Connect2021
Spring National College Media Convention
presented virtually March 18-20, 2021
collegemediaconvention.org

with the Journalism Association of Community Colleges
and California College Media Association

Welcome to Connect 2021, Spring National College Media Convention.

The convention, which convenes virtually March 18-20, reaches across the miles to connect us when we need it most.

We’re excited about the sessions, the pre-convention workshops, the keynote speakers, the critiques and consultations, and the convention Best of Show competition.

And, just as importantly, this convention brings us together — with small-group discussions on specific topics, roundtable on general topics, get-togethers for affinity groups and adviser meetings (and a Happy Hour!).

This preview gives you a sample of what’s ahead, in the nation’s largest gathering of college journalists, media students and their advisers.

Presented on the Pathable platform, the convention will unite collegiate-media programs participating in the convention.

And while we can’t be together in person, there is a fringe benefit for this virtual convention: No agonizing over multiple sessions at the time. You’ll have access to breakout sessions for two weeks after the event.


Even more timely are our keynoters: Major Garrett, of CBS News; Linsey Davis, of ABC News; and Ashley Parker, of The Washington Post.

They've been on the front lines of reporting at the White House and in DC, and you’ll definitely want to hear their perspectives.

It’s three days of learning and fun and friends. Have a great convention!

Convention partners

Associated Collegiate Press
Laura Widmer
info@studentpress.org
612-200-9254
acp.studentpress.org
@acpress

College Media Association
Nora Keller
info@collegemedia.org
212-297-2195
collegemedia.org
@collegemedia

College Media Business and Advertising Managers
Katherine Ross
ross@theDP.com
215-422-4640
cmbam.org
@collegemediabiz

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Keynote speakers

Three prominent journalists on the front lines of covering U.S. politics and events in the nation’s capital will be our convention keynoters.

> Speaker bios are on the convention site.

5 p.m. ET Thursday, March 18

Linsey Davis
Anchor, “ABC News Prime Live”
Anchor, weekend “World News Tonight” on Sundays

1 p.m. ET Friday, March 19

Major Garrett
Chief Washington correspondent, CBS News

6 p.m. ET Saturday, March 20

Ashley Parker
White House reporter, The Washington Post
Navigating Pathable’s convention platform

Here’s a brief introduction to the convention’s digital platform on Pathable.

It’s quite similar to a convention mobile app, with sessions, speakers and exhibits at your fingertips.

The convention platform’s front page presents all convention special events, from the virtual trade show to the awards programs.

Looking for ways to connect? The convention platform allows you to interact through messages and conversations.

And share your student media and gather ideas in our engagement center.
Navigating Pathable’s convention platform

The convention agenda will be your go-to page. It’s organized by dates and times, with color-coded program tracks, and you can designate your own agenda.

Pathable converts the schedule to your time zone.

Convention speakers are compiled for easy reference so you can find when a speaker is scheduled.

And speaking of profiles, be sure to update your profile with your photo and bio. It helps folks put a face with a name.

For questions on Pathable, please reach out to CMA’s Libby Settle, lsettle@kellencompany.com.
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Convention schedule

Thursday, March 18
All times listed here are Eastern. The convention platform converts them to your time zone.

9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET
Virtual trade show
Browse companies and schools offering services and products for collegiate-media programs.

9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET
50-minute critiques
pre-registration required

PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOPS
3-5 p.m. ET
$50 / pre-registration
Our nine specialized workshops meet on opening day.

5-11 p.m. ET
JACC sessions
Kickoff, contests and meetings for students and faculty

5 p.m. ET
Keynote
Linsey Davis, ABC News

Friday, March 19

9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET
Virtual trade show

9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET
50-minute critiques
pre-registration required

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
11-11:50 a.m. • noon-12:50 p.m. • 2-2:50 p.m. • 3-3:50 p.m. • 4-4:50 p.m. • 5-5:50 p.m. • 6-6:50 p.m. ET

11 a.m.-7 p.m. ET
Sharing our successes
It’s time to share your successes from the past year. Bring your content to share during a series of topic-specific sessions.

