mother Jones magazine. Read the article: http://tinyurl.com/h8wawfh.

The Medill-sponsored John Bartlow Martin Award “recognizes the writer(s) of a story or series that sheds light on the causes, consequences or remedies of a problem in American society.” Bauer will receive a $4,000 cash prize.
Alumni often talk about the incredible experiences they had at Medill inside and outside of the classroom. Sometimes they talk about opportunities that weren’t available to them at the time because of additional costs, such as an internship in New York, a quarter in our Washington program or study abroad. They usually kept quiet about their financial need.

Today, a key goal for Medill is to become need-blind for all student experiences. These experiences include study abroad, domestic academic programs including our Washington and San Francisco sites, Journalism Residency and the IMC Immersion Quarter, along with participation in professional and student conferences and workshops.

We know student experiences can be life-changing. We know the college years offer an ideal time for exploration. We know that jobs and career success can be tied to internships and unique opportunities available at top universities.

Northwestern has made a pledge to be need-blind in admissions. Once students arrive on campus, though, their experiences may be quite different based on an ability to pay for opportunities outside of the traditional classroom. Our commitment is to reduce the barriers for all students, including extra housing costs, travel expenses or money to participate fully. Therefore, we are expanding all of our programs, along with financial aid, to ensure that all Medill students have access to life-changing opportunities. Our need-blind model is that we will accept students into all programs without regard to family ability to pay and then support their participation through aid.

The goal is ambitious. Initially, we plan to raise endowed scholarships and annual cash to support about $500,000 in financial aid. So far, individual donors and foundations have provided support in specific areas such as scholarships for Journalism Residency, housing support for Washington and San Francisco quarters, travel or expenses for special projects, and aid for study abroad or international programs.

We are tripling aid for Journalism Residency by the fall quarter, thanks to the gifts. We are moving from very little housing support to grants for all students with need. We plan to offer each undergraduate student the ability to travel (such as reporting projects) or study abroad during the four years at Northwestern through subsidized programs and additional financial aid.

Medill obviously supports important reporting and projects in Chicago and Evanston, plus Washington and now San Francisco. As you’ll see in this issue, our professors led programs for students throughout the United States and in Europe, Asia and Africa. We plan to take students to South America soon.

IMC faculty opened a new London program and offered options for students to go to China, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and France, along with summer immersion projects in Chicago and around the country.

In DC, our undergraduates covered the presidential election in the fall. Graduate students reported on the first 100 days of the new administration. Our San Francisco site opened for fall 2016 classes, and students across all of our undergraduate and graduate programs enrolled there during the year.

Few schools have the range of experiences available in Medill. As we move forward, it is essential that these opportunities be open for all students. I’m confident we will meet this ambitious goal to be need-blind in experiences.

Thanks for all of your support of Medill.

BETHANY CRYSTAL (BSJ09)
GENERAL MANAGER, UNUS NETWORK AT UNION SQUARE VENTURES
PRESIDENT, MEDILL CLUB OF NYC

I use the skills and concepts taught in Medill every day of my life, and I attribute my professional success and career versatility to the comprehensive coursework taught at Medill. Since graduating in 2009, I’ve held roles in journalism, sales, marketing, and now, venture capital. In each of these occupations, I’ve drawn upon my tool kit of strong writing, reporting and research skills, to shape how I approach projects and planning. It’s truly a testament to Medill’s success to see how the journalism skills we learned are so applicable across such a wide variety of industries and job functions.
$3 Million for Social Justice Reporting Initiatives

DAVID F. FREEDMAN (BSJ’81) made a $3 million commitment to further the study of reporting on social justice issues at the Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications.

Freedman’s gift will establish the David F. Freedman Fund for Social Justice Reporting Initiatives to support programs focused on wrongful convictions, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, globalization and other social justice issues.

Freedman’s gift will be used to support research, students, curricula, conferences and other activities at the intersection of journalism and social justice, such as:

• The Medill Justice Project
• The Medill Equal Media Project, established with a gift from Freedman in 2011
• Work-study programs for Medill students on staff at The Daily Northwestern
• International journalism residencies
• Reporting on issues linked to the consequences of globalization, such as preservation of the environment and natural resources, refugee and immigration policy, financial services, and the job market

Social justice pursuits are “an example of what Medill does best,” said Freedman, who serves on the Medill Justice Project’s board of advisers. “Medill trains journalists to raise issues, to uncover facts, to give voices to people who don’t otherwise have those voices and to bring about change by powerfully telling the stories of the people whose lives are affected.”

Plaque for Professor Emeritus Bob McClory

IN DECEMBER, MEDILL HONORED ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS AND MEDILL HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT MEMBER ROBERT MCCLOY, WHO DIED IN APRIL 2015, WITH A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE ON ONE OF THE BENCHES BEHIND FISK HALL.

NU Hoops Madness 2017

Christine Brennan (BSJ’80, MSJ’81) @cbrennansports

It’s @MedillSchool at @bigten men’s tournament. With Dave Revsine (Weinberg’91), Teddy Greenstein (BSJ’94) and Peter Alexander (BSJ’98) on March 9.

ESPN’s Mike Greenberg (BSJ’89), Mike Wilbon (BSJ’80) and Northwestern athletic director Jim Phillips at the Big Dance in Salt Lake City on March 16.
IMC WEEK-LONG IMMERSION PROGRAM IN SAN FRANCISCO FOCUSES ON DESIGN THINKING

HOW DO YOU TAKE THREE MONTHS of marketing curriculum, fit it into five days, while having students develop and design their own products?

That was the task placed before the IMC faculty at Medill’s San Francisco campus, who recently completed their week-long immersion program—running from March 21-25—created for part-time and online students to study innovation and technology.

The school’s newest campus, which opened in September 2016 in partnership with the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, gives Medill students an opportunity to experience the rapid evolution of technology firsthand in Silicon Valley’s backyard.

