



JOHN JAY COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CENTER ON MEDIA, CRIME & JUSTICE



NEW YORK COMMUNITY MEDIA ALLIANCE

Fellowship Class for 2008 Ethnic Media Fellowships on Immigration.

- CMCJ-NYCMA center on media crime & justice/New York community media alliance fellows
- IJJ institute for justice and journalism fellows

Mariana Alvarado Avalos, (IJJ) is a staff reporter with the Arizona Daily *Star's* *La Estrella de Tucson*. She proposes to write about the growing number of women – often traveling alone – who are risking their lives to reach the U.S. A 2006 study found that women are three times as likely to die of exposure to elements as men. Traveling with children, Avalos writes, “increases the risks exponentially.”

Shiawhuey Linda Chang (IJJ) has supervised a team of nine reporters as a news manager with *Singtao Daily* in Los Angeles after five years as a *Singtao* reporter covering immigration, homeland security-related issues and Chinese communities activities in Orange County. She proposes stories that “are not always the most dramatic, but sometimes the quiet and contemplative: how a Mexican man compares Southern California to his home.” The experience in Arizona-Sonora will help inform her Chinese-language readers about the Latino immigrant experience.

Fernando Diaz (IJJ), a bilingual investigative reporter for *The Chicago Reporter* magazine, proposes to write about the experiences of immigrants in the U.S. military. “Through interviews with troops themselves, in-depth analysis of military data and a comprehensive examination of legislative efforts to both extend and limit benefits to soldiers, I hope to accurately document their contributions to this country and its response to them,” he wrote in his proposal. Among Diaz’ previous positions, he was a reporter for *The Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, N.Y.) and the *Daily Herald* in suburban Chicago.

Paula Diaz-Soet, (IJJ), a staff reporter for *Hoy* newspaper in Los Angeles for the past four years, proposes an in-depth story about Central American immigrants who disappear while attempting to cross the U.S. border. Among the news angles she wants to pursue is why U.S. authorities have generally ignored these disappearances, even when there is likelihood of foul play and even when the victims are young children.

Dzung Do, (IJJ) a reporter for *Nguoi Viet Daily News* in Orange County, California, wants to write about the economic factors—the supply and demand--of immigration and

how the immigration issue is playing out in this election year. Like most of the other Fellows, he is an immigrant himself and says he gained knowledge firsthand: “I used to go through many immigrant procedures and agencies for 12 years before becoming a U.S. citizen.”

James Fergusson (CMCJ-NYCMA) is editor of the *Mount Hope Monitor*, a bilingual (Spanish and English) community newspaper in the west Bronx. James grew up in England and studied History at The University of Reading, before working in Web production for *The Guardian Newspaper* in London. He moved to New York in 2004. James, who also teaches a weekly after school journalism class for Bronx high school students, will explore youth violence among Dominican gangs in New York City.

J. Emilio Flores (IJJ), a photojournalist for *La Opinion*, proposes photo essays and various multi-media projects, focusing on “immigrant portraits and their reasons for coming to the U.S.” He would like to do photos as the migrants “prepare to cross” and images of children and teenagers along the border.

Karla Gomez-Escamilla (JJJ) is a reporter/anchor for *Univisión Arizona*. Her beat includes the border in the Douglas and Nogales areas. She is based in Tucson and reports, writes and produces. She would like to gain professionally from the fellowship and improve her ability “to tell border stories.”

Damaso D. Gonzalez (IJJ), a veteran reporter covering Queens and Long Island for *El Diario/La Prensa* of New York City, proposes a story about children detained at the Arizona-Mexico border. He cites a large increase in children detained and says they come not only from Mexico and Central America but also from Ecuador, China, Poland and Sri Lanka. Many of the children detained are trying to reunite with loved ones in the U.S.

Naomi M. Ishisaka (IJJ), editor in chief of *ColorsNW* magazine in Seattle, proposes “to look at how the rapidly growing Latino population – now the largest ethnic minority group in the state – has altered the racial and ethnic power dynamics in Washington State. She has worked for the *Seattle Times*, *The (Tacoma) News Tribune* and *Bremerton Sun*.

Ewa Kern-Jedrychowska (CMCJ-NYCMA) covers stories about Polish immigrants in the US for the *Polish Daily News* in New York, and reports on issues related to the Polish community for WNYC New York Public Radio. She moved from her native Poland to New York City in 2001, and is currently working on a Master’s in Anthropology at Hunter College (CUNY). She is exploring legal issues affecting undocumented immigrants.

Ansar A M Lovlu (CMCJ-NYCMA) is the executive editor of *Thikana*, a Bangladeshi weekly newspaper based in Long Island City, New York, since 1998. He has also been the editor for *America News Agency* (ANA) since 2003. Ansar earned his master degree in communication and journalism in Dhaka and moved to the United States in 1995. He will focus on children of deportees.

