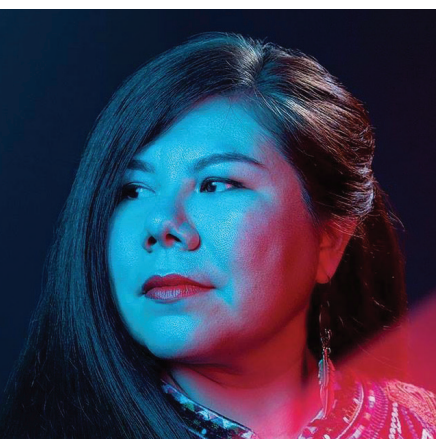


BREAKING **THE NEWS**



Table of Contents

Letter from the Filmmakers	3
About the Film	4
FILM SYNOPSIS	4
SCREENING OBJECTIVES	4
Discussing the Film	5
FRAMING THE CONVERSATION	5
BEING MINDFUL OF LANGUAGE	5
Topics and Themes	5
EMBRACING THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF JOURNALISTS	6
CENTERING THE UNDERREPRESENTED ABOVE THE VOICES OF INSTITUTIONS	8
EXPOSING RACISM AND INEQUITY IN THE COMMUNITY	10
SUPPORTING GENDER AND RACE DIVERSITY IN THE WORKPLACE	12
HARNESSING THE POWER OF MENTORSHIP	14
Credits	16



Letter from the Filmmakers

In the spirit of *The 19th**, *Breaking the News* built a directing team of diverse women filmmakers from across the country to collectively make the vision of this film a reality. Directors Heather Courtney, Princess A. Hairston, and Chelsea Hernandez had all been aspiring journalists in their own right and had all faced the discrimination and lack of support the news industry inherently perpetuates.

When studying journalism at Northwestern, Courtney had her first internship— at a newspaper staffed mostly by white males, including the other intern. She was assigned to stories like the Girl Scout who sold the most cookies, and the male intern was assigned to breaking news stories. That experience did not inspire her to pursue journalism after graduation, and sometimes she wonders what her impact could have been as a reporter. But recognizing her privilege as a white woman, she shifted to achieving her goal of building a diverse filmmaking team to mirror what *The 19th** is trying to do.

At the age of 8, Hernandez strived to be the next Katie Couric hosting a kids variety show for nine years. But as she entered college to pursue a journalism career, she couldn't picture herself in the news industry—it didn't look or feel like her. Hernandez was drawn to *The 19th** because of its effort to create a platform to uplift and shepherd emerging voices of color in journalism. It's something she wishes she had had when she began to pursue a journalism career.

Hairston first saw African American journalists steering print and video newsrooms while studying at Virginia State University, a historically Black university (HBCU). It was the first time she believed her vision of working in a newsroom would materialize. But upon graduation, she found it extremely difficult to land a job in the mostly all-white newsrooms. Hairston was captivated by *The 19th** and its mission to create a space for women and nonbinary folks to change the landscape of news reporting.

As we collectively bring our diverse lived experiences and perspectives to the storytelling process, we have set a tone for an inclusive environment to create a much better film.

—Heather Courtney, Princess A. Hairston, Chelsea Hernandez, and Diane Quon

About the Film

FILM SYNOPSIS

Breaking the News follows *The 19th**, an independent, digital nonprofit newsroom that covers national politics and policy at the intersection of gender and race. Frustrated by the lack of representation in the media, a group of women and LGBTQ+ journalists launched *The 19th**, a digital news startup whose work is guided by elevating the voices often left out of the American story.

Learn more about *Breaking the News* on [PBS's *Independent Lens*](#).

SCREENING OBJECTIVES

Breaking the News is a story of a 21st-century newsroom. It follows a dedicated group of journalists and editors as they cover communities, who have been historically underrepresented in mainstream media outlets. Along the way, the audience sees the trials and tribulations of a modern workplace striving to create an environment for their employees that adheres to the very ethos by which they abide.

For your screening we encourage you to invite other journalists, media experts, and activists from all age groups and genders to attend so they can share how their own experiences shaped their body of work.