“San Francisco is obviously a hotbed for tech companies and where you see the best uses of technologies to disrupt traditional industries,” said Josh Grau, a Medill Lecturer and Director of Corporate Outreach at the Bay Area campus.

“So we attracted students who were not only interested in being in San Francisco and getting exposure to some different people representing different companies, but also to immerse themselves into this kind of thinking.”

The campus allows students to examine the innovation methods and philosophies that help drive the tech sector’s most creative companies, but in order to provide that experience to the program’s part-time and online students, Medill faculty would have to craft a program on an accelerated schedule.

“The idea was that they could, hopefully, learn some things in a very concentrated amount of time and bring that back to their day jobs,” Grau said. “Essentially all of the students in this immersion are working full-time or part-time. So the big opportunity here is to certainly learn something academically, but also apply it practically in their day-to-day.”

Medill professors invited 50 students to take part in the immersion program, which encompassed a mix of lecture series combined with hands-on projects designed to imbue the students with the principles of design thinking—an approach that melds design practice with user-provided input and business strategy.

“What we wanted to do is make sure we were being as focused as we could be, so we decided to pick themes for each of the days and build lectures, guest speakers and other opportunities around those themes,” Grau said. “It was really about looking at the problems that marketers have faced forever and understanding how technology has emerged and evolved to help them solve them.”

Amid lectures with faculty on communication, storytelling and how to utilize them with virtual reality, students were split into groups of five to develop and design a fitness product for a real client they would pitch to that week.

As part of the design thinking curriculum, the teams went out on the streets of San Francisco to interview the public on practical and user-friendly features they would like to see in the product.

“They were very fast-paced days,” said Marianne Edwards, an IMC Online student from Charlotte, N.C. “Having that kind of real-world experience and primary research, I thought that was a really good experience, just because I have a cube job and I don’t get to do that every day.”

Having gathered their user-generated data, the teams went back to the campus to model possible product designs and features.

“It was really neat to collaborate with my team and bounce ideas off of each other,” Edwards said. “A big theme of the week was saying, ‘Yes, and…’ so not shutting down ideas, but continuing to build off of what the previous person said.”

One important element of the program that is unique to the San Francisco campus—and the tech sector at large—is the embrace of risk. As students strove to devise the best user features for their products, faculty stressed the embrace of risk and failure as valuable tools.

“This program allows you the freedom to think about the ideas, to think about the concepts and question them and challenge them,” Edwards said. “[Assistant professor] Russ Nelson, he did such a great job. He opened up the very first day by saying, ‘This is a safe place to take risks.’

“One thing that I loved was each morning, he gave out an award to the person who took the biggest risk the day before. That was such a nice way to continue to encourage that throughout the week.”

The immersion program closed its final day with a Shark Tank-styled pitch session, dubbed the “Lobster Tank,” where the student teams unveiled their ideas to Kelton Lynn, a venture capitalist and former Twitter product manager.

Edwards said the experience of the immersion program was a valuable insight into how innovation and the embrace of risk can be applied to marketing.

“It was so well done, especially to be the first time offering this class,” she said. “I was very impressed from start to finish with the entire process.”
Global Trips Now a Pillar of the Medill Experience

Over the last several years, Dean Brad Hamm has been working to make global experiences a hallmark of the Medill curriculum through unique travel opportunities and financial support to make these opportunities accessible to all students.

In February and March 2017, 195 Medill undergraduates and graduate students traveled domestically, and to nine countries, to report on topics such as the arts, sports media, conflict journalism, climate change, the environment, social justice, youth in society and other topics.

UNDERGRADUATE SPRING BREAK EXPERIENCES

In addition to global journalism residency programs, Medill sophomores and juniors now have the option of participating in one of five winter courses that include an international reporting experience over spring break. In March, 70 BSJs traveled to Panama, Qatar, China, Israel and the United Kingdom.

“Some of us woke to the sunrise streaming red through the slats of our thatched-roof huts just a few feet from the Caribbean Sea,” said Abigail Foerstner, assistant professor and the faculty lead on the Panama spring break experience. “We had traveled to the islands of the Guna, an ancient people of Central America. We sat in the Caribbean later in the morning for a story meeting and talked about the tragic story that the Guna Yala islands are going under water as sea levels rise. It was a rude awakening to the fast pace of climate change. But ours was a tale of two cities. We camped out in the jungle two days later at Kalu Yala, an ecological city in the making. One thing is certain there: Sustainability takes lots of labor in addition to a new vision of farming, water use and community spirit. Medill students asked tough questions, even in this transformative space.”

GRADUATE STUDENT MEDILL EXPLORES PROGRAM

Medill Explores, now in its third year, allows graduate students to go on a variety of immersion trips during a week-long suspension of classes in the first week of February. Students chose among 11 reporting or networking programs led by faculty and staff. In February 2017, 125 MSJs traveled on these programs, exploring everything from marine biology labs in California to the magazine industry in New York City, the streets of Havana, Cuba and areas in and around Chicago.

Students traveled overseas to South Africa, Tokyo, Cuba and Puerto Rico. Additional groups went to U.S. cities for an immersion experience in their areas of specialization. For example, the sports media students visited Houston in advance of Super Bowl LI and New York City to examine sports futures with ESPN reporters and other sports media officials. The magazine graduate students also traveled to New York City to meet with local alumni at a variety of national consumer publications. Students in the environmental science reporting specialization went to Bodega Bay to visit the UC-Davis Marine Lab, while students in the national security journalism specialization traveled to D.C. Finally, Medill also offered Medill Explores immersion experiences in Chicago, which this year included topics such as photojournalism and arts reporting.
Spring Break, Medill Style

Medill undergraduates took week-long reporting trips in March during spring break to London, Israel, Qatar, Panama and China.

Students on the Israel trip saw first-hand the complexities of a multilayered conflict and met people from all sides who are affected by it.

