

PAST PRIZE WINNERS

- 1997: Julie Hedgepeth Williams, "The Significance of the Printed Word in Early America"; Director: David Sloan, University of Alabama
- 1998: David R. Davies, "An Industry in Transition: Major Trends in American Daily Newspapers, 1945-1965"; Director: David Sloan, University of Alabama
- 1999: Nora Hall, "On Being an African-American Woman: Gender and Race in the Writings of Six Black Women Journalists, 1849-1936"; Director: Hazel Dicken-Garcia, University of Minnesota
- 2000: Dale Zacher, "Editorial Policy of the Scripps Newspapers During World War I"; Director: Patrick S. Washburn, Ohio University
- 2001: Aleen J. Ratzlaff, "Black Press Pioneers in Kansas: Connecting and Extending Communities in Three Geographic Sections, 1878-1900"; Director: Bernell E. Tripp, University of Florida
- 2002: Marc Edge, "Pacific Press: Vancouver's Newspaper Monopoly, 1957-1991"; Director: Patrick S. Washburn, Ohio University
- 2003: Mark Feldstein, "Watergate's Forgotten Investigative Reporter: The Battle Between Columnist Jack Anderson and President Richard Nixon"; Director: Margaret A. Blanchard, University of North Carolina
- 2004: Guy Reel, "The Wicked World: The National Police Gazette, Richard K. Fox, and the Making of the Modern American Man, 1879-1906"; Director: Patrick S. Washburn, Ohio University
- 2005: Pete Smith, "'It's Your America': Gertrude Berg and American Broadcasting, 1929-1956"; Director: Arthur J. Kaul, University of Southern Mississippi
- 2006: Stacy Spaulding, "Lisa Sergio: How Mussolini's 'Golden Voice' of Propaganda Created an American Mass Communication Career"; Director: Maurine Beasley, University of Maryland
- 2007: Michael Stamm, "Mixed Media: Newspaper Ownership of Radio in American Politics and Culture, 1920-1952"; Director: Neil Harris, University of Chicago
- 2008: Noah Arceneaux, "Department Stores and the Origins of American Broadcasting, 1910-1931"; Director: Jay Hamilton, University of Georgia
- 2009: Richard K. Popp, "Magazines, Marketing and the Construction of Travel in the Postwar United States"; Director: Carolyn Kitch, Temple University
- 2010: J. Duane Meeks, "From the Belly of the HUAC: The Red Probes of Hollywood, 1947-1952"; Director: Maurine H. Beasley, University of Maryland
- 2011: Ira Chinoy, "Battle of the Brains: Election-Night Forecasting at the Dawn of the Computer Age"; Director: Maurine H. Beasley, University of Maryland
- 2012: Brian Dolber, "Sweating for Democracy: Working Class Media and the Struggle for Hegemonic Jewishness, 1919-1941"; Director: Robert W. McChesney, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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AMERICAN JOURNALISM HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION

2013 MARGARET A. BLANCHARD

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION PRIZE

PRIZE WINNER

Melita Marie Garza, "They Came to Toil: News Frames of Wanted and Unwanted Mexicans in the Great Depression"

Director: Barbara Friedman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

HONORABLE MENTION AWARDEES

Carolyn M. Edy, "Conditions of Acceptance: The United States Military, the Press, and the 'Woman War Correspondent,' 1846-1945"

Director: Jean Folkerts, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Julia Guarneri, "Making Metropolitans: Newspapers and the Urbanization of Americans, 1880-1930"
Director: Glenda E. Gilmore, Yale University

Donna Lampkin Stephens, "If It Ain't Broke, Break It: How Corporate Journalism Killed the *Arkansas Gazette*"
Director: David R. Davies, University of Southern Mississippi

ABSTRACTS

Melita Marie Garza, "They Came to Toil: News Frames of Wanted and Unwanted Mexicans in the Great Depression"

The onset of the Great Depression of 1929 coincided with pivotal events in US immigration history. These included the first law criminalizing entry into the United States without legal permission, renewed and vituperative national debates calling for the restriction of Mexican immigration, and in a little known historical episode, the instigation of Mexican repatriation programs, many sponsored by local US governments, that led to an exodus of about 500,000 Mexicans and Mexican Americans. This study comparatively analyzes news coverage of Mexicans, repatriation, and immigrations in independently owned English-and Spanish-language newspapers in San Antonio, Texas, during the deepest recessionary period of the Great Depression, 1929 through 1933. By examining similarities and differences in newspaper coverage in the state that experienced the most repatriations, this

study illuminates how the media's symbolic annihilation of the Mexican and Mexican American experience during this period contributed to an episode of invisible civil rights history.

