Awards, Fellowships and Grants

The purpose of this report is to categorize domestic and international awards, fellowships and grants that are based, in part or in whole, on journalistic courage.

The first part of the report organizes the awards, fellowships and grants according to various categories. The second part is a complete, annotated list of the awards, fellowships and grants.

Awards with “courage” in the award’s title:

Association for Women Journalists (AWJ) Courage Award
Courage in Student Journalism Awards
Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism
George Orwell Courage in Journalism Award
International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF) Courage in Journalism Awards
Indiana Journalism Courage Award
The Kouchacjji Award for Courage in Journalism
Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism
National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) American Courage Award
PEN Canada/Paul Kidd Courage Award
The Ron Ridenhour Courage Award

Awards that include “courage” as a criteria for the award:

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) International Press Freedom Awards
Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award
The George Polk Awards
The Gish Award
In Character Prize for Editorial and Opinion Writing About the Human Virtues
John Aubuchon Freedom of the Press Awards
The John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism

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1 Courage Award nominees may include journalists and non-journalists.
2 The American Courage Award is awarded to “an individual, company or organization that has shown extraordinary courage or commitment to the cause of civil rights.” Recipients include journalists and non-journalists.
3 Given in honor of investigative journalist Ron Ridenhour, the award itself is “presented to an individual in recognition of his or her courageous and life-long defense of the public interest and passionate commitment to social justice” and does not exclude non-journalist candidates.
4 Courage never specifically mentioned as criteria, though judges gauge whether “nominee(s) risked loss of life, bodily harm, loss of job, imprisonment, loss or reputation or harm to family…”
The June Anderson Almquist Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism
The Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism
The Louis M. Lyons Award
The Michael Kelly Award
The Payne Awards for Ethics in Journalism
Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards
The Walkley Awards
The William B. Lipphard Award for Distinguished Service to Religious Journalism
World Press Review International Editor of the Year

Colleges and universities that make awards for “courage”:

Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award – Colby College
The George Polk Awards – Long Island University
The John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism – Columbia University
The Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism – Columbia University
The Louis M. Lyons Award – Harvard University
Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism – Northwestern University
The Payne Awards for Ethics in Journalism – University of Oregon

International awards:

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) International Press Freedom Awards
International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF) Courage in Journalism Awards
The Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism
PEN Canada/Paul Kidd Courage Award
Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards
World Press Review International Editor of the Year

Journalistic courage fellowships:

Judy Woodruff Fellowship
Paul Klebnikov Prize for Courage in Journalism

Journalistic courage grants:

Hellman/Hammett Grants
Knight Foundation Grants
Pulitzer Center on Crising Reporting

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5 This award was originally named the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Courage in Journalism Award until 2000.
6 This award recognizes journalists who display elements of moral courage, though this exact definition is not found in the official criteria.
7 Courage is loosely implied in the criteria, which states its purpose to “honor the journalist of integrity and character who reports with insight and clarity in the face of political or economic pressures and to reward performance that inspires public trust in the media.”
Complete Annotated List of Awards, Fellowships and Grants

**Association for Women Journalists (AWJ) Courage Award.** Association of Women Journalists.
PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://www.awjdsw.org/scholarships_awards.html](http://www.awjdsw.org/scholarships_awards.html)

The Vivian Castleberry Awards are given to honor accurate portrayals of women in the media. A Courage Award is awarded to a person who, over time, has shown leadership, tenacity and integrity in working to improve conditions for women. Nominees may include journalists and non-journalists and there is no application fee.

**Courage in Student Journalism Awards.** Newseum, the Student Press Law Center and the National Scholastic Press Association. PRINT. [http://www.splc.org/csjaward.asp](http://www.splc.org/csjaward.asp)

Two $5,000 awards are given to recognize a middle or high school journalist and a media advisor/school administrator who have stood in support of the 1st Amendment.

**The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) International Press Freedom Awards.** The Committee to Protect Journalists. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://www.cpj.org/awards98/frameset.html](http://www.cpj.org/awards98/frameset.html)

The CPJ International Press Freedom Awards honor journalists who have courageously provided independent news coverage and viewpoints in the face of arrest, imprisonment, violence against them and their families and threats of death. Previous recipients include Gustavo Gorriti and Goenawan Mohamad.


This award is given in honor of Daniel Pearl, a reporter with *The Wall Street Journal* who was kidnapped and eventually murdered in 2002. Each year, the foundation honors courage and integrity in journalism. Previous recipients include Michael Kelly (who also has a courage award given in his name) and Kevin Sites.
**Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award.** Colby College. PRINT.  
[http://www.colby.edu/academics_cs/goldfarb/lovejoy/criteria.cfm](http://www.colby.edu/academics_cs/goldfarb/lovejoy/criteria.cfm)

The Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award is presented annually at the Lovejoy Convention to a member of the newspaper profession. The selection committee bases its choice on criteria that includes character, intelligence and courage. Previous winners include Jerry Mitchell and Cynthia Tucker.