Caryn Ward, assistant professor and faculty lead for the Israel trip

Students on the Israel trip saw first-hand the complexities of a multilayered conflict and met people from all sides who are affected by it. Caryn Ward, assistant professor and faculty lead for the Israel trip.
Just as it’s better to interview sources in person rather than over the phone, it’s better to see graffiti, art museums and theatrical shows in person rather than just in textbooks or on the web. Which would you remember for a lifetime—a picture of the backstage of the Royal National Theatre or the chance to hold a “bloody head” in your own hands?

Karen Springen, lecturer and faculty lead for the London trip
PANAMA

RIGHT: Students on the Medill trip to Panama interview Jimmy Stice, founder of Kalu Yala, about his efforts to build a sustainable town in the middle of Panamanian jungle. Photo credit: HANNAH CURCIO (BSJ19)

MIDDLE LEFT: The students visited one of the uninhabited small islands in San Blas and viewed starfish. Photo credit: ADAM YATES (BSJ19)

MIDDLE RIGHT: Off the Caribbean coast of Panama, this is one of 365 small scattered islands under control of the autonomous, indigenous Guna people. At the current rate of sea level rise, the islands are estimated to disappear within a few years. The Guna people will be forced to relocate and will no longer have a steady source of income from tourism, begging the question—what is the next step? Photo credit: CASSIE MAJEWSKI (BSJ19)

BOTTOM LEFT: The students at Kalu Yala live and have classes in open-air structures they call “ranchos.” Photo credit: ANNMARIE HILTON (BSJ19)

BOTTOM RIGHT: Esteban Gasit, formerly the president of the Kalu Yala Institute, talks to students about the Kalu Yala mission. Photo credit: Abigail Foerstner

TOP LEFT: Students tour the Cartí Sugtupu island, one of the central communities of the Guna Yala islands in the San Blas Archipelago of Panama. Photo credit: Abigail Foerstner

TOP RIGHT: Students on the Panama trip visited the Guna Yala islands, also known as the San Blas Islands, off the country’s Caribbean coast. Due to sea level rise caused by climate change, the islands are expected to go underwater within one to three decades. Photo credit: DARBY HOPPER (BSJ19)

MIDDLE LEFT: Students were taken from the Panamanian mainland out to the Guna islands in covered motorboats. Photo credit: EMMA SARAPPO (BSJ19)

MIDDLE RIGHT: Guna-Panamanian governmental worker and environmental activist Dwi Valiente speaks to the Medill class on the beach about climate change, the Guna and the future of the Guna Yala islands. Photo credit: EMMA SARAPPO (BSJ19)

RIGHT: Students enjoy a tropical lunch on Isla Aroma in Guna Yala. Photo credit: Abigail Foerstner
Because of this visit, students began to understand crucial context for the stories we are producing in class as well as the stories they consume about China in the media. They returned exhausted, invigorated and with a glimmer of knowledge and curiosity that I hope will change the way they look and report on the world.

Mei-Ling Hopgood, associate professor and faculty lead for the China trip
Our Medill Explores trip to Bodega Bay has been one of the highlights of my Medill experience (so far). We had hands-on experience in a top marine biology lab, saw how the researchers worked, learned about sea life, and went out on a research boat to collect data and plankton samples. Spending a whole week with researchers in the field instead of just interviewing them or speaking on the phone was a great opportunity to fully understand the topic and get to know the scientists. Seeing the actual species that are affected by environmental changes like ocean acidification will make it much easier to understand the process if I ever write about it in the future.

Janice Cantieri
ABOVE: MENGYI JENNY SUN (MSJ17), one of the participants in Danny Wilcox Frazier’s documentary photography workshop, takes a group picture after the presentation of photo essays that were produced during Medill Explores week. Photo credit: PAT NABONG (MSJ17)

RIGHT: JUNE LEFFLER (MSJ17) takes establishing shots of her subject’s neighborhood. Throughout the course of a week, participants in Danny Wilcox Frazier’s documentary photography workshop learned how to earn their subjects’ trust, take intimate photos, and sequence photos to tell a story. Photo credit: PAT NABONG (MSJ17)
Medill Graduate Students Explore Visual Journalism for Explores Week

DURING MEDILL EXPLORES WEEK, WHEN Medill’s journalism graduate students take a mid-quarter break to work on special reporting projects, 10 students took a trip outside their comfort zones to delve deeply into visual journalism. Documentary photographer and filmmaker Danny Wilcox Frazier led the students on a project called Unseen Chicago. The goal was to find story subjects whose lives—and the issues they confront—are not front-page news, but are nonetheless compelling and important. Students were encouraged to immerse themselves in the lives of their subjects, spending hours and late nights in their homes and haunts, using their cameras to tell emotional and meaningful stories in a series of images.

“This immersive experience was intense and a little exhausting for the students,” said Professor Craig Duff, who organized the workshop. “But it was extraordinary to watch how Danny’s energetic coaching helped these young journalists—most of whom had little to no photography experience—make such poignant, visual stories in just seven days.”

PHOTO BY STEPHANIE ROTHMAN (MSJ17)
Lola Lubin, 6, marches with a handmade sign protesting President Trump at a rally in downtown Chicago.

PHOTO BY JINGNAN HUO (MSJ17)
Angelo Graham mock plays a guitar at the Jackson Red Line station as drummer Dave accompanies the recording. Jackson and Washington are the only stations with legal performing areas. Graham has to partner with different artists to occupy the spot. Street artists sometimes have scuffles over who owns the spot.

PHOTO BY GRANT RINDNER (MSJ17)
Zach Uttich, founder and fitter of BLVDier, a West Loop tailor shop, fits a friend and client for a jacket before the two grab lunch. BLVDier is one of several bespoke suiting businesses that have popped up over the past few years in the Fulton Market area.
Abdusebur Jemal prays after a Saturday lunch with his Yemeni wife and 3-year-old daughter, who had just entered the U.S. a week before thanks to the federal judge in Seattle who suspended President Donald Trump’s executive order on immigration. “I have prepared a whole year for them to come to the United States,” said Jemal, a medical student at the University of Illinois in Rockford. “Now, it’s just one less thing to worry about.”

