

May 12, 2022

**Newsletter**



*Los Angeles Times* photographer **Marcus Yam** was awarded the Pulitzer Prize on March 9, 2022 for his images of the fall of Kabul, Afghanistan. In this image, a military transport plane flies over relatives and neighbors of the Ahmadi family as they gather around an incinerated husk of a vehicle destroyed by a U.S. drone strike in Kabul. [Marcus Yam/L.A. Times](#)

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Preliminary findings from our Broadcast Snapshot**, which found that 25% of U.S. stations in the 20 largest media markets have no AAPIs on air, [were released](#).
- **Welcome, Ai Uchida**, AAJA-HQ's new Director of Operations.
- [Read AMEJA's statement](#) on the killing of **Shireen Abu Akleh**.
- **TAAF** and **LAAUNCH** [compiled data](#) for a report and key findings about current attitudes about Asian Americans in 2022.
- **External Opportunities:** Apply for the KALW [Summer Podcasting Institute](#) ASAP!
- **Kudos and On Our List**

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**From AAJA-HQ: On the Horizon for #AAPIHM**

**AAPIHM** As #AAPIHM continues, AAJA is excited to release projects that have been in the works and are focused on **taking ownership of our stories** and **committing to transformative action**. Looking ahead, we're continuing what we do year-round: advocating for our AAPI journalists and communities. ***How are you celebrating? What are you reading or reporting on?*** Tag us in your [#AAPIHM](#) posts all month so we can share. Send any stories, kudos or events to our [member news submission form](#).

**Broadcast Snapshot** AAJA [conducted](#) this **broadcast snapshot** in the absence of publicly available diversity data from stations. The project builds on AAJA's mission to advance diversity in newsrooms and ensure fair and accurate coverage of communities of color. Through this work, AAJA hopes to spark productive dialogues that lead to concrete steps in increasing AAPI representation in local TV newsrooms.

**ELP Asia Cohort** AAJA is pleased to [announce](#) our **2022 Asia Executive Leadership Program (ELP) cohort**, run by AAJA-Asia! Participants will level up their leadership and professional skills through the program. [ICYMI: Here's the U.S. cohort](#).

**Internship Grant Recipients** AAJA is proud to [announce](#) two of our first internship grant recipients for the 2022 cycle. **Anjali Huynh** received the William Woo Print and Online News Internship Grant and **Omar Rashad** received the Stanford Chen Internship Grant. Internship grants assist students with financial needs to complete a journalism internship.

**Convention Registration** To our **#AAJAFamily members, supporters and allies — early bird registration for #AAJA22 is now live!** Join us in Los Angeles at the Sheraton Universal Hotel on July 27-30, 2022 for an amazing lineup of speakers, panels and events. [REGISTER NOW](#) to lock in the early bird rates before **May 31, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. PT**.

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## Welcome Ai Uchida, AAJA-HQ's New Director of Operations



**Ai Uchida** enthusiastically joins AAJA as a veteran journalist and entrepreneur. As a television anchor and business reporter for NHK World, she covered every major story out of Japan in 2009-2021, including the Global Financial Crisis, the Great East Japan Earthquake, Abenomics, and COVID-19. (And yes, she is an AAJA member!) As an entrepreneur, she led an international team providing niche consulting services to globally-minded F&B establishments. Her passion is breaking down data and barriers to achieve a shared vision. She grew up in Seattle and Tokyo, is currently based in Maryland and is fluent in Japanese and karaoke. She is excited to lead AAJA's operations and strategic

growth, as we continue the mission of elevating AAPI voices, journalists and experts.

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## Upcoming Events

May 14 | AAJA-LA and CCNMA Latino Journalists of California | **"Health Inequities: Diagnosing a major ill for communities of color"** | To open new paths for journalists across a range of traditional coverage areas to help them better understand and report on health inequities and ways to address them, join **AAJA-LA** and CCNMA Latino Journalists of California for a free, online inaugural session examining this critical issue. **Usha Lee McFarling** and **Jacqueline Garcia** are the moderators. [Register here](#).