11 a.m.-7 p.m. ET
Adviser roundtable discussions
Advisers gather to share and discuss a range of topics at specific sessions.

1 p.m. ET
Keynote
Major Garrett, CBS News

1-1:50 p.m. • 7-10 p.m. ET
JACC sessions
Newswriting contest, photo judging live, editor roundtable, Corona-palooza

7-8 p.m. ET
Adviser virtual happy hour

Saturday, March 20

9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET
Virtual trade show

10 a.m. ET
ACP advisory committee

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
11-11:50 a.m. • noon-12:50 p.m. • 2-2:50 p.m. • 3-3:50 p.m. • 4-4:50 p.m. • 5-5:50 p.m.

1-1:50 p.m. ET
Small-group discussions
From training to going all digital, we’ll discuss specific topics in a series of sessions.

2-6 p.m. ET
Affinity groups
Share your perspectives and experiences at a series of 50-minute gatherings for students and advisers with shared interests.

4-6 p.m. ET Sat
CMBAM awards ceremony

4-6 p.m. ET Sat
CMA membership meeting and candidate forum

6 p.m. ET
Keynote
Ashley Parker, The Washington Post

7 p.m. ET
ACP awards ceremony
Columbia Scholastic Press Association announces its Crown Awards, and ACP announces Best of Show winners for the convention.

8 p.m. ET
CCMA awards ceremony

9 p.m. ET
JACC awards ceremony
Sessions, tracks & discussion groups

Consult the Pathable convention platform for program updates.

Advisers
How to justify a real grade in media labs
Part 1: What's an adviser to do?
Advising student media in a time of misinformation and attacks on the press
Advising deep dive: Administrative pitfalls and hurdles
Advisers only:
Setting your ethical compass
Advising student media in a time of misinformation and attacks on the press
Advising deep dive: Administrative pitfalls and hurdles
Advisers only:
Setting your ethical compass
Developing our code of ethics
Adviser happy hour
Popular pieces and peer-reviewed publications: An overview of College Media Review

Adviser roundtables
Community colleges
Budgets
When editors fail to lead
Training programs
Private schools
Small programs
Media groups
Dealing with difficult administrators

Affinity groups
Black journalists
Women journalists
Latino American journalists
LGBTQ+

Business & Marketing
New adviser workshop
Successfully planning around a pandemic
Facebook business
Monetizing social media
Rebooting your sales force
Structuring your business office
Motivating your team
Circulation
Sales 101
Optimizing your digital ad space
Improving brand awareness
The future of print
The future of email newsletters

Critical design tips: How to get your online audience to click
Selling digital: Sales strategies to get a “yes”
Business operations for the modern college media organization
Increase your revenue: What to sell and how to sell it
Panel: CMBAM Alumni

More sessions at your fingertips
At a past convention, you could attend just 14 sessions. This spring, you’ll get on-demand access to the recorded sessions for an extra two weeks.

Careers
Internship intel: Landing and succeeding at journalism internships in NYC and beyond
Living and working in New York
Landing a journalism internship or job in Washington, D.C.
Internship tips from your Uncle Winter
How to freelance

Editing
How a devotion to copy editing and attention to detail can open your journalism career
Are you the best copy editor?
How to better edit yourself
Fake news and how to spot it

Leadership, Diversity & Innovation
The best of times, the worst of times: Working as a student journalist in a time of misinformation and attacks on democracy
Encompassing culture: Using StoryMap to create an indigenous tour of your campus
Mental health for Black student journalists
Can journalism pay reparations?
Dealing with grief in the age of COVID
Deadline dilemmas and difficult decisions: You make the call
Small staff, big opportunities
So now you’re on Zoom.
How to bond with your team virtually
Leadership styles: Let’s find yours
Shifting your newsroom focus to communication and training
Dealing with conflict in the newsroom without throwing anything
How newsroom guilds are ensuring your future in journalism
Engaging journalism with entrepreneurship
Canva tips and tricks for the multi-platform newsroom
Improving your newsroom’s communication
Building community through journalism
The journalist’s evolution in a fast-changing landscape
Gender, diversity and inclusion in reporting
Connecting minority and social-justice college media outlets
Ushering newsrooms into a racially conscious age
Making journalism accessible
Correct me if I’m wrong
Can Design Thinking help innovate journalism?
Making your newsroom a breaking-news newsroom
Building trust with your readers: Tips & tools