**George Orwell Courage in Journalism Award.** Sundance Freedom Film Festival. BROADCAST.  
Award no longer given.

This award was given at the now defunct Sundance Freedom Film Festival. Greg Palast received the award in 2005 for his BBC documentary *Bush Family Fortunes*.

**The George Polk Awards.** Long Island University. PRINT/BROADCAST.  
[http://www.brooklyn.liu.edu/polk/apply.html](http://www.brooklyn.liu.edu/polk/apply.html)

Long Island University hosts the annual George Polk Awards, which honors excellence in print, photojournalism, radio, television and web news coverage. The criteria for awards are discernment of a significant news story, resourcefulness and courage in gathering information, and skill in relating the story.

**The Gish Award.** Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues. PRINT/BROADCAST.  
[http://www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/IRJCI/Gish.htm](http://www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/IRJCI/Gish.htm)

The Gish Award is given to rural journalists who demonstrate courage, tenacity and integrity often needed to render public service through journalism.

**Hellman/Hammett Grants.** Human Rights Watch. PRINT.  

The Hellman/Hammett grants are given annually to writers around the world who have been targets of political persecution and have shown courage in overcoming this obstacle. Recent winners include freelance journalist Kum Margaret (Cameroon), editor Tewodros Kassa (Ethiopia), journalist Isioma Daniel (Nigeria) and editor Ismail Mbonigaba (Rwanda). 27 Writers from 17 Countries have been awarded Hellman/Hammett Grants.
In Character Prize for Editorial and Opinion Writing About the Human Virtues. In Character.
PRINT. http://www.incharacter.org

In Character, the journal of everyday virtues, gives an award for editorial or opinion writing that touches on the role of any of the human virtues in political or community life. The recipient of the prize receives $10,000.

International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF) Courage in Journalism Awards.
International Women’s Media Foundation. PRINT/BROADCAST.
www.iwmf.org/courage/nominate-form.doc

The IWMF Courage in Journalism Awards honor women working in the news media who have demonstrated extraordinary strength of character in pursuing their profession under difficult or dangerous circumstances, such as government oppression, political pressure, physical danger or other intimidating obstacles. The prestigious award carries a cash prize of $5,000 and a crystal sculpture.

PRINT/BROADCAST.

This award is open to all members of the print and broadcast media who have made significant contributions to the freedom of press. Judges will look at whether the nominee(s) risked loss of life, bodily harm, loss of job, imprisonment, loss of reputation or harm to family.

The John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism. Columbia University.
PRINT/BROADCAST. http://www.jrn.columbia.edu/events/chancellor/index.asp

Columbia University presents this annual award to honor the legacy of John Chancellor, a longtime anchor for NBC news. The award is given to a journalist whose distinguished body of work is known by his/her peers to embody the courage, integrity, curiosity and intelligence that characterize the traditional values of journalism. The award value is $25,000.

This fellowship, offered to winners of the IWMF Courage in Journalism Award, offers the awardee the opportunity to enhance her journalism skills, research new stories and reach an understanding of how journalists work in the United States. It also offers the awardee a chance to share the story of her own struggle for a free press with an audience beyond those who attend the Courage programs. Established in 1996, the fellowship is given in recognition of the enormous contributions Judy Woodruff has made to help women in the field of journalism.


This award is given by the board of the Western Washington Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists in honor of June Anderson Almquist. The award was recently posthumously awarded to photographer Phil Webber and broadcaster Don McGaffin.

**Indiana Journalism Courage Award.** Society of Professional Journalists – Indiana Professional Chapter. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://indyprospj.iupui.edu/spj-pdf/Courage%20Form%202006%20contest.pdf#search=%22indiana%20journalism%20courage%20award%22](http://indyprospj.iupui.edu/spj-pdf/Courage%20Form%202006%20contest.pdf#search=%22indiana%20journalism%20courage%20award%22)

The award will be presented to an individual who confronted significant obstacles or pressures in pursuit of journalism or journalism education, though it is not limited to employees of this sector.

**Knight Foundation Grants.** Knight Foundation⁸. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://www.comj.ua.edu/nccj](http://www.comj.ua.edu/nccj)

Knight Foundation is in the business of seeding and inspiring great journalism, and of building strong communities in the 26 cities and towns where Jack and Jim Knight ran newspapers. Grants given by the Knight Foundation are based on elements of discovery, vision, courage, know-how and tenacity.

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The Kouchacı Award for Courage in Journalism. The Kouchacı Award for Courage in Journalism. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://kacj.org](http://kacj.org)

The Kouchacı Award for Courage in Journalism (KACJ) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing writers, editors, reporters, and journalists in many fields who have the wisdom and courage to provide news reporting and to think "outside the box."


Columbia University’s Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism celebrate the best in freelance print journalism and local reporters who show great courage and commitment to reporting on controversial issues. Two $5,000 prizes are awarded annually.