Screening *Breaking the News* is an opportunity for communities to consider the value of journalism that looks past the traditional tenets of the industry (fair and balanced, bothsidesism) in order to truly serve the public. Placing an emphasis on the voices of people who are impacted by current events and experiences is how newsrooms can thrive and keep readers engaged.

We hope your Indie Lens Pop-Up event achieves the following core goals:

- Exploring how newsrooms that embrace the lived experiences of their journalists create more engaging content and civic participation
- Bringing about awareness of editorial decisions that determine not only which stories get covered, but also whose point of view gets centered in the stories
- Reflecting on the still ever-present responsibility that journalists have to expose racism, gender discrimination, and inequality within the communities they cover
- Showing how a more inclusive newsroom requires mindful leadership, open discussions, and full transparency, in addition to continued commitment and active practice
- Detailing why the mentoring of women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ journalists is important not only for the support of people currently in the industry, but also for the future of journalism itself



Discussing the Film

FRAMING THE CONVERSATION

Breaking the News is about women and LGBTQ+ journalists and editors, and their efforts to create a newsroom that breaks free of the traditional confines of legacy media. The group approaches reporting by asking who has been historically omitted in news coverage and who should be centered going forward. This core belief is linked to the asterisk in the organization's name, which is a visible reminder of the women of color who were not extended the right to vote until decades after the 19th Amendment's passage. In the nearly four years since *The 19th** launched, its target audience has expanded to specifically include LGBTQ+ communities.

BEING MINDFUL OF LANGUAGE

When discussing the film, it's important that everyone be respectful about their pronoun use. This includes references to the people in the film, as well as to panel participants and audience members. Anyone involved in the conversation is welcome to state their pronouns prior to discussion. And if someone is misspoken, gently remind the person who misspoke of the correct pronoun to use.

Topics and Themes

Topics and themes are provided to help you navigate the many ideas brought up by *Breaking the News*. You may focus on one topic or several and organize them into thoughtful discussions and engagement activities.

Each topic/theme section includes the following:

- **Overview and background information**—Framing language and helpful insights about the topic
- **Discussion questions**—Guided prompts that will help get the conversation started
- **Resources**—Organizations and sources that offer information and education that can help you prepare for your event
- **Potential partners/speakers**—Community groups and partners that can help build and/or contribute additional knowledge to moderated conversations
- **Engagement activities beyond the panel**—Ideas to promote active participation outside the event in the film topics and additional discussion questions for participants to take with them that support in-depth conversations and personal reflection

Embracing the Lived Experiences of Journalists

“We’ve tried to be as transparent as we can be about the fact that our journalism isn’t about both sides. In some cases there aren’t two sides.”

— EMILY RAMSHAW,
CO-FOUNDER AND CEO, *THE 19TH**

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Any professional journalist working in the industry must abide by a code of ethics when reporting a story. According to the Society of Professional Journalists, this gold standard is as follows: ¹

- Seek truth and report it.
- Minimize harm.
- Act independently.
- Be accountable and transparent.

In addition to these foundational tenets, newsrooms across the country pledge to be fair and balanced, showing both sides of a story. For decades this framework gave reporters the means to avoid bias and anchor their story in facts. This method, known as *bothsidesism*, was adopted and upheld as the gold standard in journalism.

But in the last few years, some newsrooms, including *The 19th**, have come to realize that *bothsidesism* doesn’t really serve the audience. As *The 19th** CEO and co-founder Emily Ramshaw asks in the film, if one side isn’t interested in the facts or truth, why bother giving them a platform if they’re only going to spread hate and false facts that hurt and harm particular groups of our community?

*The 19th** chose to expand the mantra of an independent newsroom. Part of that ethos is encouraging journalists to pursue stories that draw from their lived experiences and to use that inherent knowledge to drive their coverage.

That doesn’t mean reporters come to a story with an agenda. Rather, a newsroom staffed with journalists and editors with diverse lived experiences allows for more robust and authentic coverage, compared with a newsroom that is staffed with people from similar backgrounds and upbringings.