Shawn Sturges, a blind rock climber from Chicago, recently won second place in the Adaptive National Championship by climbing a 55-foot wall. Aiming to climb Mount Everest, Sturges works out in a local gym four times a week. “The worst fear out there to most climbers is death. It’s hard to be afraid of something if you don’t see it,” Sturges said.

Kamran Hussain (bottom), 40, an optometrist from Lincolnwood, Ill, prays after dinner in the living room of his house in Wilmette, Ill. with his wife Safforah Khan—who is 35 and teaches math at Niles West High School—and their 7-year-old son Obayd. Their twin daughters Suraya (top) and Azeema (right), both 4, are playing next to them.

Children wait while Zena Falou (left), the owner of Falou African Hair Braiding—who was born in Cameroon—and her sister, Lady Samira (right), braid their customers’ hair. Falou established her hair braiding business when she came to Chicago. When asked why she decided to open a braiding shop, Falou said, “That’s the only thing we know how to do.”
Medill inducted six alumni into its Hall of Achievement at a ceremony May 18. Honorees included two Pulitzer Prize winners, a U.S. ambassador, the executive editor of NPR, a top marketing executive and the creator of the hit television shows “Girlfriends,” “The Game” and “Being Mary Jane.”

“These alumni truly represent the best of Medill,” said Dean Bradley J. Hamm, “They have distinguished themselves in their fields and are a credit to their alma mater. We are proud to recognize their outstanding achievements.”

The Hall of Achievement was established in 1997 to honor Medill alumni whose distinctive careers have had positive effects on their fields.

JONATHAN S. ADDLETON
Addleton served as U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia as part of a 32-year career in the Foreign Service. After graduation, he worked at the World Bank and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He went on to earn his master’s and doctorate from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

His early assignments for the U.S. Agency for International Development included serving as program officer in Yemen, Jordan and South Africa. In these positions, he worked to end poverty, promote economic growth and encourage democracy. Later he led USAID missions in Mongolia, Cambodia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and India. He was serving as USAID Representative to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium when President Barack Obama nominated him to be ambassador to Mongolia. After that assignment, he served as the State Department’s Senior Civilian Representative to southern Afghanistan, inspiring his most recent book, “The Dust of Kandahar: A Diplomat Among Warriors in Afghanistan.”

Addleton also is the author of three other books.

MARY L. BAGLIVO
Baglivo has spent her career leading marketing communications for top global brands and has brought her skill and talent home to her alma mater. She is now chief marketing officer and vice president of global marketing at Northwestern.

Before joining Northwestern, Baglivo was CEO of the Americas for Saatchi & Saatchi, a global advertising agency. While there, Baglivo turned the company into a creative force winning new business from companies such as Ameriprise, JCPenney, Lenovo, Wendy’s, MillerCoors and Kraft. Saatchi & Saatchi New York was named Agency of the Year at the Cannes International Advertising Festival in 2007. That same year, Advertising Women of New York named Baglivo “Advertising Woman of the Year.”

Earlier in her career Baglivo had been CEO of Tatham-Laird & Kudner in Chicago, North America COO of J. Walter Thompson, CEO at Panoramic Communications, and president of Arnold Worldwide, an integrated creative communications agency.
KAI BIRD

Bird is a Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer who is the author of five books. Bird and co-author Martin J. Sherwin won the 2005 National Book Critics Circle Award, the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Biography or Autobiography, and the 2008 Duff Cooper Prize for “American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer.” Oppenheimer is considered “the father of the atomic bomb.”

Bird’s other books have received critical acclaim and popular success as well. “The Good Spy: The Life and Death of Robert Ames,” was a New York Times best-seller. His memoir, “Crossing Mandelbaum Gate: Coming of Age Between the Arabs and Israelis,” was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

In January, Bird accepted a position as executive director and distinguished lecturer at CUNY Graduate Center’s Leon Levy Center for Biography in New York City. He is currently working on a biography of President Jimmy Carter.

MARA BROCK AKIL

Brock Akil is writer, creator and producer of several hit television series including “Being Mary Jane,” starring Gabrielle Union; “Girlfriends,” which ran for eight years on UPN and The CW; and the “Girlfriends” spinoff “The Game,” which finished its history-making run with 147 episodes and nine seasons on The CW and BET. She is credited with adding an authentic African-American female voice to television offerings. Brock Akil has been a consulting producer for ABC’s sitcom “Cougar Town,” supervising producer and writer on “The Jamie Foxx Show” and writer on “Moesha.”

Brock Akil and her husband Salim run Akil Productions. She wrote and co-produced and he directed the movie “Sparkle,” which featured Whitney Houston in her final big screen performance. Brock Akil is currently developing a show with Warner Bros. called “Documenting Love.”

Brock Akil will receive her award at a campus event in October.

EDITH C. CHAPIN

Edith Chapin is the executive editor of NPR News. Name a significant news event in the last few decades and Chapin’s probably been there —either on the ground, producing, reporting or directing coverage as an executive or manager.

After graduating from Medill, Chapin worked her way up the ranks at CNN from intern to vice president and deputy bureau chief of CNN’s Washington bureau.

She served as CNN’s New York Bureau chief and managing editor during the time of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Before that, in the early ‘90s, she produced groundbreaking reports across Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Chapin’s coverage of Hurricane Katrina for CNN in 2005 earned her a George Foster Peabody Award. That same year, she also won an Alfred I. DuPont Columbia University Award for CNN’s reporting on the catastrophic tsunami in South Asia.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

R. BRUCE DOLD

Dold is a Pulitzer Prize winner and publisher and editor-in-chief of the Chicago Tribune. After graduating from Medill, he joined the Chicago Tribune as a reporter for the Suburban Trib. He then spent 12 years as a reporter, primarily covering city, state and national politics. After joining the Tribune’s editorial board, he wrote a series of editorials that called attention to grave problems in the Illinois child welfare system. The editorials focused on the tragic case of Joseph Wallace, a three-year-old boy who was killed by his mother. Dold was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing in 1994.