Stephen McKinley (CMCJ-NYCMA) has been a reporter for the *Irish Echo* newspaper in New York City since 2001, reporting on Irish and Irish American news, politics and culture. Born in Northern Ireland, he is a graduate of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and St Andrews University in Scotland. He will investigate the relationship between undocumented immigrants and suburban law enforcement in the New York region.

Rachel Millard (CMCJ-NYCMA) reports for for the Arab American bi-weekly newspaper *Aramica*. She has reported on immigration as a staff writer and editor on *French News*, an English-language newspaper in South-West France, and has worked previously for Associated Press Television News and the newspapers *Scotland on Sunday* and the *News of the World* in Scotland before moving to New York in 2008. Rachel plans to focus on the treatment of Arab immigrants in New York.

Jorge Morales (IJJ), a *La Opinión* reporter since 2003 who, in the words of his editor, “has been covering immigration and the border for a long time and has the unique characteristic of being a great reporter and an excellent story teller,” proposes to report on how the immigration flow has changed, from the California border (near Tijuana) east and west again, back to California.

Rodrigo Paris (IJJ) is the U.S. and International Editor for *Rumbo Newspapers* and is based in Houston. Originally from Colombia, he would like to use the fellowship as an opportunity to report and write stories about the lives of Mexican migrants in Arizona and Sonora. He worked previously as a writer for *CNN en Español* and a reporter for *EFE* in Spain and Group 13 in Colombia.

Sujeet Rajan (CMCJ-NYCMA) is the North America Bureau Chief for *The Indian Express* (North American) edition, based in New York, a weekly English newspaper published in the US and Canada, and a national English daily in India. A recipient of the inaugural Independent Press Association fellowship, in New York, he won an award from the New America Media for his writing on the *Indian American Diaspora*. Sujeet will explore youth violence in the South Asian immigrant community

David Rodriguez (IJJ) a reporter for five years with *Univisión of Puerto Rico*, proposes to contrast the lives of Dominicans trying to enter Puerto Rico without documents with Mexicans moving north into the U.S. He seeks to portray “two distant but yet similar worlds... Mexican immigrant who crosses the border in quest of the American Dream” [and] Dominicans who daily “embark in fragile hand-made navigating vessels ... to reach the coasts of Puerto Rico.”

Claudia Torrens (CMCJ-NYCMA) is a staff reporter at *El Diario/La Prensa* in New York City, where she covers education and is also part of the investigative reporting team. Torrens has also worked as a freelance reporter for the *Daily News* and for EFE, Spain’s International News Agency, and previously covered Massachusetts’ Latino and Brazilian population when she was in charge of the multicultural desk of *The MetroWest*

Daily News in Boston. Claudia's will explore the relationship between local law enforcement and federal immigration authorities.

Robert Waddell (CMCJ-NYCMA) a staff writer for *Latin Week New York*, also serves as a faculty facilitator at Boricua College. Born in the Bronx to a Puerto Rican mother and Irish-Alabamian father, he earned his B.A. in English from Hunter College and his MA in Creative Writing from City College. He has written for *The New York Times*, *the Daily News*, and *The New York Post*. He has worked as the New York correspondent for Latino.com and for *Siempre* and *Tiempo* newspapers. He will study criminal justice issues faced by immigrant women.

Ali Winston (CMCJ-NYCMA) is a freelance journalist based in Upper Manhattan. He has written on video and workplace surveillance, police oversight, and juvenile justice for *City Limits*. His writing and photographs have also appeared in *The Nation*, *The Independent*, *The Star-Ledger* of Newark, and the *Jersey Journal*. Ali will take focus on the crackdown on marriage fraud on new immigrants.

Rong Xiaoqing (CMCJ-NYCMA) is a reporter for the Chinese language newspaper *Sing Tao Daily*. Winner of two "Ippie" Awards in 2007 for her reporting on social services and immigrant issues among the Chinese community and Asian Gays, she has also worked for *City Limit*, in New York. Her project will concentrate on labor issues facing Asian immigrants.

Jaeho Yoon (CMCJ-NYCMA) has been a reporter for the *Korea Times*, a major Korean newspaper based in Long Island City, New York, since 2005. He covers breaking news as well as immigration issues. He was previously director of photography for "Pulse, Voice, Live Wire," a talk show on cable television, and served as a producer, reporter and anchor for a Korean radio station. He will investigate victims of immigrant fraud.

Yuting Zhou (CMCJ-NYCMA) is a senior reporter for *World Journal* in New York City. Her current beat includes court, immigration policy, immigration organization and law enforcement agency. She previously worked for MingPao, where she won the second-prize Independent Press Association Photo award in 2005. Born in China, Yuting came to the U.S. for graduate study in 2003, after getting a degree from Shanghai Fudan University Journalism School, China's top Journalism school. She will explore businesses dealing with the growing Chinese immigrant community in New York.