For example, a reporter who has lived with a health condition or impairment will navigate a story quite differently than an able-bodied reporter will.² It’s important to note that this is not to say that an able-bodied person can’t or shouldn’t report on stories that involve health conditions or disabilities.

In *Breaking the News*, *The 19th** takes great pride in allowing their journalists to access their lived experiences when telling stories. From a story about voter suppression in Philadelphia to a piece on the first transgender health clinic, we witness the highest of journalistic standards in action, which germinated from the individual reporter’s lived experience.

¹ [Society of Professional Journalism. Code of Ethics](#), 2014

² [Journo Resources Limited](#), 2022



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What role do your lived experiences play in your work?
- How does your lived experience influence what you do for a living or how you do your job?
- How can your workplace embrace each employee's lived experience to better inform how work is organized, executed, and completed?
- How would embracing your lived experience make your job easier or more difficult?
- Do lived experiences belong in all work cultures and settings? If not, why not?

RESOURCES

- [Columbia Journalism Review](#)
- [National Association for Media Literacy Education](#)
- [News Media Alliance](#)
- [Nieman Lab](#)
- [PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Lab](#)
- [Poynter Institute](#)

POTENTIAL PARTNERS/SPEAKERS

- Local longtime reporters and editors
- Local first-time reporters and editors
- Journalism/media/communications professors from local colleges
- Media/journalism teachers from local high schools

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES BEYOND A PANEL

- Have audience members write down their own lived experiences using the five principles of journalism when covering a story: who, what, where, why, and how.
- Ask audience members to share their experiences.
- Ask whether those lived experiences influence what they do for a living. If they do, how?
- Encourage audience members to think about the local news coverage in their communities. Do they see examples of lived experiences from local reporters?
- Encourage audience members to contact local reporters so that the lived experiences of members of their community are getting the attention that is warranted.

Centering the Underrepresented above the Voices of Institutions

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

“Over time, I have found that covering workers in labor had become a really big interest of mine in particular, and especially marginalized communities. I think those were the stories I could identify with the most, and they were not the stories that were being written.”

– CHABELI CARRAZANA,
ECONOMY REPORTER, *THE 19TH**

Within the code of ethics for journalists is the underlying principle that reporters are expected to give a voice to the voiceless. But what does that really mean? According to the Poynter Institute, a journalism ethics organization, reporters must “seek out and disseminate competing perspectives without being unduly influenced by those who would use their power or position counter to the public interest.”³

But all too often newsrooms (television in particular) fall back on habits that center those in power.⁴ This method of relying on figureheads for context and commentary, according to the Center for Journalism Ethics, “often presents a very top-down view of the world that works to reinforce the interests of the existing power structure.”⁵

By making an effort to center the voices from underreported communities not just during times of duress or protest, reporters can show people that their perspectives matter and that they have a legitimate voice.⁶

Take for example how the mainstream media chose to focus their stories on the larger political ramifications in the year leading up to the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. As states voted to dismantle reproductive rights, the focus of mainstream media outlets tended to ask these questions:

- How will this play out in the 2020 election?⁷
- What will overturning *Roe v. Wade* mean for congressional races?⁸
- What will the impact be on state races?⁹

Although these are important questions to ask and answer, the coverage of this once-in-a-lifetime story at *The 19th** was driven by reporting the perspectives of the people who would be impacted the most—people who seek reproductive care and those who provide it.

In *Breaking the News*, we see a master class in journalism making space for underreported voices. Chabeli Carrazana’s piece about the hectic last days in one of Texas’ last remaining abortion clinics is a perfect example. The story garnered wide acclaim because of its humanizing depiction of the people frantically seeking abortions and the people providing the care, as access evaporated around them.