Dold served as a Tribune columnist for five years and was named editorial page editor in 2000. Under his direction, the Tribune editorial board won a dozen national awards, including a Pulitzer in 2003 and finalist honors in 2009, 2010 and 2011. He was named editor-in-chief and publisher in 2016. In his first year leading the paper, it won the Pulitzer Prize for feature photography and was named as a Pulitzer finalist for public service, investigative reporting and commentary.
1970s

BRENT MUSBURGER, Tampa play-by-play announcer, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for Sports from The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences at the 38th Annual Sports Emmy Awards on May 9 in New York.
While attending Medill, Musburger was lured away to “The Chicago American,” where he became an award-winning sportswriter. His broadcast career started when he joined WBBM radio in Chicago in 1968 as sports director. He was later named sports director for WBBM-TV before moving to Los Angeles to co-anchor the nightly news on KNXT-TV.
During his career, Musburger reported on the Super Bowl, College Football Championship, Final Four, The Masters, Rose Bowl, Little League World Series, FIFA World Cup, Indianapolis 500, NBA Finals, MLB playoffs, U.S. Open Tennis Championships and the Belmont Stakes. He has worked for ABC, CBS, ESPN Radio and the SEC Network.
In 2016, Musburger was honored with the Vin Scully Lifetime Achievement Award in Sports Broadcasting. He retired in January 2017.

JEFFRON BOYNES (COMM77, MS78) won the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s 2016 Pride of CASE District V Gold Award for Best Diversity Program for writing, reporting and producing the video, “ULIC ENGAGE.”

The prize honors the best work in communications, alumni relations and development by member universities across the Midwest. Boynes is an associate director at the News Bureau at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

BILL OSTENDORF (BS78, MS80) led the redesign of the Post Bulletin in Rochester, Minn., The Berkshire Eagle in Pittsfield, Mass., and the Press & Journal in Middletown, Pa. in recent months. Ostendorf has led the redesign of nearly 600 print newspapers and magazines, mostly as a consultant for Hearst’s nearly 600 print newspapers and magazines. Ostendorf has led the redesign in Pittsfield, Mass., and the Press & Journal in Rochester, Minn., The Berkshire Eagle associate director at the News Bureau at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

1980s

LEIGH ANN WINICK (BS84) completed a fellowship for Healthcare journalists at the National Institutes of Health, sponsored by the Association of Health Care Journalists. She is a medical producer for “CBS This Morning.”

RENEE CORDES (BS89, MS90) is a senior writer at Amneal in Portland, Maine, which is owned by New England Business Media. After many years in Europe, Cordes and her husband, previously with Bloomberg News, moved from Brussels, Belgium, last fall with their three parakeets.

1990s

MONETTE VELASCO (BS97) had her second kidney transplant on October 13, 2015 at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. Velasco posted a note on Facebook asking for donors, and up stepped Alex Raine, who is married to Tresia Raine, Velasco’s best friend. Velasco had previously been on peritoneal dialysis for two years. Velasco and Alex Raine are both doing well. Her first kidney transplant was in 1999.

2000s

SABRA AYRES (MS01) received the Marie Calvin Award for Best Foreign Correspondence in 2006, which is a Front Page Award from the Newsweek/Congressional on January 24, 2016, at the DANK Haus German American Cultural Center in Chicago. Several

researching The Kremlin’s soft power tactics and pro-Russian paramilitary groups operating in Eastern Europe. Ayres also has been covering the conflict in Ukraine since December 2013 for the Los Angeles Times, The Christian Science Monitor and Al Jazeera, among other publications.

ERIN CHAN DING (BS03), a freelance journalist based in Chicago, co-directs the Asian American Journalists Association’s Freelance Affinity Group with San Francisco-based freelance journalist, Ellen Lee. Created two years ago, AAJA Freelance serves freelance journalists nationwide by connecting them with editors and job opportunities and helping them network with each other. Ding writes for a variety of newspapers, magazines, websites and nonprofit organizations and has two Ni- love, purple-adoring kids with her husband, Charley Ding (Weingberg02, Feinberg05).

LAUREN POND (BS09), a photographer based in Columbus, Ohio, was chosen by curator Peter Barbier to win the eighth biennial Center for Documentary Studies/Honickman First Book Prize in Photography for her color series, “Test of Faith.” The images document a family of Pentecostal Holiness serpent handlers that I have photographed since 2011,” writes Pond. She is currently the multimedia content producer for the American Religious Sounds Project within The Ohio State University’s Center for the Study of Religions.

MURRAY OLDEMBERG (MS47) has written a book, “The Draw of Sport,” which compiles, in art and text, more than 150 of his favorite personalities from the sporting world.
Each full-page illustration is accompanied by Oldemberg’s own personal reminiscences of these stars. As a nationally syndicated columnist, Oldemberg met—and in many cases, got to know—most of the greatest sports personalities of the 20th century, from Jesse Owens and Babe Ruth to present-day stars like Tiger Woods and Kobe Bryant.

“I was obsessed with sports, and I got a chance to meet the finest people in sports. To see my work in print was a tribute to start with, because when you see your byline, it does something for you,” Oldemberg told Gene Kannenberg Jr., who told him, “But that’s not why I worked. I worked because it was the Miller—right word—in which I felt comfortable.”

Born in New York in 1922, Oldemberg is a Medill Hall of Achievement member and an American sports cartoonist and writer. He has written 14 books and been a featured artist in more than 750 newspaper publications. His artwork is in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Oldemberg told Kannenberg his “objective was to do as well as I could. I had no illusions. I never felt that I was in the same class as [American sports cartoonist] Willard Mullin as an overall cartoonist. Of course, he was much older than I, and he had an advantage in that all his concentration was on cartooning, where my concentration was divided. I mean, I was a sports editor, I was an executive editor; I didn’t just have a job as a cartoonist. Never. So I think I was pretty lucky to be able to work in a lot of cartoons.”

