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## First Amendment Awards: Call for Entries

Early entry deadline Jan. 18; last chance Jan. 31

SCHOLARSHIPS  
**Apply by Friday, Feb. 5**

“Probably for the next 60-90 days, we’re going to have more deaths per day than we had at 9-11 or we had at Pearl Harbor.” — CDC director **Robert Redfield**, 12-16-20

More than 2,900 people died Sept. 11, 2001.  
More than 2,400 died in the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

Toledo Blade writers say managers ‘manipulated’ stories on pro-Trump mob

2020 shows the danger of a decapitated cyber regime

Indigenous journalism: Apocalypse then and now

‘We need to radically redefine who we are serving’

China jails citizen-journalist for four years over Wuhan virus reporting

Analysis: How Google is hurting local news

I tested positive for covid-19, so what does that really mean?

By the numbers: Pandemic’s impact on US is horrifying

The future of social media is all talk

How will young journalists experience what’s left of a newsroom?

Corporate policy or union contract: newsroom diversity’s two options

Meet the unlikely hero trying to save California’s oldest weekly paper

Flickers of hope for local journalism — but not nearly enough

Setting our vaccine expectations: ‘Journalism has a bias toward what’s new’

As covid-19 infections have spread, so has the repression of journalism

Sin spinners: Salem Media empire preaches morality and **Donald Trump**

**Ruth Margalit** reports from nowhere

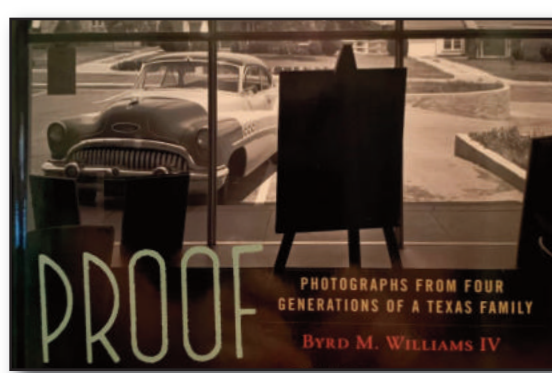


BE A MEMBER, BRING A MEMBER

VISIT SPJ.ORG/PLUS1.ASP

Next at Fort Worth SPJ ... Through Byrd’s eyes

**Byrd Williams IV** is the heir to four generations of photographic history. His collection of photos, negatives, journals and equipment, documenting more than 100 years of North Texas history dating back to his great-grandfather, resides in the Special Collections Library at the University of North Texas. But Byrd IV, who grew up in Fort Worth, is more than simply the latest photographer to bear the name. His passion and determination to keep the art of photography vibrant are captured in his book “Proof” and now in a documentary by Dallas filmmaker **Mark Birnbaum**. Williams and Birnbaum will share that story and pieces of the collection in an SPJ virtual event/Q&A Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. Check [spjfw.org](http://spjfw.org) for the invitation to connect with both photographer and filmmaker.



### QUICK HITS

- Arlington Conservation Council — ACC annual meeting, Jan. 13. [Info.](#)
- BRIT — it’s all happening at the speed of Zoom. [Info.](#)
- Meetups: [hosting an online event](#) Fort Worth Chapter – Nonfiction Authors Association ... [Trinity Arts Writers Workshop](#) ... [20BooksTo50k - Michael Anderle](#) ... [Fort Worth Area Journalists Meetup](#) ... [The DFW Bloggers Classroom](#)

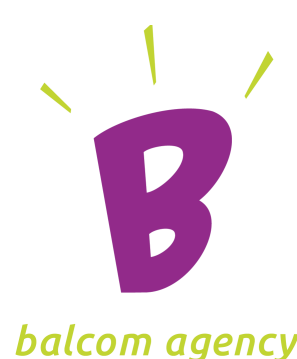
IN THE WORKPLACE: GET A JOB *Listings in [journalismjobs.com](http://journalismjobs.com) and [dfwcommunicators.com](http://dfwcommunicators.com) appear in this report.* ... East Texas-based M. Roberts Media has openings for experienced page designers who can work in InDesign and for experienced multimedia journalists, including strong in photography, to shoot for The Tyler Morning Telegraph. Multimedia journalists work in the public and at an office following all CDC guidelines; writing and video (camera or cellphone) skills are required. Page designers work on five papers. ... Jobs have opened at The Texas Observer for a photographer covering indigenous people around the state and for a beat reporter covering indigenous areas. Both positions are sponsored in part by Report for America, a nonprofit organization that helps newsrooms cover under-covered issues.