May 14 | AAJA Seattle and Lucky Envelope Brewing | **Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Month** | Lucky Envelope Brewing celebrates Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month with events and beers while donating a portion of the month's proceeds to **AAJA Seattle** and to the [Very Asian Foundation](#). They will be featuring Journalist Spotlight posters focused on educating the public on DEI in journalism for the entire month of May. [Learn more here](#).

May 14 | AAJA Arizona | **Annual Willie Wong Dinner** | **AAJA Arizona** will celebrate #AAPIHM over Korean BBQ at Gen Korean BBQ House in Tempe at 6 p.m. **Justin Lum** named this event after Willie Wong, the first Asian American mayor of Mesa, Arizona. [Reach out to Justin](#) so they can get an attendee head count from chapter members.

May 18 | AAJA Philly and WHYY | **"Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders: A Philadelphia Story"** | **AAJA Philly** will host a free, in-person panel at Crane Chinatown after a screening of the WHYY special ["Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders: A Philadelphia Story"](#). It includes folks who helped realize the show and guests featured in the series. [Register here](#).

May 26 | Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, Asian Arts Initiative, Office of Immigrant Affairs and Mayor's Office of Public Engagement | **"RISE: A Love Letter to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community"** | **Jeff Yang** and **Phil Yu** will discuss their best-selling book, "RISE: A Pop History of Asian American Culture from the Nineties to Today." The authors will speak about the implications of Asian American and Pacific Islander visibility in pop culture. [Register here](#).

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## News & Resources

**partner statement** AMEJA [mourns](#) the loss of **Shireen Abu Akleh**, one of the most renowned Palestinian voices in journalism, and demands a transparent and independent investigation into the actions that led to her death.

**statement** BuzzFeed News Union [voted unanimously](#) to ratify their first union contract.

**guide** P. Kim Bui's latest addition to the "Sincerely, Leaders of Color" series [discusses](#) how **newsrooms must create ways for people to learn to lead** without pushing people into

management.

**interview** Kimmy Yam [shares](#) how she **improves her writing and reporting** in a “Career Spotlight: Reporting on Asian America” interview with NBC Asian America.

**report** TAAF and LAAUNCH [compiled data](#) for a report and key findings about **current attitudes about Asian Americans in 2022**.

**feature** Sean Murphy [rounds](#) up a short list of **AAPI Pulitzer Prize winners to discover** during AAPI Heritage Month.

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## #AAJAKudos to...

Celebrate your achievements with us—tag [@aaja](#) on Twitter or let us know on Slack.

- **Marcus Yam and all those in the #AAJAFamily who [received](#) nominations and awards from the Pulitzer Prizes.** Yam won the Pulitzer Prize for breaking news photography for pictures of [last summer’s fall of Kabul, Afghanistan](#) to Taliban fighters.
- **Lori Matsukawa**, who was [awarded](#) the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays by the government of Japan for her contributions in Japanese American coverage.
- **Michelle Li**, who is [the new "Today in St. Louis" morning news co-anchor](#) at 5 On Your Side.
- **Annalisa Burgos**, who is [a new weekend anchor](#) at Hawaii News Now.
- **Poh Si Teng**, who is the [Executive Editorial Producer](#) at ABC News/Disney.
- **Jon Funabiki**, who received San Francisco State University's Journalism Department's [2022 Distinguished Alumnus Award](#).
- **Suzanne Joe Kai**, whose documentary, “Like a Rolling Stone: The Life and Times of Ben Fong-Torres,” [is now available to stream on Netflix](#).
- **Giang Nguyen**, who is the new [Vice President of Marketing and Communications](#) at Trade Capital Corporation.
- **Vivienne Aguilar and Kevin Vu Nguyen**, who will be [AAJA-LA's reporting interns at The Sacramento Bee](#).
- **AsAm News and The Yappie**, which received the [Torch Award for Outstanding News Coverage](#) from the National Association of Asian Pasifics in Politics and Public Affairs.
- **Sarah Belle Lin**, who will be a [newsletter fellow](#) at Insider.
- **Josh Morgan**, who will be a [photographer and videographer](#) at USA Today.
- **Julia Furukawa**, who hosts [NPR's "All Things Considered" podcast](#) at New Hampshire Public Radio.
- **Roselyn Romero**, who will be NBC Bay Area's [Investigative Unit intern](#) and an intern for the T. Howard Foundation.
- **AAJA members who will be [Report for America fellows](#)**, including Trisha Ahmed, Annika Hom, Sarah Kim, Iris Kwok, Tran Nguyen, Brandon Pho, Nushrat Rahman, Olivia Sun, Jennifer Whidden, Rose Wong and Megan Zerez.