Palm Springs in February. “It’s gratifying, yeah. I don’t mind it. But that’s not why I worked. I worked because it was the Miller—right word—in which I felt comfortable.”

With thanks to Al Cubbage, Vice President of University Relations for NU for this June 1987 MSA Master of Science in Advertising class photo.

From left to right: Zoot Velasco (husband), Tresia Raine (friend), Alex Raine (Teresa Raine’s husband and Velasco’s donor) and Monette Velasco.

From left to right: Zoot Velasco (husband), Teresa Raine (friend), Alex Raine (Teresa Raine’s husband and Velasco’s donor) and Monette Velasco.

From left to right: Zoot Velasco (husband), Teresa Raine (friend), Alex Raine (Teresa Raine’s husband and Velasco’s donor) and Monette Velasco.
dozen Northwestern alumni witnessed the nuptials, including fellow Medill alums and bridesmaids Erin Dostal Kouf (BSJ04) and Bethany Marzewski Kuller (BSJ09). The bride, flowers, and bride's shoes were Crystal (BSJ09). The table linens, Kuller (BSJ09) and Bethany Marzewski

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DOROTHY “DOT” (MELVILLE) MCKOWEN (BSJ38), 100, of Boca Raton, Fla., died in January. Born on May 22, 1916 in Highland Park, Ill., to Emma and Charles Starr McKown, McKown had a passion for reading, learning, and experiencing new adventures. She was a member of Kappa Delta Sorority and was an assistant editor of Modern Beauty Shop magazine when she fell in love with and married Kenneth William McKown. They raised four children together in Cincinnati, and McKown devoted her time to being a stay-at-home mom. She enjoyed playing the accordion, golfing, and making new friends. She is survived by two sons, Taron and Kevin McKown, daughters Shari Gallucci and Kathy May, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

HELEN STUART BODDY (BSJ44) of Boca Raton, Fla., died on September 21, 1924 to Robert and Mary Jane Powell, with the famous Cunard cruise line “Queens.” She is survived by her sister Charlotte Basmah, sons Mike, Steve and Marty; and several grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

WILSON DANIEL WEFLER (BSJ50), 89, of Maumou, Ohio, died Dec. 15, 2016. Born Feb. 17, 1927, Wefler worked as a publisher, editor, and business consultant. In the 1960s, he was director of alumni relations for Northwestern and received the Northwestern Alumni Association’s Service Award in 1966. In the “70s, he was senior vice president of Unimark International. In 1985, he helped found the Association of Professional Design Firms and continued to write and speak on the business of design until 2014. He was devoted to Evanston, serving as board

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MARILYN MOATS KENNEDY (BSJ65, MSJ66), 73, of Chicago, died Jan. 11. A longtime editor who also authored six books. Moats Kennedy was born in Kansas City on April 15, 1941, and attended Wyandotte High School, graduating in 1961. A year after graduating from Medill with her master’s degree, she married her husband, Daniel, in 1967.

Moats Kennedy began her career as a teacher and administrator at DePaul University in Chicago. She started a business, Career Strategies, to help people plan and navigate their careers. She later founded Moats Kennedy, Inc. through which she provided consulting, seminars and speeches to individuals, businesses and associations.

For 18 years, Moats Kennedy worked as job strategies editor for Glamour magazine. Her six books focused on career planning and office politics, and she wrote and published a monthly newsletter and wrote columns for several business and professional publications. Moats Kennedy was a member of Medill’s Journalism Hall of Achievement and a founding member of the Northwestern University’s Council of 100, a group of highly successful alumnae who mentor female students at NU.

Michelle Edgar (BSJ05, MUSC05) met Moats Kennedy through the NU Council of 100 and called her a “true mentor and inspiration to me. I admired her powerful spirit, witty sense of humor and motivational conversations that captivated her audience. She was always there for me and was a sounding board—giving me honest and realistic advice that always challenged me to be my best self while making me laugh at myself at the same time. Her spirit and life lessons will live with me forever and I will continue to pass along her legacy and her mission to teach and inspire the next generation of young leaders.”

Moats Kennedy is survived by husband, Daniel J. Kennedy, Jr.; daughter, Anne Kennedy McGuire and her husband Michael and their sons, Declan and Brennan; her sister, Evelyn Munger; her brother, Orin Lloyd Moats, Jr.; and her half brother, Jerry Jeffries of Kansas City, Kan., as well as many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Orin Lloyd Moats, her mother, Georgia Moats, and her aunt, Eula White.

THOMAS WILLIAM (BLAHA) BLAIR (BS47, MSJ50), 92, of Chicago, died on Feb. 28 in Lewisville, Texas. A longtime Rogers Park resident, Blair had a diverse career—and led a colorful life.

“He met T.S. Eliot in an elevator, sat next to Albert Einstein at a John Maynard Keynes’ lecture at Princeton, had a door slammed in his face by Pablo Picasso, and was on a first name basis with Studs Terkel,” said Ian Blair, Tom Blair’s grandson.

Before attending Medill, Blair served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Afterward, Tom Blair’s jobs included serving as chief photographer at Arlington Park racetrack, associate editor of “Popular Photography” magazine, and director of photographers at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), where he served as President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s personal photographer when he was in Paris as Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

“Once, when composing a photo of Eisenhower in France, Ike grabbed his hand when Tom reached for Ike’s glass of alcohol to remove it from being on frame,” said Ian Blair.

Tom Blair then became co-owner of the North-Cicero Inn and Tavern, before becoming an independent furniture sales rep and owner of Calmag, an import/export business featuring fine furniture and lighting, which had a sixth-floor showroom at the Merchandise Mart.

Ian Blair said his grandfather’s “living in Paris. He traveled to Antarctica and other places off the beaten path. He collected art. He was an avid reader. He got caught by a farmer sleeping in a haystack with my grandmother [Nancy Louise (O’Connor) Blair, BS49] in rural France. He spoke a bit of Czech. These are just some of the stories he told me during the summers I stayed with him in Chicago. He was an adventurer, a storyteller, and a philosopher. But mostly he was my grandfather. And I will miss him dearly.”