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

In these times when journalists are disrespected, condemned, ridiculed, assaulted and constantly face layoffs, pay cuts and worse, let it be known that we honor and support journalists and journalism. Keep at it. Your work is important to the people and essential to democracy itself. - Roger Summers

\* In the days of hot type, a chaser was a late edition of the newspaper for which the presses were not stopped until the plates were ready. Those pages were said to be “chasing” a running press.

### BIG-TIME SUPPORTER



**Fort Worth Star-Telegram**

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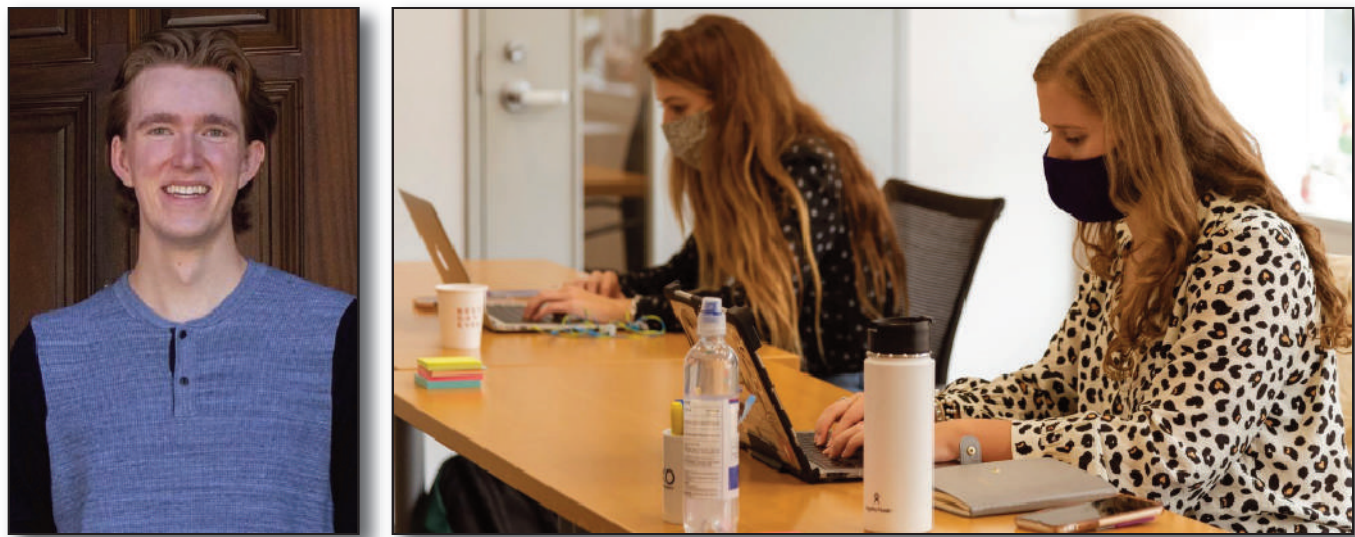
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[Q&A on coronaviruses from the World Health Organization](#)  
[Where to worry about catching covid-19, and where not to](#)

["What is good journalism?"](#)

**AND NOW IN UNION NEWS** Journalists at the Austin American-Statesman and its six community newspapers are taking steps to unionize at the 150-year-old paper. On Dec. 9 a majority of the reporters, photographers, columnists and other employees asked Gannett, the paper's parent company, to voluntarily recognize the Austin NewsGuild as a unit of the NewsGuild-CWA. The [Austin NewsGuild](#) submitted paperwork to the National Labor Relations Board to request a union certification election. Its journalists would withdraw this request if Gannett agrees to voluntarily recognize the Austin NewsGuild. Leading news organizations across the country have been unionized for years, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and the Associated Press. More than 30 Gannett-owned newspapers are unionized, including The Arizona Republic, The Indianapolis Star and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. In Texas, The Dallas Morning News became the first major newspaper to unionize in recent history, followed soon after by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. The [Dallas NewsGuild](#) earned its union certification after an overwhelming victory in a newsroom-wide election facilitated by the NLRB; negotiations began Dec. 8. The Star-Telegram voluntarily recognized the [Fort Worth NewsGuild](#).



above: The Rose Chapel at the gloriously repurposed Southside Preservation Hall provides the community with a stunning multicultural venue. below from left: Roxstars Colin Onderdonk, Sydney Wells, Nicole Adams



They call it "Creativity for Good" at [Roxo](#), TCU's full-service ad + pr agency, and it's making an impact on places like Southside Preservation Hall, an historic Methodist church turned community arts and events center, and the James L. West Center for Dementia Care, an acclaimed multilevel facility helping patients and their families.