## May Reading Lists: On Our #AAPIHM List 🌟 📺 📱 📰 🎧

Follow us on Twitter [@aaja](#) for more works on our radar from the AAJA community.

- **Juju Chang** interviews chefs Kevin Tien and Tim Ma, founders of Chefs Stopping AAPI Hate, on hosting dinners to raise money for a cause close to their hearts, [ABC News](#)
- “100 ways Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and allies have found solutions to racism and violence” by **Angela Yang, Kimmy Yam, Claire Wang** and Brahmjot Kaur, [NBC Asian America](#)
- “Norman Mineta, former San Jose mayor and transportation secretary, dies at 90” by **David Louie**, [ABC7 News](#)
- “How two Capitol Hill staffers convinced Congress to establish AAPI Heritage Month” by **Andrew Peng** and **Shawna Chen**, [The Yappie](#)
- “Asian American Heritage Month Special Highlights Achievement, Resilience in D.C. Area” by **Aimee Cho, Eun Yang** and NBC Washington Staff, [NBC4 Washington](#)
- “What we got wrong about Black and Korean communities after the L.A. riots” by **Frank Shyong**, [The Los Angeles Times](#)
- “Asian Americans were overcounted on the last census. Experts say that fact is misleading” by **Sakshi Venkatraman**, [NBC Asian America](#)
- “A Level Playing Field” by **Aryanna Prasad**, [Fansided](#)
- “How 'Pachinko' Uses Beauty to Create a Timeless Period Piece” by **Helen Li**, [Marie Claire](#)



### Opportunities

Visit [AAJA Careers](#) or follow [@AAJACareers](#) on Twitter to stay up-to-date on our career, internship and other opportunities. Check in with your AAJA chapters for more opportunities.

#### AAJA Opportunities

- **AAJA-NY Corky Lee Fellowship in Photojournalism** | [Apply](#) | Deadline: May 14
- **AAJA-DC #AAJA22 Convention Stipend** | [Apply](#) | Deadline: May 15
- **Broadcast News Internship Grants** | [Apply](#) | **\*EXTENDED Deadline\***: May 31
- **AAJA/NAJA Pacific Islander Journalism Scholarship** | [Apply](#) | Deadline: May 31
- **Mental Health Funding** | [Request funding here](#)
- **Photo Submissions for AAJA's 40th Anniversary** | [Submit here](#)

#### External Opportunities

- **KALW Public Media** invites high schoolers to apply for a paid [Summer Podcasting Institute](#) where they'll produce the third season of the [tbh](#) podcast: by, about and for teenagers. [Apply here](#). **The deadline is May 22.**

Did you produce (or consume) some great journalism recently? [Put your work on our radar](#), so we can feature you in the next member highlights.

Collectively, we can celebrate 40 years of impact and contribute towards 40 more years of AAJA's mission of supporting and uplifting AAPI journalists. [Donate today](#).

**Asian American Journalists Association**



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