³ [Poynter. Connecting Ethics and Diversity](#), 2003

⁴ [Center for Journalism Ethics. 5 Problems with Your Protest Coverage](#), 2020

⁵ [Center for Journalism Ethics. 5 Problems with Your Protest Coverage](#), 2020

⁶ [Center for Journalism Ethics. 5 Problems with Your Protest Coverage](#), 2020

⁷ [CNN, Clearing up misleading coverage of Texas abortion law](#), 2021

⁸ [Columbia Journalism Review, The reactive coverage of the Supreme Court and the Texas abortion law](#), 2021

⁹ [Ms., Abortion Media Coverage Is “Deeply, and Problematically, Politicized” Says Study](#), 2020



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Think about the news you consume— who tends to be centered?
- In what ways can news help center voices that don't get a lot of space?
- In what ways could you improve and boost your consumption of news today so that you're following fact-based, independent news sources? More representative news sources?
- How do you identify propaganda when you see it, hear it, or read it?

RESOURCES

- [American Media Institute](#)
- [Association for Education of Journalism and Mass Communications— Council of Affiliates](#)
- [The News Literacy Project](#)
- [PEN America](#)
- [Society of Professional Journalists](#)— Regional Chapters

POTENTIAL PARTNERS/SPEAKERS

- Top journalists in the area
- Editor in chiefs from local papers
- Journalism teachers/professors
- Journalism/communications students from local colleges

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES BEYOND A PANEL

- Arrange an exhibit of the local coverage from regional newspapers or TV stations.
- Have a workshop that provides insight into news literacy; dissect a local story to see if the coverage is fact based and independent.
- Ask participants about who was covered and who was quoted and who wasn't covered and who wasn't quoted.
- Have a news quiz to see how much people pay attention to the news.

Exposing Racism and Inequity in the Community

“My dream job was to be a national race writer for the Associated Press. We knew how huge of a story race was and yet we weren’t saying that as a newsroom. It was not a priority. And that’s not something that’s restricted to the associated press that is an industry-wide issue.”

— ERRIN HAINES,
EDITOR-AT-LARGE, *THE 19TH**

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

It’s no secret that the history of racism and inequality in the United States is long, painful, and difficult—from slavery to Jim Crow to redlining and more. Racism and inequality still plague our country. The Black Lives Matter movement was a response to the depths of racism within American society, revealing how institutional and structural racism continue to inflict harm on the Black community.

It forced many social, corporate, and political entities to reflect on their own histories of racism, including media institutions. In the year of the George Floyd murder and subsequent protests, [The Los Angeles Times](#),¹⁰ [The Kansas City Star](#),¹¹ and other media publishing companies apologized for their histories of racism.

Even so, bias toward people of color in the media continues to be ever-present. A 2021 study by the Equal Justice Initiative, a global strategy group, used data from 10 criminal cases to analyze the different portrayals of Black defendants and white defendants. They looked at 20 different topics surrounding media coverage, including the use of imagery and language choices, among others.¹²

The finding revealed that mugshots were used 45 percent of the time in the coverage of cases involving Black defendants, compared with 8 percent in the coverage of cases involving white defendants. Data also shows the biased language in how white defendants are covered versus Black defendants. Journalists tend to attach more personally descriptive words to white defendants: father, son, man; whereas crime-related descriptions are attached to Black men: arrested, accused, murder.¹³

In *Breaking the News*, editor-at-large Errin Haines demonstrates how to rightfully report on racism and inequity when she pitches the story of Breonna Taylor to *The 19th**. At the time, the American public was unaware that the Black EMT was shot eight times and killed by the Louisville, Kentucky, police during a botched raid on her apartment in March 2020.

Haines’ pitch to the editorial team lays out the case for covering Taylor’s death. She broke the story with a thoughtful portrayal of a distraught family seeking answers, but stymied by local authorities. What’s more, her depiction of this young Black woman—someone with dreams and goals, innocently gunned down in her own apartment—set a tone that other newsrooms adopted when they started to cover the young woman’s senseless death.

¹⁰ [Los Angeles Times. Editorial: An Examination of The Times’ Failures on Race, our Apology and a Path Forward, 2020](#)

¹¹ [Kansas City Star. The Truth in Black and White: An Apology from The Kansas City Star, 2020](#)

¹² [Equal Justice Initiative. Report Documents Racial Bias in Coverage of Crime by Media, 2021](#)

¹³ [Equal Justice Initiative. Report Documents Racial Bias in Coverage of Crime by Media, 2021](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does race and inequality affect you personally? What about in your community?
- How does racism and inequity frame the news you consume?
- How can you become more aware of your blind spots or biases, and how can you try to dismantle these within yourself and in others?
- What biases or blind spots do you see in your place of work or campus?
- Is your place of work or campus proactive in trying to make real changes to build racial equity and opportunity? If so, how?