Carolyn M. Edy, "Conditions of Acceptance: The United States Military, the Press, and the 'Woman War Correspondent,' 1846-1945"

This dissertation chronicles the early history of American women who worked as war correspondents, demonstrating the ways the military, the press, and women themselves constructed war-reporting categories that promoted and prevented women's access to war. Nineteenth and early 20th century newspapers continually features the woman war correspondent, often as the first of only of her kind, even as they wrote about more than sixty such women by 1914. The military did not consider sex among its "conditions of acceptance" for accrediting war correspondents until 1944, a year after it sought to promote a woman's angle of war by accrediting "women war correspondents," in addition to women who previously had gained accreditation based on war-reporting expertise. These newcomers competed for facilities, stories, and access, while their presence challenged the public's perception of "war correspondent" as not necessarily a man's job, and "woman war correspondent" as not necessarily a war correspondent. The 1944 directives included sex as a unifying condition, discounting differences in expertise and, ultimately, causing more problems than they resolved. By placing visible barriers before all female war correspondents, the revised conditions led women who had worked as exceptions alongside men to fight the directives on behalf of all women.

Julia Guarneri, "Making Metropolitans: Newspapers and the Urbanization of Americans, 1880-1930"

Making Metropolitans analyzes the content and impact of feature news during metropolitan newspapers' decades of most dramatic change and peak influence. Organized as a series of case studies that examine developments in advertising and advice, urban reportage, suburban and regional circulation, and syndication within particular metropolitan areas, this study argues that in a period of rapid urbanization and growing anonymity, newspapers shaped Americans' identities and loyalties to cities, regions, and the nation. Newspapers assimilated readers to a fast-changing urban culture, forged readers into civic communities, and created a more uniform American culture that undergirded the "American century" of global influence and expansion. Unlike previous journalism histories that concentrate on editorials and front-page news, this study focuses on features such as advice columns, neighborhood tours, comic strips, and Sunday magazines. These features not only took up the bulk of newspaper pages; they also spoke most directly to the issues of urban Americans' everyday lives. It brings the histories of neglected reading audiences to light, for many features pitched especially to women, to immigrants, and to working-class readers. Contextualized within the history of urbanization as well as journalistic innovation, it shows how metropolitan newspapers shaped the diverse, contentious, and commercial urban public sphere of the twentieth century.

Donna Lampkin Stephens, "If It Ain't Broke, Break It: How Corporate Journalism Killed the *Arkansas Gazette*"

Ownership is an increasingly critical issue for newspapers. Local, engaged, enlightened ownership is preferable to that of a distant corporation, but economic realities decree that corporate ownership is the norm. The *Arkansas Gazette* was one of the twentieth-century America's most honored newspapers under independent local family ownership, but its wounds from one of the country's final fierce newspaper wars against another local owner, Walter Hussman and his *Arkansas Democrat*, in the 1980s led to the family's decision to sell to the Gannett Corporation. Whereas the Heiskell/Patterson family has been committed to quality journalism and was willing to pay for it, Gannett, like all public companies, was focused on the bottom line. The giant corporation shifted the *Gazette's* focus from editor-driven to market-driven, reversing the family's philosophy of giving readers what they needed rather than what they wanted. Financial reasons made the difference in Arkansas's newspaper war. Hussman, head of a privately-held chain, had only himself to answer to; Gannett had to answer to nervous stockholders. Unlike the Arkansas Hussman, Gannett considered the *Arkansas Gazette* as simply a business proposition, so it is no surprise that Gannett blinked first. The *Arkansas Gazette* died on October 19, 1991, the victim of corporate journalism.