

FIJ – SUPPORTING INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

People in this Issue

Angelika Albaladejo Laird Townsend
Sandy Bergo Steve Sapienza
Jane Sasseen

News from FIJ



- The Fund for Investigative Journalism's 50th Anniversary Dinner will be at the [National Press Club](#) and feature a conversation with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Seymour Hersh on Thursday, October 24, 2019.

We hope you will save the date to join us as we celebrate investigative journalism's achievements over the last fifty years. Formal invitation with ticket details to follow.



Steve Sapienza, left, and Sandy Bergo

- A postcard from FIJ Executive Director Sandy Bergo, at the *Investigative Reporters and Editors Conference in Houston, June 14.*

Executive Director **Sandy Bergo** explained to a roomful of journalists the ins and outs of applying for a Fund for Investigative Journalism grant. In the tradition set forth by founder Philip Stern, who launched FIJ in 1969, Bergo described how the fund awards grants of up to \$10,000 to reporters to pursue investigations on government corruption and wrongdoing. The session also honored FIJ's 50th

anniversary. It was co-led with **Steve Sapienza** of the [Pulitzer Center](#). The session was opened to include introductions from two other grant-makers: **Laird Townsend** of [FIRE](#) and **Jane Sasseen** of [The McGraw Business Journalism Fellowship](#).

- **FIJ Diversity Fellow featured at IRE panel in Houston**

Angelika Albaladejo, an FIJ Diversity Fellow working with [The Marshall Project](#), was featured in a panel at the Investigative Reporters and Editors conference in Houston on June 13. The panel focused on how to report on people from marginalized communities. Albaladejo, who has a background in foreign policy, talked about her experience as a freelance journalist in Medellin, Colombia, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where she worked for two years focusing on social justice, crime, corruption, and security. *More...*

NEXT FIJ GRANT DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

News from FIJ *cont'd.*



She said she decided to go to Latin America to gather stories that “weren’t just about being a victim.” She said she learned it was important to not expose her sources to harm, “that the story is not more important than their safety.”

Albaladejo has been published by the Guardian, CNN, Splinter, the World Policy Journal and the British Medical Journal, among others.

Albaladejo chats with a conference participant after her presentation. FIJ photo



In its first two years, the program paired more than a dozen grantees with mentors.

- FIJ thanks [The Scripps Howard Foundation](#) for renewing their support for FIJ’s mentoring program with a \$5,000 grant to fund the program’s third year.

Investigation Spotlight



- California Attorney General Xavier Becerra says his office is **ill-equipped to prosecute** violations of the state’s landmark data-privacy law, which takes effect in January, the **San Francisco Public Press** reported. Only a handful of the most egregious cases will be prosecuted per year. Instead, he wants aggrieved consumers to take violators to court on their own. The story was the third part in a series on data privacy, “Your Data, Their Dollars,” online and in print editions of the Public Press this year.

Stacey Schesser, supervising deputy attorney general on consumer protection, testifies at a California Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in April. Photo via California Senate

This FIJ Newsletter was compiled by Jerry Redfern.

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