RESOURCES

- [Al Día](#)
- [Asian American Journalist Association](#)
- [Asian Fortune](#)
- [AsianWeek](#)
- [Atlanta Tribune Magazine](#)
- [BET](#)
- [Blavity](#)
- [Capital B News](#)
- [Ebony](#)
- [Essence](#)
- [Futuro Media Group](#)
- [Indian Country Today](#)
- [Native American Journalists Association](#)
- [National Association of Black Journalists](#)
- [National Association of Hispanic Journalists](#)
- [Native Lens](#)
- [Native News Online](#)
- [RemezclaIndianz.com](#)
- [The Root](#)
- [Sage Journal](#)
- [Telemundo](#)
- [Univision](#)

POTENTIAL PARTNERS/SPEAKERS

- Local reporters of color
- People from the editorial team of a Black-owned newspaper or digital news outlet, if your community has one
- Reporters from a Latino-owned or Spanish language paper, television station, or radio station, if your community has any of these
- Reporters from an Asian language paper, television station, or radio station, if your community has any of these

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES BEYOND A PANEL

- Have a workshop on how to diversify viewers' media consumption.
- Create a letter-writing campaign to diversify local coverage.
- Hold a forum of local reporters of color to discuss their role in the community. Ask student associations to attend.
- Support journalists of color, women journalists, and journalists from marginalized communities by following and liking them on social media and sharing their stories.

Supporting Gender and Race Diversity in the Workplace

“I think that we’ve set an example of people who are willing to admit that [gender diversity] it’s a process. And to be honest about it. I want a place that’s committing to constantly working, and so far that’s what I’ve seen and it’s a completely different place than when I started.”

– KATE SOSIN,
LGBTQ+ REPORTER, *THE 19TH**

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2022, the Pew Research Center surveyed nearly 12,000 journalists about diversity and inclusion in the newsroom. The survey asked reporters about race, gender, and age. The results were mixed across all categories.

Two-thirds said their newsrooms were sufficiently diverse. When it came to sexual orientation diversity in the workplace, 43 percent of respondents gave good marks to their employer; 23 percent indicated that there wasn’t enough diversity; and 31 percent said they weren’t sure.

It’s important to note that of the 12,000 people who responded, 77 percent surveyed identified as white, 8 percent as Hispanic, 5 percent as Black, and only 3 percent as Asian. It’s unclear if the survey asked people about their sexual orientation or if they identified as transgender or nonbinary, as that information was not discussed in the report’s summary findings.

Nearly 1,000 journalists worldwide are members of the NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists, the largest LGBTQ+ journalism association.¹⁴ The Trans Journalist Association (TJA), founded only recently in 2020, has approximately 400 members.¹⁵

According to the TJA, workplace education around transgender and nonbinary rights and issues is the key to ensuring gender inclusivity. Employers are encouraged to do the following:

- Provide and encourage consistent workplace education on transgender issues, regardless of whether a workplace contains any out transgender employees.
- Hire professional organizations to provide in-person, full-workplace training.
- If a transgender employee joins the workplace, additional education by an outside organization should be provided.

In *Breaking the News*, we see firsthand what it’s like to work in a newsroom as a transgender person. The film shows Kate Sosin, *The 19th**’s first nonbinary reporter, researching which state legislators are behind the recent spate of anti-transgender laws.¹⁶

But as the film progresses, we see Sosin struggling to make the organization’s own internal practices more gender inclusive. As *The 19th** officially launches, and staff celebrate throughout the day, Sosin is routinely misgendered in media interviews and by *The 19th**’s own women-focused branding, leaving them devastated. In the film, co-founder and publisher Zamora admits that *The 19th** didn’t fully think through the kind of support Sosin would need when they were hired. After Sosin raises these concerns, *The 19th** reimagines its mission and its brand to specifically name LGBTQ+ communities.¹⁷

