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## ***Nominations sought for the*** **2019 Metcalf Media Diversity Awards**

***Recognizing courage and determination in diversity journalism.***

January 2019

To our Journalist and Media Community:

**The Metcalf Award for Diversity in the Media honors outstanding diversity journalism.** Since 1988, this has been the only award in our region recognizing the impact of journalism in building cultural understanding across our communities. Rhode Island for Community & Justice (RICJ) presents this award for exemplary work in print, broadcast, and digital media by both professional and community journalists.

At a tumultuous time in American history, when the credibility of journalism has been under attack amid accusations of “fake news”, RICJ seeks to honor journalists who personify courage. These exemplary journalists seek out the stories of people in our state whose voices may be silenced by systemic racial, economic or cultural barriers.

***Help us honor journalists whose courage and dedication contributes to the connectedness of our communities.***

We invite you to nominate your own work, or that of a fellow journalist, by submitting an entry in any format (article, broadcast, blog, film, other) demonstrating this kind of courage and integrity in producing diversity journalism. A local, independent panel of judges will review each entry. We will honor winning journalists at an awards breakfast in May.

***Submit entries through March 1, 2019 | Judges deliberate through April 1, 2019 | Awards Ceremony is in May (Date TBD)***

### ***Nominations...***

- Honor a local/regional professional or community journalist (volunteer or paid) for a specific work or (cited) body of work
- Must include one specific story by that journalist published/aired in **2017 or 2018** or clearly cite a body of work
- Must explain in an email or cover letter, how the story works to break down stereotypical ways of thinking
- May be in any of the major formats for journalism: print, digital print, radio, television, podcast, film/documentary

See the attached nomination form or contact me at [ricj@ricj.org](mailto:ricj@ricj.org) for more information!

We look forward to reading this year’s Metcalf entries!

Sincerely,

Toby Ayers, PhD  
Executive Director, RICJ

Elizabeth Radka  
Metcalf Volunteer

In 2018, the Metcalf Awards honored three teams of "*game changers*" who consistently encouraged high standards for diversity journalism throughout their careers.

## The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Metcalf Award Winners:



2018 Metcalf Media Award winners (left to right): Alan Rosenberg, Karen Lee Ziner, Reynaldo Almonte, G. Wayne Miller, Dr. Pablo Rodriguez, Sarah Francis, Casey Nilsson; Metcalf Judge & Panel Moderator Kendall Moore



**Reynaldo Almonte and Dr. Pablo Rodriguez** are the co-founders of Latino Public Radio (LPR). They have dedicated the last fourteen years to delivering quality bilingual programming to Rhode Island Residents. The duo has proven instrumental in empowering Rhode Island's Latino community through educational programming, social and political dialogue, and community inclusion.



**Casey Nilsson and Sarah Francis** are a dynamic writer/editor team at Rhode Island Monthly magazine. Nilsson spent her career introducing readers to members of marginalized communities via a compassionate approach to diversity journalism. Her longtime colleague, Sarah Francis, has been an editor at RI Monthly since 2005, mentoring some of the state's most talented writers.



**Karen Lee Ziner, G. Wayne Miller and Alan Rosenberg** of the Providence Journal have consistently shown what it means to be game changers in media. Executive Editor Alan Rosenberg has spent over 40 years in media, working with writers Karen Lee Ziner and G. Wayne Miller to report on stories ranging from refugee crises to the flawed state foster care system. The trio exemplifies excellence in journalism.



# Metcalfe Awards for Diversity in the Media 2019

The RICJ Metcalfe Diversity In the Media Award honors outstanding diversity journalism.

**Time Magazine’s 2018 Person of the Year is “The Guardians”.**

Amid accusations of “fake news”, when the credibility of journalism is under attack, Time has honored the courage of journalists, including those murdered or jailed last year in their pursuit of truth: Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey, Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo in Myanmar, Maria Ressa in the Philippines, and the Capital Gazette staff in Washington DC



Click the title and photo (or use the link below) for Time’s coverage.  
<http://time.com/person-of-the-year-2018-the-guardians/>

Rhode Island of course, is not an unsafe place to be a journalist. Still, it takes a certain courage to seek out and tell the stories of people in our state who may be silenced by systemic racial, economic or cultural barriers. It takes reporters with awareness, understanding and determination to avoid the danger of perpetuating stereotypes in their work and it takes media outlets with the courage to support those reporters in order to counter dominant or biased narratives.

In 2019 RICJ will honor journalists and media with the courage and determination to tell true stories of our Rhode Island communities in ways that contribute significantly to our state’s strength and connectedness.

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES**

Entries must be postmarked by: **March 1, 2019**  
 Awards Ceremony will be held in May 2019 (date/time TBD)

***Nominations must...***

- Honor a local professional journalist or a volunteer/community journalist
- Provide a specific work by the journalist published or aired in 2017 or 2018, OR clearly cite a body of their recent work
- Explain how this work contributes to breaking down stereotypical ways of thinking about diversity
- Be well conceived or produced stories.
- Be limited to one (1) entry per author.

***Please remember...***

- Complete the reverse to summarize the entry.
- Entries must be from 2017 - 2018.
- Provide electronic links to stories if possible.
- If entry is not in English, contact RICJ to arrange for translation, or provide a translation.
- All entries remain the property of the individual author or organization.
- No entries will be returned.

Print, digital print, radio, TV, podcast, film/documentary and mixed-format entries are welcomed. Work by community-based or professional journalists can be entered. Each entry is reviewed by three judges. Judges are part of a local, independent panel convened by RICJ, including journalism faculty, retired journalists and editors, communication experts and community members.

The only such program in our region, the award was established in memory of Providence Journal publisher Michael Metcalfe whose tragic death 30 years ago ended a career known for support of investigative journalism and the exploration of social issues.

**RICJ**

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 Providence, RI 02903



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Metcalfe Awards for Diversity in the Media 2019

Entry Category

- Print/Digital (includes newspapers, magazines and blogs)
Television
Radio/Podcast
Documentary/Film

Frequency of Publication or Broadcast

- Daily
Weekly or Biweekly
Monthly
Other (eg, series):

Type of Entrant:

- Professional journalist
Community journalist

- Provide a link to the entry if it is online:
OR:
Provide entry on a disk or thumb drive
OR:
Enclose three (3) hard-copies of the entry.
If submission is not in English, contact RICJ to arrange for translation or provide a translation.

Brief summary: Title of entry and why does it deserve the Metcalfe Award?

Four horizontal lines for writing a brief summary.

Name(s) as it would appear on award:

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name:

Organization:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone: ( ) Email:

Please complete this form and mail with 3 copies of entries to:

RICJ—Metcalfe Awards
271 North Main Street
Providence, RI 02903

Or Email to:
ricj@ricj.org

Further information please contact:

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