**Media Law**
FOIA and access to information
ABCs of libel
Copyrights, wrongs and fair use
Silenced sources: When a global pandemic, college reputations and student media collide

**Photojournalism**
Finding the heart of the story
How to build a better photo department (and retain your best photogs)
Being a photojournalist during a pandemic
Doing it all: Visual journalism in the age of COVID and unrest
Sports photojournalism: Take your best shot
You’re running what photo?
Applying photojournalism ethics in the newsroom
Photojournalism during a pandemic
Shoot first and ask questions later
Photo editing: More than meets the eye
Moments beyond the obvious
Visual storytelling

**Reporting & Specialty Reporting**
The student sleuth
Great stories are about people, not things
Getting the story from anyone: Interviewing in depth
Your story, your voice
Solutions Journalism reporting
Covering crisis, exploring inequity:
Covering breaking news and the deeper stories they reveal
Engaging your community in so many ways
How to write a compelling story about a speech or lecture
Coverage: There’s So. Much. More. Find a face to make your story come alive
Interviewing tips for good storytelling
Datapalooza: Key education studies and databases you need to know
The benefits of content-sharing partnerships
Campus secrecy: An investigative podcast
Covering Breonna Taylor and systemic racism
How to become a journalism Swiss Army knife
News user types: Understand them for better promotion opportunities
Part 2: Reporting in a time of misinformation and attacks on the media: What’s a student journalist to do?
How student journalists can earn trust in a politicized world
Health reporting: Weaving human-interest angles into coverage of health trends
Reaching a national readership through local feature writing
Not your traditional beat: covering gender and family issues
The most important thing we do — almost — is cover a beat
Why religion reporting matters in the 21st Century
Where the money is: business reporting
Takin’ it to the streets: Urban journalism, faith experiences and multimedia storytelling
Writing about trauma in nonfiction
Covering sports in a pandemic
Schools indoor air quality and resulting learning
Sports during COVID
Business stories you should be covering
Be better at blogging
Self-publishing your multimedia eBook
Covering news on a faith-based campus

**Sharing our successes**
Storytelling
Visual journalism
Innovation
Special sections
Projects and series
Broadcast programming

**Small-group discussions**
Recruiting diverse voices
Reporting during a pandemic
Training your staff
Social media
Do we return to print or go all-digital?
Motivation and morale
How to deal with criticism

**Student roundtables**
Yearbook
Newspaper
Sports
Magazine
Digital
Broadcast
Photo

**Yearbook**
Getting it together
Pivot: Adjusting coverage during and after a pandemic
Community Training Advocacy Pinnacle Awards Conventions

Join us!
Be part of our network of college media advisers from across North America.
Go to collegemedia.org for more.
Pre-convention workshops

$50 / Advance registration required

Always popular, our pre-convention workshops dive into specific, timely topics. This year’s workshops, presented digitally on the convention platform, are scheduled from 3-5 p.m. ET Thursday, March 18. Advance registration required, and the registration rate is $50.

You can add registration through the modify link in your confirmation email. Full descriptions are at collegemediaconvention.org.

Leadership:
Recruiting and leading your staff
It’s a challenge to know if our newsrooms will be full this summer and fall, or if we will still see remote and in-person staffs. Nonetheless, we have to help our editors and staff be prepared to deal with providing great journalism to our readers. And, as editors, we have to be ready to recruit our staff now.

Veteran advisers will provide you best practices for recruiting, training and leading your staffs. Let’s sort this out and provide you with a compass to guide your newsroom.