The Louis M. Lyons Award. Harvard University. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/events/honors/lyons/index.html](http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/events/honors/lyons/index.html)

The Louis M. Lyons Award, given by annually by Nieman Fellows at Harvard University, recognizes journalists who display elements of moral courage. This year’s recipient was Atwar Bahjat, an Iraqi television journalist.

Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism. Northwestern University. PRINT/BROADCAST. [http://www.medill.northwestern.edu/awards](http://www.medill.northwestern.edu/awards)

The award is given to the individual or team of journalists, working for a U.S.-based media outlet, who best displayed moral, ethical or physical courage in the pursuit of a story or series of stories. The contest is open to journalists from newspapers, television stations, online news operations, magazines or radio stations. The winner(s) receives a $5,000 prize and a medal in the likeness of Joseph Medill.


The Michael Kelly Award honors a writer or editor whose work exemplifies a quality that animated Michael Kelly’s own career: the fearless pursuit and expression of truth. The award is sponsored by the Atlantic Media Co., where Michael Kelly worked from 1997 until his death in 2003. The winner will receive a prize of $25,000.
National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) American Courage Award.
Asian American Justice Center. PRINT/BROADCAST.
http://www.advancingequality.org/?id=36

The NAPALC American Courage Award goes to an individual, company or organization that has shown extraordinary courage or commitment to the cause of civil rights. Journalists and non-journalists are eligible to win.

Paul Klebnikov Prize for Courage in Journalism9. International Center for Journalists. PRINT.
http://www.paulklebnikovfund.org/journalismprograms.html

The Fund awards an annual Courage in Journalism Prize to a senior Russian journalist whose work in the preceding year best exemplifies Paul Klebnikov’s vision of journalism as a force for civic betterment in Russia. Recipients of the Prize are awarded the prestigious International Journalism Exchange Fellowship, an annual professional program for foreign editors administered by the International Center for Journalists, in Washington, D.C. This year, Diana Kachalova became the first recipient of the Paul Klebnikov Prize for Courage in Journalism.

The Payne Awards for Ethics in Journalism. University of Oregon. PRINT/BROADCAST.
http://payneawards.uoregon.edu/

The Payne Awards for Ethics in Journalism were created at the University of Oregon in 1999 to honor the journalist of integrity and character who reports with insight and clarity in the face of political or economic pressures and to reward performance that inspires public trust in the media.

PEN Canada/Paul Kidd Courage Award. PEN Canada. PRINT/BROADCAST.
http://www.globalinvestigativejournalism.org/pressrelease.html

The PEN Canada/Paul Kidd Courage Award is given in honor of the late Canadian journalist. Journalist, author and academic Paul William Roberts won the award in 2005.

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9 Recipients of this prize are also awarded the International Journalism Exchange Fellowship.
**Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting**. Pulitzer Center. PRINT/BROADCAST.

http://www.pulitzercenter.org/Travel_grants.htm

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting funds international travel costs associated with reporting projects on topics and regions of global importance, with an emphasis on issues that have gone unreported or under-reported in the mainstream American media. The amount of individual travel grants will depend on the specific project and detailed budget planning. Most awards fall in the range of $3,000 to $10,000 but depending on project specifics may be as much as $20,000.

**Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards.** The Indian Express Group. PRINT/BROADCAST.


The Ramnath Goenka Awards for Excellence in Journalism celebrate the values that stand for good journalism: excellence and enterprise, courage and fairness. Journalists working for any Indian newspapers, magazines, or television channels (published/telecast in the country) are eligible to apply.

**The Ron Ridenhour Courage Award.** The Nation Institute. PRINT/BROADCAST.

http://www.ridenhour.org/

The Ron Ridenhour Awards seek to recognize and encourage those who persevere in acts of truth-telling that protect the public interest, promote social justice or illuminate a more just vision of society. The awards memorialize the spirit of fearless truth-telling that one-time whistleblower and lifetime investigative journalist Ron Ridenhour reflected throughout his extraordinary life and career. Each award carries a $10,000 stipend.

**The Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism.** Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance.

PRINT/BROADCAST. http://www.walkleys.com/categories.html

The annual Walkley Awards honor journalistic courage and creativity by recognizing excellence in Australian journalism across all mediums. The prestigious Gold Walkley is considered the pinnacle of journalistic achievement.

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10 Courage not specifically identified as prerequisite; "crisis reporting" was interpreted to include this criteria.

The William B. Lipphard Award is given occasionally to recognize special achievement in the field of religious journalism. The Award is intended to be the highest honor which the Associated Church Press can confer. It is also the broadest inasmuch as its recipient need not be or have been a participant in the Associated Church Press. The Lipphard Award is intended to honor individuals who have performed with unusual distinction, courage, or integrity.


The award goes to an editor working outside the United States in recognition of enterprise, courage, and leadership in advancing the freedom and responsibility of the press, enhancing human rights, and fostering excellence in journalism.