"The Southside Preservation Association and Roxo have a shared desire to enhance our community," said the association's **Jeff Gibbons**. "Roxo is providing the creative strategy we need. It's a perfect partnership for us."

Roxo is structured like a social enterprise, with revenue generated from client work fueling more service-learning experiences for its students. Reflecting a need to uplift during the global pandemic, the agency recently launched a social media campaign, "Stars Shine In," to remind that physical distancing should never equate to feeling disconnected.

"When this pandemic began, we had two choices: brood over the cards being dealt to us, or get out of our comfort zones and strive for achievement," said Roxo president **Madison McQuary**. "Our goal is to bring joy and quality service to our clients and community, in a time when joy may be in short supply."

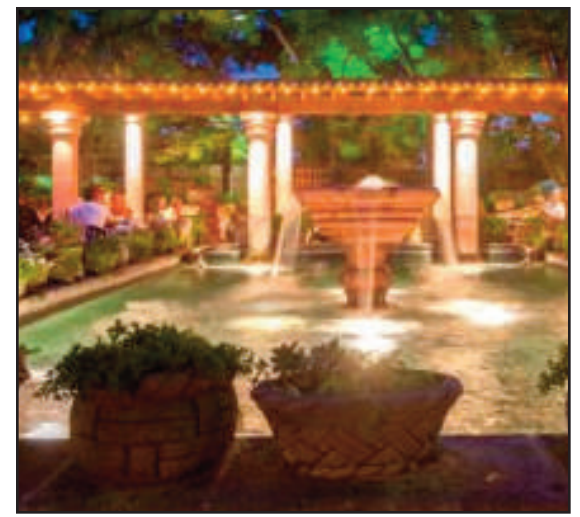
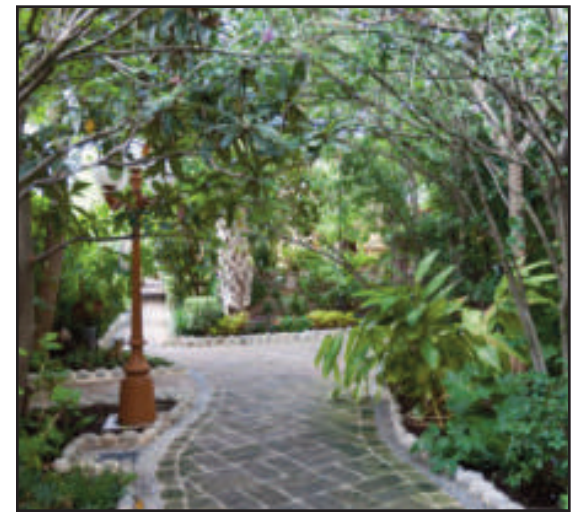
"The pandemic has hit local businesses really hard, especially nonprofits," added faculty director **Sarah Angle**. "We're happy to be able to provide creative solutions to our community partners by growing their brands and lending a hand when it comes to strategic communication."

Roxo works with clients throughout the state on brand identity solutions, social media strategy, events and environmental design. Launched in 2011 in the Bob Schieffer College of Communication. It has served more than 75 businesses and organizations, winning numerous awards for creative work and innovative strategies. Over 200 students have worked as Roxstars.

**PEOPLE & PLACES** Region 8 coordinator **Kathryn Jones**, with no lingering symptoms: "Spent part of the day (Dec. 16) in Fort Worth running errands and getting a post-covid checkup. Gee, people in Fort Worth actually wear masks and obey the signs, unlike those in the boonies where I live. I felt safer there than in Glen Rose. My doctor said I'm doing great, which was a relief. I got my oxygen level tested for the first time and it was fine. He says many people are having emotional symptoms related to covid — depression, anxiety, insomnia, domestic issues. Reach out to a friend today!" ... New year, fresh hope, and you're pining for an in-person Region 8 Conference. Well, pine on, big river, pine on. It almost surely will be virtual, in April, and patterned after the remarkable and rewarding national convention last year. Submit theme ideas to [kathrynjones1956@email.com](mailto:kathrynjones1956@email.com).