Chris Whitley, College Media Association president and director of student publications at Tarrant County College, Fort Worth, Texas.

Sandra Combs, CMA secretary, associate professor at Arkansas State University and adviser to The Herald student newspaper.

Laurie Fox, assistant director of student publications and newsroom adviser of The Shorthorn, University of Texas at Arlington.

Digital storytelling that connects with your readers
The world is visual, social and mobile, and your publication should be, too.

Learn how to effectively use social media, photos, video, data, analytics and digital tools to tell stories and enhance reader engagement. In this pre-convention workshop, we’ll show you ways to enhance your digital storytelling and online presence with these components —

- Storytelling development
- Package planning and design
- Interactive graphics
- Video & photos
- Social media
- Creative thinking

Amy DeVault, Wichita State University (Kansas) and adviser to The Sunflower newspaper.

Sara Quinn, lecturer and senior fellow in media design, University of Minnesota.

We’ll start with the basics but move into advanced infographic storytelling, with ideas on software and design tools and helpful examples. We’ll especially focus on the content and design of informational graphics — and applying the right graphic approach to the content at hand.


Social-justice reporting
Many student journalists found themselves thrown into action covering the protests that occurred last summer in the wake of George Floyd’s killing.

An award-winning Minneapolis reporter from the Star-Tribune who covered the Floyd case from the beginning will discuss his experiences, and an award-winning adviser will join him in sharing experiences,

Libor Jany, crime reporter, Star Tribune, Minneapolis.

Arvli Ward, publisher and adviser to the Sundial, California State University, Northridge.

Today’s advanced informational graphics
From the clarity of a simple graphic to the complexity of data visualization, we’ll explore ways to research, report, collaborate and design informational graphics for both digital and print.


Five things you need to know about your press rights
Since 1974, the Student Press Law Center has answered the call when students and their advisers need reliable information about the law of the First Amendment, defamation, copyright, and access to government documents and meetings.

In 2021, we have identified five threats to a free college press. SPLC lawyers will discuss some of the most common legal and ethical traps that face college journalists. We will discuss press freedom censorship, access to records, meetings and places, FERPA laws, budget threats and cyber law. We will specifically address your rights and safety while covering demonstrations and riots.

Hadar Harris, Mike Hiestand and Sommer Ingram Dean, Student Press Law Center

> Workshops continue on the next page
Microaggressions in our content and in our workspaces
The goal of this session is to introduce the concept of microaggressions to student journalists and further their understanding by engaging them in activities around spotting microaggressions within the office culture and in their content creation.

Tamara Zellars Buck, CMA president-elect and professor and multimedia journalism coordinator, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau.

Solutions journalism
We’ll explore the key tenets of solutions journalism and how to apply it in your college newsroom. We’ll look at college-level reporting examples, as well as the abundant resources available through the Solutions Journalism Network. Participants will gain story ideas and a sense of how to guide student journalists who want to incorporate the approach into their reporting.

Elizabeth Smith, ACP vice president, director of Pepperdine Graphic Media and assistant professor of journalism at Pepperdine University.

Podcasting 101
Podcasts are everywhere today, from the yoga instructor down the street to the editor at a metropolitan newspaper. But how do you make a podcast, especially one that’s authentic and engaging, and one people actually want to listen to? A lot of planning and practice go into launching a successful podcast series. A veteran podcaster will walk you through the basics of planning and producing a podcast, and a podcast educator will talk about how you can incorporate this medium into your student-media outlets.

Myrriah Gossett, independent media producer, Austin, Texas.

Myrriah Gossett, independent media producer, Austin, Texas.

Advanced print design and redesign
This long-running workshop applies fresh ideas and current examples to the tried-and-true concepts of print design for newspapers, newsmagazines, magazines and yearbooks.

We’ll talk about ways to enhance your print presentations, with dozens of ideas for storytelling through photos, graphics and text from publications around the world. We’ll also focus on how those design concepts apply across design platforms, with some advice on how to approach a redesign and/or a new print format.