Blair was the beloved husband of the late Nancy Blair, a Chicago artist, father of Ross Blair (partner Cynthia Evertts); grandfather of Jan, Emma, and Alex Blair; son of the late William Blaha and Bessee Blaha; and older brother to the late William Blair. Tom and Nancy were married at Garrett Chapel, with their wedding reception at the O’Harrington Hotel, in January 1949.

Blair’s son, Ross, likened his father’s prolific life to that of the “quintessential millennial of today.”

“He was forced to use his smarts to make a living, not being afraid to experiment and start all over again from time to time and learn a brand new trade, and he did this all during an age when many would join a company and stay for 40 years, from start to retirement,” Ross said.

“...But that was not his path. He was far more restless and far more desirous of being his own boss, running things his own way, and living off his street smarts and ability to both read and relate to people. Before there was such a thing known as ‘emotional intelligence,’ he had it, the right stuff, in spades, and could read a person or an investment opportunity like a book, where if you studied long and hard enough, you could figure out an angle to help you be successful.”

“Most people were captivated by my dad—he had a twinkle in his eye and a magnetic personality, coupled with a love for people and their stories,” Ross said.

“He’d listen to everyone’s tales, I guess like a good journalist, and especially appreciated people of all walks of life who were good at and loved what they did. And after listening, he’d be more than happy to tell you his own stories, magnificent tales. Many friends, even strangers, presumed he was a college professor with the way he could hold court on so many disparate topics, with true interest, mastery and expertise. And now, alas, it’s time to bid him a final –30–.”

LEFT: Tom Blair and his granddaughter Emma Blair taken in Double Oak, Texas, at Emma’s high school senior year cross country banquet, December 2013. MIDDLE: Ian Blair, currently in the Peace Corps serving in the village of Horodkivka, Ukraine, and his grandfather, Tom Blair, taken in Rogers Park, Chicago, September 2016. ABOVE: Tom Blair, and his son, Ross Blair, Counsel, IBM Legal Department, taken in Chicago, July 2012.
obituaries

Northwestern. While there, Schaudt met his future wife, Jean Marie Lindsay, who also graduated with a journalism degree. They married on March 29, 1951.

Schaudt’s professional career began with a reporter’s job at the South Bend Tribune in South Bend, Ind. He also worked on the copy desk for the San Diego Union and for the Chicago Daily News. He remained as a copywriter and editor with the Chicago Daily News and the Chicago Sun-Times until his retirement in the late 1980s. He was a copywriter and editor during his tenure. He briefly worked as a negotiator for management, but soon returned to his first love, newspaper work. Schaudt was also a proud member of the Writers Guild of America. He also was active in Villa Park and served a stint as president of the Villa Park District 45 School Board. He was also a huge Cubs fan and enjoyed yelping at the TV during Bears games. Schaudt was the father of Eric, James and Peter Schaudt; his wife, Jean (Lindsay) Schaudt and beloved son, Peter Lindsay Schaudt, predeceased him in death.

Source: Chicago-Sun-Times

RALPH MAURICE OTWELL (BSJ50, MSJ51), 90 of Evanston, Ill., and of Hot Springs, Ark., died on March 8. Otwell worked as the editor of the Chicago Sun-Times and served as the former president of the Society of Professional Journalists. He was also a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. With more than a combined 15 years as managing editor and editor, he was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, ending his tour of active duty he had become telegraph editor. In 1953.

Days after his release from military duty, he joined the Sun-Times as a copy editor. He served in a variety of roles including assistant city editor and news editor, before becoming the Sun-Times’s managing editor in 1968. He was appointed editor in November 1976 and was named to the additional post of executive vice president in June 1980. He was elected president of the Society of Professional Journalists in 1973; earlier he served as the organization’s first vice president, secretary and treasurer. He was part of the inaugural group of 75 of Medill’s Hall of Achievement, inducted for Medill’s 75th anniversary in 1996.

“Ralph Otwell was a generous, compassionate, highly principled journalist, a champion of a free press and the First Amendment,” said Associate Professor Emeritus-in-Service Roger Boye, who had known Otwell for 45 years. “He was one of Medill’s most distinguished alumni, a man who gave freely of his time and his skill to the university and its students.”

Otwell was the husband of the late Janet Smith Ottwell; father of Brian, Douglas, and David Ottwell; grandfather of Rachel, Luke, Keegan, Abigail, and Jamie Ottwell; great-grandfather of Bernadette Ottwell-Rogers. He was preceded in death by Dorothy and parents Walter C. Ottwell and Pearl Tisdale Ottwell.

PHIL GEORGEFF (BSJ54, MSJ55), 85, of Fairhope, Ala., died on Nov. 7, 2016. Known as the “Voice of Chicago Racing,” Georgeff earned a place in the Guinness Book of World Records by calling 96,131 races.

“If you didn’t know anything about racing you still knew who Phil Georgeff was,” reminisced a protegé, John Brokopp, former director of publicity at Hawthorne Race Course and Sportman’s Park. “He was an institution in Chicago.”

Born Jan. 1, 1931, Georgeff grew up on the West Side. After graduating from Austin High School, where he was sports editor of the school paper, Georgeff went to Wright Junior College. He transferred to Northwestern, where he received a degree from Medill, and announced for the college radio and TV stations, specializing in announcing the Wildcat’s football games for the college station. The summer before his senior year, he worked mainly as a writer in the public relations department for Arlington Park and Washington Park racetracks.


“He worked day and night for many, many, many years,” said his son, Scott.

After retiring, Georgeff and his wife, Bobbi, moved from Villa Park to Fairhope, Ala.

“My father was excited about watching all the Cubs’ games in the playoffs and World Series (on TV),” said Scott, who lives in Chicago with his wife, Cari. “He and my mother stayed up late to watch the seventh game.”

Georgeff is survived by his wife, son and daughter-in-law.