[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

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FORT WORTH BOTANIC GARDEN



BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS



# VITAL READS: Stories from INN newsrooms

INSTITUTE FOR NONPROFIT NEWS

- [The Big Thaw: How Russia could dominate a warming world](#)
- [Why millions of Americans still can't get coronavirus relief funds](#)
- [Detained and quarantined: 28 asylum-seeking children face huge odds](#)
- [Phantom students, very real red ink](#)
- [The foreclosure crisis waiting for us in January](#)
- [When helping family comes before going to college](#)
- [Without assistance, renters are on the brink of eviction, financial ruin](#)
- [Worse viruses are out there. How do we avoid the next big one?](#)
- [Farmworkers left behind by broken labor, disaster aid systems](#)
- [Divided prospects: The fight over an immigration detention center](#)

## REPORT FOR AMERICA | REPORT LOCAL

- [NC fast-food workers demanded — and won — covid-19 protections](#)
- [On deadline, critics questioned CARES Act priorities, unspent funds](#)
- [History of medical racism haunts black Memphians as vaccines arrive](#)
- [How the loss of two lives angered and mobilized a community in Dallas](#)

### POWER TO THE PEOPLE *paywall code https://dmn.pub/watchdog*

- [After 27 million driver's license records are stolen, Texans get angry with the seller — the government](#)
- [When a high school senior called out her superintendent for an illegal act](#)
- [Scam not, lest ye be scammed](#)
- [A man with no money suddenly gets millions; at first, nobody notices](#)
- [What's with this guy and his rifle at July's near-riot in Weatherford?](#)
- [Millions in covid-19 bailout were swindled, and these victims explain how](#)



### So help me, Lou Boccardi

Tarrant County College publications adviser **Chris Whitley** was sworn in Dec. 15 as president of College Media Association, vowing to support the needs of media advisers and students nationwide. And what's this, is that an Associated Press Stylebook he's using to take the oath of office? Why, yes, it is.

### OVER & OUT | [John Dycus](#), Fort Worth SPJ

Deadlines approaching for [scholarships](#) and [First Amendment Awards](#). Can't win if you don't play. ...

As the pandemic economy continues to crush news outlets, the [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#) and [Fort Worth Business Press](#) have snazzed up their sites and added engagement options. At the Star-T, automated guy will read you the news — surely a lure for the visually impaired — while FWBP is dabbling in [on-screen give-and-takes](#) with civic leaders. Commendable. Fighting back. When life gives you lemons, make a webinar. ...

Thank you to everyone who supported the holiday auction/JPS book benefit. Together, we raised \$935 plus collected more than 100 books for the hospital's readers library. This fundraiser helps the chapter achieve its mission of supporting local journalists, journalism educators and journalism students. The action may be virtual, but the money spends.

**SPJ factoids:** An International Federation of Journalists [White Paper on Global Journalism](#) says 42 journalists and media workers were killed while doing their jobs in 2020. And a [Freedom of the Press Foundation report](#) shows at least 117 journalists being arrested or detained in the U.S. ...

**Mark Glaser** for the Knight Foundation shares [5 reasons nonprofit news came of age in 2020](#). Still, such outlets "require the same dedication to the bottom line, even if they are not beholden to shareholders or investors." ...

BuzzFeed News editor **Mark Schoofs** labels an "outrageous overreach by the federal government" an Immigration and Customs Enforcement subpoena Dec. 1 demanding that [BuzzFeed identify its sources](#). Schoofs said the subpoena is "fundamentally at odds with the U.S. Constitution and will not have any impact on our journalism." ...

Eight years after [Mexican journalist Regina Martínez was murdered](#) for her reporting, a team of 60 journalists from 25 international media outlets has [picked up where she left off](#). "The Cartel Project," published by Forbidden Stories and its partners, will expand on her work in a five-part series. ...

A federal judge [ruled against U.S. Agency for Global Media CEO Michael Pack](#) after he was accused of trying to turn Voice of America into a propaganda vehicle to promote the Trump agenda. U.S. Judge **Beryl Howell** ordered Pack to stop interfering in VOA's news coverage and editorial personnel matters.

**Caught my eye:** [20 things that made the world a better place in 2020](#) ... [Climate change intensifying tsunami threat in Alaska](#) ... [Self-watering SMAG-soil pulls moisture from the air](#) ... [NPR: The world lost two-thirds of its wildlife in 50 years, and we're to blame](#) ... [Melting of ancient Antarctic ice sheet drove 3-meter sea level rise](#) ... [Recycling is broken](#) ... [Canada is introducing a biiiii carbon tax](#) ... [The world has two energy problems](#)

**Closing words** [with gratitude to **Garrison Keillor** and Prairie Home Productions]: "Life doesn't happen along interstates. It's against the law." — author **William Least Heat-Moon**, who took only back roads on the cross-country trip he went on after losing his job and separating from his wife

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## Cowcatcher Magazine

All about the community of model railroading and rail enthusiasm in the Midwest and Southwest



"There is no greater agony than carrying an untold story."  
— Maya Angelou

### UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE

#### RESOURCES

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organizations  
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