Our time is condensed, but have PDFs of your publication handy if we have time for quick critiques.

Anna Hyzy, a design editor on the print hub at The New York Times, plans and designs pages for the NYT’s news sections including National, International, Sports, Arts and more.

Ron Johnson, communications director for Associated Collegiate Press and National Scholastic Press Association; former college media adviser; and former editor of The Best of Newspaper Design competition annual of the Society for News Design.

Fall National College Media Convention
Oct. 13-17, 2021
Mark your calendar.
And cross your fingers!
INVEST IN YOUR SUCCESS!

“Being a CMBAM member has helped me better run my ad office. The knowledge and insight I gain by being privy to the correspondence on the listserv are tremendous. It helps me better analyze and understand trends in the college media realm, provides awareness of possible issues that potentially lie ahead, and keeps me abreast of happenings in the industry ... The information and breadth of knowledge are incomparable to any other resource around. I definitely recommend becoming a CMBAM member. The revenue-generating ideas and strong support network gained will far exceed any introductory costs incurred.”

LEAH GRIFFIN
Manager of Student Media & Sales and Marketing
AdLab - Texas Christian University

CONTACT BOARD@CMBAM.ORG FOR MORE INFO!
Who’s atop the fall-semester scoreboard?

We’re one semester into Clips & Clicks, ACP’s new contest honors current work in multiple categories for student and publication achievement.

Check out the fall-semester results, and plan your entries now for this spring semester.

The spring deadline is May 28, 2021. Then watch for winners — and the sweepstakes winner — to be posted in June.

The cost is $10 per entry, with no limit on entries. Any student on staff at an ACP-member publication is eligible.


CMA’s online series connects members with experienced advisers and professionals who will lead discussions across a range of topics over the next few months.

Preparing students for the realities of this new era, motivating students during a crisis, navigating equipment management during a pandemic — we’ll cover it all.

Watch collegemedia.org for future confabs.
The challenges can be big, and you need help — and trusted advice — going into the year ahead.

Put the College Media Mega Workshop to work for you.

Sponsored in July by ACP, CMA and CMBAM, this virtual workshop is a meeting of the minds. It has trained hundreds of collegiate journalists and advisers, and it's prepared them for their challenges going into the academic year.

Past workshops have served up to 500 registrants at the Twin Cities campus of the University of Minnesota, with residence-hall accommodations available for affordability.

The 2021 virtual workshop, like the virtual 2020 version, will feature one-week tracks in a two-week time frame.

Past workshops have offered specific tracks to prepare you —

- Ad Rep Boot Camps
- News/In-Depth Reporting
- Advisers • Broadcast
- Organizational Leadership
- Sports Reporting • Design/Redesign
- Student Ad Managers
- Digital Journalism • Visual Storytelling
- Feature Reporting • Yearbook/Magazine
- Literary Magazine
The associations

Associated Collegiate Press

ACP is steadfast in its mission to serve student media, introduce new ideas and reinforce best practices, reward excellence, embrace diversity, and provide ample networking and partnership opportunities.

ACP Staff

Laura Widmer
Executive director
laura@studentpress.org

Gary Lundgren
Associate director
Contests & critiques coordinator
gary@studentpress.org

Ashley Tilley
Convention & membership manager
ashley@studentpress.org

Judy Riedl
Business & projects manager
judy@studentpress.org

Ron Johnson
Communications director
ron@studentpress.org

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College Media Association

The voice of collegiate media and its advisers, CMA serves student media pros, staffs and programs with education, research and resources.

CMA Staff

Nora Keller
Executive director
NKeller@kellencompany.com

Amanda Frio
Account coordinator
AFrio@kellencompany.com

Libby Settle
Manager, Meetings & expositions
lsettle@kellencompany.com

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CMBAM is committed to providing learning and career opportunities through member engagement and communications. It fosters leadership development and education that teach industry best practices and will continue to be an advocate for its members.

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