Source: Chicago Tribune

VAUGHN E. HILL (BSJ54), 83, of Scottsdale, Ariz., died on Sept. 25, 2016. Born on Oct. 19, 1932 in Lansing, Mich., Hill was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force in 1956. He was awarded the aeronautical rating of pilot in 1956 and served in Vietnam as staff judge advocate for the 7th Air Force. His decorations included the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Bronze Star. Following military service, he served as contract litigation/solicitor for the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. Hill’s passions centered on aviation, world cultures, traveling and reading. His military career took him to the United States, Australia and Southeast Asia. He approached his travels as he did his life: with intelligence, wit and kindness. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; children, one son, Steven, and his sister, Susanne Fillingham.

JIM HEAVEY (MSJ57), 89, of Mullingar, Ireland. Heavey was born in Brooklyn on Sept. 9, 2016. Heavey was born in Brooklyn on Sept. 2, 1931 to John and Anne Heavey of Mullingar, Ireland. Heavey served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and afterward, attended Northwestern.

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BY BARBARA BRATMAN

ELLEN SOETEBER (BSJ72), 66, of Fort Lauderdale, died in June 2016. Soeteber spent her entire career in journalism, serving as metropolitan and deputy editorial page editor at the Chicago Tribune, managing editor of the Sun-Sentinel in South Florida and editor-in-chief of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. She also served as a member of the Medill Board of Advisers. On the board—a bond that dates back to the 1970s, when she taught copy editing—she was on the Alfred Friendly Press Fellow Advisory Committee. In 2008, she was a visiting professor of journalism ethics and diversity at Arizona State University’s Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

She was “the consummate newspaperwoman,” said David Axelrod, director of the Institute for Politics at the University of Chicago and former political writer for the Chicago Tribune. “Yes, she was a fine journalist, but somehow there’s a difference culturally about being a newspaperwoman,” he said. “The paper was still imbued with that front page energy,” said Axelrod, who after leaving journalism became a political consultant, serving as chief strategist and senior adviser to former President Barack Obama. “She loved it; she loved every bit of it. She thrived on the environment. And her enthusiasm was contagious.”

Soeteber was born in East St. Louis and was so eager to become a journalist while attending Northwestern, she visited the Evanston Police Department’s small press room to meet one. “I’m sitting there making phone calls, and who walks in but a college kid.” recalled William Shulz, then the Tribune’s beat reporter. “She says, ‘Okay, Bill, what do you guys actually do?’”

She soon found out for herself. She worked nights as a copy boy at the Chicago Daily News. (“That was the official job title—copy boy,” said Lipinski, who was assigned to write the lead story.

“I just remember Ellen walking in. She sits down; she looks at it; she takes it in very quickly. she looks up and says, ‘Double it.’”

The editors doubled it. “And the coverage was incredible,” said Lipinski, who succeeded Soeteber as metropolitan editor.

Soeteber left the Tribune in 1994 to become managing editor of the South Florida Sun-Sentinel. She oversaw its coverage of the 2000 presidential election, later proudly recalling that it was the only major Florida paper that did not prematurely call the election for George Bush on election night.

Boo, she became editor of the Post-Dispatch, the paper she had grown up reading, and focused on local news, investigative reporting and diversifying the newsroom. But the newspaper world was grappling with the financial disruption wrought by the Internet. In 2005, citing personal and professional reasons, she resigned and returned to Fort Lauderdale. She gardened, played golf and traveled with her husband of 42 years, Richard Martins, who survives her.

“She believed in journalism—not as the enemy of the people, but as the guardian of the people,” said Dorothy Collin, former Tribune columnist and Soeteber’s friend. “She was a true believer that it was a force for good.”

He worked for Gannett as an editor and reporter at the Binghamton Press and then as an editorial writer on foreign affairs and politics for the Washington Star. After the Washington Star folded, Heavey worked for a congressman at the U.S. House of Representatives before starting as an editorial writer at the San Francisco Examiner. Hearst later purchased the San Francisco Chronicle, where Heavey retired in 2005 as an editorial writer. Heavey’s passion was running and hiking; he ran many races, including marathons, and had the shirts to prove it. He assisted including hiking the Grand Canyon in one day and climbing Half Dome in Yosemite National Park.

Janice “Jan” Kay Laubbaugh (BSJ59), 79, of Fort Collins, Colo., died on Sat., Jan. 7. Born Jan. 16, 1937 to Glenn Ford Laubbaugh and Maida Ducker Laubbaugh, Laubbaugh was raised in Hastings, Mich. She graduated from Hastings High School in 1955 before attending Northwestern. Laubbaugh worked as a flight attendant for United Airlines for many years and lived in several different areas of the country. She was independent, loved to travel, read books, watch movies and plays, go on senior center outings and enjoyed good conversation. She was married twice, taking the names of Janice Philpott and Janice McRae, survived both husbands, and then returned to using her original last name. She is survived by niece Patricia Ann Laubbaugh, nephew Glenn Ford Laubbaugh, 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother, Jack D. Laubbaugh.
In the mood for a Manhattan? Due for a Daiquiri? What about a Manhattan? Due for a Daiquiri? What about a Manhattan? Due for a Daiquiri? What about...
Second-year teens DESTYNIE TUCKER, left, and BRANDON BARFIELD celebrate the final Saturday before graduation with their Medill mentor, AMAL AHMED. The Medill Media Teens program, in its sixth year and directed by Medill lecturer Sarahmaria Gomez, brings together Medill undergrads and Chicago high school students. Each Saturday during the school year, mentors help the teens learn more about journalism by experimenting with audio, video and print.

From left: Daniel Rapaport (BSJ17), ESPN’s Mike Greenberg (BSJ89), Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred, Ashley Peterson (BSJ17) and Celena Chong (BSJ17) at the March 1 Medill Sports Media Program event held in New York City at The Yale Club. Special thanks to Medill Board of Advisers member Rance Crain (BSJ60) for the use of The Yale Club.