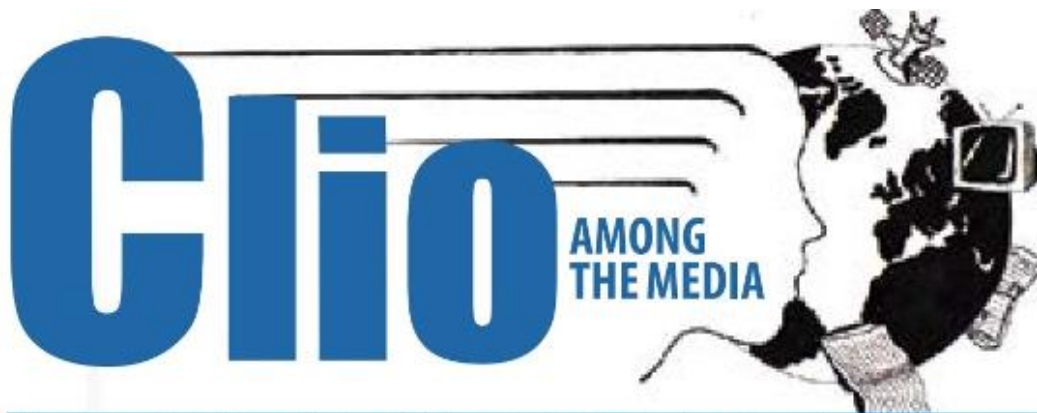




Newsletter of the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

A Word from the Chair: November 2025

For the last few months, one question has loomed large in my teaching, research, and, to some extent, my sense of self: What is the role of history in the field of journalism and mass communication? Students ask it, non-history colleagues ask it, grant reviewers and journal reviewers ask it, my friends and family ask it, and I'm pretty sure my dog would ask it if given the opportunity. But it's not just one question that follows me around – it's the follow-up, too: Why does history matter? Why bother?

continue »



Chair Cieslik-Miskimen



Scarlett Cieslik-Miskimen

Call for Papers: 2026 AEJMC Southeast Colloquium

The AEJMC Southeast Colloquium serves as one of the oldest regional gatherings of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The event provides a collegial and supportive environment for the exchange of research, feedback and ideas across AEJMC divisions, interest groups and commissions. The 51st Annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium will be hosted by the University of Tampa in Tampa, Florida, March 12-14 2026

Deadline: December 1, 2025, 11:59 p.m. EST

[Read the full call >>](#)

Call for Papers: Journalism History Essay Contest

On the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, *Journalism History* calls for scholarly essays that explore the media conditions of 1776 and subsequent revolutionary movements across a variety of global contexts. The winning essay will

receive a \$100 (US) prize. Top essay(s) will be published in *Journalism History*; runners-up will be published on the *Journalism History* website.

The deadline for this contest is 11:59 p.m. Pacific time December 15, 2025.

[Read the full call >>](#)

Call for Papers: Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference

The Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference – co-sponsored by the American Journalism Historians Association and the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication – is accepting submissions for its 2026 conference, which will be held in person on March 27, 2026 in New York City.

This one-day, interdisciplinary conference welcomes faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars researching the history of journalism and mass communication, including advertising and public relations. Topics from all geographic areas and time periods are welcome, as are all methodologies. The joint conference offers a welcoming environment in which participants can explore new ideas, garner feedback on their work, and meet colleagues from around the world interested in mass communication history.

Deadline for submissions is 11:59 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30th, 2026.

[Read the full call >>](#)

Award Call: Best Journalism and Mass Communication History Book

The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's History Division is soliciting entries for its annual award for the best journalism and mass communication history book.

The winning author will receive a plaque and a \$500 prize at the August 2026 AEJMC conference in New Orleans. The competition is open to any author of a media history book regardless of whether they belong to AEJMC or the History Division. Only first editions with a 2025 copyright date will be accepted.

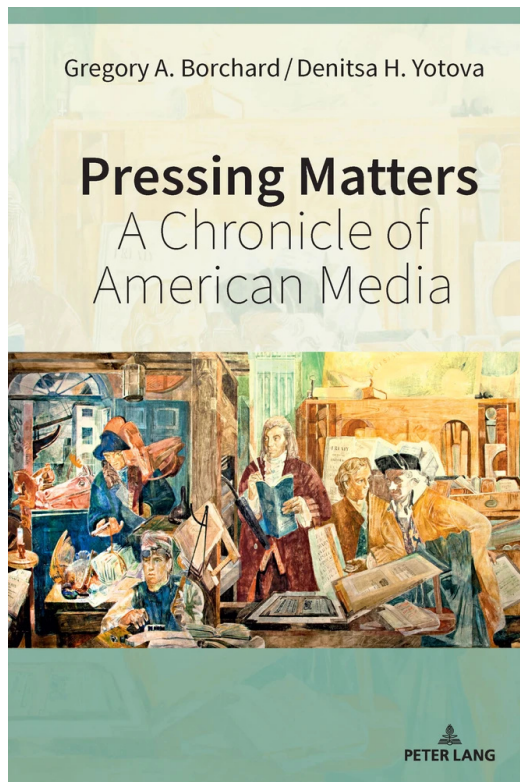
Entries must be received by February 1, 2026.

[Read the full call >>](#)

Chinoy wins Eugenia M. Palmegiano Prize

Ira Chinoy's (Univ. of Maryland) book, *Predicting the Winner: The Untold Story of Election Night 1952 and the Dawn of Computer Forecasting* (Potomac Books, 2024), was named the [winner of the 2025 American Historical Association's Eugenia M. Palmegiano Prize](#) in the history of journalism. The prize is awarded annually to the "author of the most outstanding book published in English on any aspect of the history of journalism."

Chinoy said he found the prize especially meaningful, as it was the late Palmegiano who encouraged him in 2012 to turn his then dissertation into the book that eventually won her namesake prize.



Borchard and Yotova publish new book

Gregory Borchard and Denitsa Yotova recently published [Pressing Matters: A Chronicle of American Media](#) (New York: Peter Lang), 2025. The book provides an overview of American media, press, and journalism, and the events, institutions, and people related to its development. It helps readers develop perspective on contemporary media by using its development for reference. While focusing on American news, the book also features international media other than print newspapers alone. It integrates public relations, advertising, broadcast, and the Internet into a story of the press that builds a singular narrative for a general audience.

Garza interviewed for NPR

NPR interviewed Melita M. Garza for a piece titled “[How Well Does NPR Incorporate History into its Journalism?](#)” The topic was the subject of a recent column by NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, who is also senior vice president of the Poynter Institute. In the interview, Garza, an associate professor and director of graduate studies at the University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign, said in part: “When journalists don't have access to historical tools, and don't have that impetus to go and check out things,” she said, “they are presenting news that is really not informing the public. And nobody wants to do that.”



New newspaper archive at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum

Stephen Bates of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas reports that a newly available archive of the Santa Barbara (CA) News-Press, dating back to the 1870s was acquired by the Santa Barbara Historical Museum at the newspaper's bankruptcy auction.

Bates learned after speaking with an archivist that the bound volumes of back issues were stored in a tower that was virtually open to the elements and that chunks of plaster had fallen from the ceiling and never been cleaned up. The newspaper volumes themselves were covered with mold. They had to be wrapped and sent out for remediation before they could go to the museum. Despite fears that the collection was riddled with asbestos, it tested negative. Interested researchers can learn more about [Santa Barbara Historical Museum](#) at its website.

Do you have news for the next issue?

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