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# FIJ Awards Grants to Nine Investigative Journalists

The board of directors of the Fund for Investigative Journalism (FIJ) has awarded \$79,000 in grants to nine investigative journalists in its most recent round of funding.

The grants will help cover the costs of reporting, such as travel, document fees, and other expenses. The grant recipients are:

**Tristan Ahtone**, a member of the Kiowa Tribe and associate editor of the High Country News tribal affairs desk;

Alex Cuadros, a freelance journalist who is the author of "Brazillionaires";

Karen Foshay, executive producer, and Tori Edgar, multimedia producer, of SoCal Connected, KCET's weekly award-winning news documentary series;

Jonquilyn Hill, a radio producer at WAMU, in Washington, D.C.

Katherine Lewis, a Maryland-based independent journalist;

William Martin III, a New York-based freelance video journalist;

Shirley Smith, a reporter with the Mississippi Center for Investigative Reporting;

Chris Walker, a Denver-based freelance magazine writer;

Loretta Williams, an independent public media journalist;

## **Our Grantees' Work**

### Suicide Hidden in Colleges in Massachusetts



Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students across the United States. And numbers are on the rise. But you won't hear details about these tragic deaths from Massachusetts colleges and universities. Most of them don't release information if they track it at all.

Jenifer McKim, a reporter with the New England Center for Investigative Reporting, used data and public records to look into this problem in a state that draws students from across the world. Here are her **print and radio stories** that ran in the Boston Globe and WGBH News.

Harvard University freshman Luke Tang committed suicide on campus in 2016. Photo courtesy of Lucy Wang

### **PROFILE: FIJ MENTOR PETE CAREY**



Intro: A key component of FIJ's program is recruiting and matching veteran reporters to mentor grantees. Mentors advise on reporting techniques, and also coach grantees through the writing phase. One grantee told us his mentor tutored him in the art of "unspooling" information. This month, we profile our mentor Pete Carey, a Pulitzer Price winner who retired from the San Jose Mercury News.

**By Pete Carey** 

For the past few months I've been putting five decades of journalism to use at the Fund for Investigative Journalism. I'm a mentor to some of the Fund's grantees.

There aren't many kinds of reporting I haven't done. In more than 50 years I've done international, technology, defense, investigative, business and features reporting, and was even editor of a small town paper. But all that has been sitting on a shelf since I retired a couple years ago.

#### FIJ gives me a chance to help others.

Currently, I'm mentoring two smart science writers working on a book about earthquakes and modern energy; a seasoned journalist in Connecticut investigating the effectiveness of the state's lead abatement programs in low income areas; and a young freelance journalist working on a dynamite story about a hidden aspect of our flawed immigration system.

#### It's like being back in the game. It's a hell of a lot of fun.



■ Menu 2 The Fund for Investigative Journalism Video Highlights: Celebrating Fil's Soyen's of funding investigative

### News About FIJ

Watch Our Video Chronicling High Moments Helping Investigative Journalists for the Last 50 Years

#### 2019 Folio: 100 Honoree

Lottie Joiner Editor-in-Chief The Crisis Magazine (NAACP)

FOLIO:



FIJ Board Member Lottie Joiner

Lottie Joiner was named to 2019's Folio 100 list, which honors 100 innovators & entrepreneurial thinkers.

We give thanks to nine friends and family members of former FIJ Board Member George Lardner who have contributed to FIJ in his memory.

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