



PRESS RELEASE

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ARONSON, VOS WIN BEST AMERICAN JOURNALISM ARTICLE AWARD

The editors of *American Journalism* presented the award for Best Article to two authors on Oct. 11 at the American Journalism Historians Association 33rd annual convention in St. Paul, Minn.

Amy Aronson of Fordham University and Tim Vos of the University of Missouri shared the award, which honors research published in *American Journalism* within the last year that is original, rigorous, and makes an outstanding contribution to developing scholarship in the field of journalism and mass communication history.

Aronson's article, "Everything Old is New Again: How the 'New' User-Generated Women's Magazine Takes Us Back to the Future," appears in the current issue of *American Journalism* and examines the ways in which magazines such as *Cosmopolitan* have been viewed by some as odd for their coverage of issues of both beauty and world politics, what some have called serious versus "un-serious" news.

"Even if we don't interrogate the construction of those categories, why is it so hard for people to accept that women's magazines are interested in both 'mascara and the Middle East?' as (*Cosmopolitan* Editor Joanna) Coles put it," Aronson asked. "While women's magazines may not have entertained as wide a spectrum of issues and ideas as many of us might like, they have always offered a mix of voices and views. They have always invited readers to participate and to construct their own narratives—to make their own way—in the midst of that mix."

Vos' Fall 2013 article, "Explaining the Origins of the Ad Agency," was one of the top 10 most downloaded articles via the Taylor and Francis website and was a spotlight article for the "Teaching the Journal" feature on the *American Journalism* website. Vos explored the ways in which the origins of the ad agency were conceptualized in existing literature.

"The logic of the existing histories of the ad agency just seemed to include some big holes," Vos said. "Since I think about explanation through an institutionalist framework, I had a bunch of questions the existing histories didn't answer. When I started digging into those questions, a lot of the settled questions didn't seem so settled anymore."

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society.

For more information on AJHA, visit <http://www.ajhaonline.org>.

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