¹⁴ [NLGJA: Become a Member](#), 2023

¹⁵ [Trans Journalist Association](#), 2023

¹⁶ [Southern Poverty Law Center. Far-right Groups Flood State Legislatures with Anti-Trans Bills Targeting Children](#), 2021

¹⁷ [National Institutes of Health. Gender Pronouns & Their Use in Workplace Communications](#), 2023



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why is gender and inclusion important to the very fabric of our country? And on a small scale, in your community or network of friends and family?
- Is gender inclusion a part of your campus or company's foundation and mission statement?
- What role does your community (work or personal) play in ensuring that gender inclusion is a priority, or at the very least, part of the conversation?
- What actions do you see that you can take to ensure that gender and inclusion are a part of your work and/or personal community?
- What are your own biases and blind spots regarding gender identity?
- What are the biases and blind spots regarding gender where you work or learn?
- What is the best way to correct someone when they misgender a person?

RESOURCES

- [Advocate](#)
- [The Association of LGBTQIA+ Journalists](#)
- [GLAAD](#)
- [Out](#)
- [Queerty](#)
- [Them](#)
- [Trans Journalist Association](#)

POTENTIAL PARTNERS/SPEAKERS

- Local women and LGBTQ+ reporters and media activists
- Leaders of local LGBTQ+ organizations
- Local student LGBTQ+ organizations

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES BEYOND A PANEL

- Hold an inclusivity training on LGBTQ+ issues within your community.
- Create a local LGBTQ+ organization or community group.
- Have a workshop about the importance of respectful language and word choice.¹⁸

¹⁸ [American Psychological Association. Inclusive Language Guide, 2023](#)

Harnessing the Power of Mentorship

“I want to create an environment where others, who have come up like I came up, don’t feel like they’re in the position that I was in, anymore.”

– AMANDA ZAMORA,
CO-FOUNDER AND PUBLISHER,
THE 19TH*

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Just 37 percent of leadership positions in the United States are held by women, even though they make up nearly half of the U.S. workforce.¹⁹ Only four Fortune 500 companies are led by an open LGBTQ+ CEO.²⁰ As for transgender and gender nonconforming leaders and CEOs, statistics could not be found at this time. However, more than half of transgender employees say they don’t feel comfortable being out at work.²¹

“Good old boy” networks are a long-standing tradition in nearly every industry, journalism included. And newsrooms are no different. Approximately 60 percent of all employees in the news media — reporters, editors, photographers, and videographers — are non-Hispanic white males.²²

Ramshaw and Zamora, *The 19th**’s co-founders, both cited this collective lack of women reporters and reporters of color as a major reason for founding the organization, which counts mentoring among its fundamental goals. Mentoring is vital to supporting professional growth and development, especially for journalists.²³ Mentors can help set up goals and hold mentees accountable to personal benchmarks,²⁴ and mentees get to connect with industry leaders, thereby gaining insight and inspiration.²⁵

*The 19th** has also established a series of programs to boost mentorship. The [Frances Ellen Watkins Harper Fellowship](#) program is for graduates or past attendees of HBCUs. In June 2023, *The 19th** launched a free mentorship program for the fellows in partnership with [Digital Women Leaders](#) that is aimed at addressing gender disparities in journalism leadership.

¹⁹ [Forbes. Why Women Benefit From Mentors in the Workplace, 2023](#)

²⁰ [Fortune. 4 Fortune 500 Companies are led by openly LGBTQ CEOs, 2023](#)

²¹ [McKinsey and Company. Being Transgender at Work, 2023](#)

²² [Pew Research. Newsroom Employees are Less Diverse than U.S. Workers Overall, 2018](#)

²³ [International Journalists Network. For Women Journalists, Mentoring can make the difference, 2018](#)

²⁴ [Forbes. Why Women Benefit From Mentors in the Workplace, 2023](#)

²⁵ [Forbes. Why Women Benefit From Mentors in the Workplace, 2023](#)



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What role does mentoring play when it comes to marginalized populations in your place of work or community?
- Which mentors have helped you forge your path at work and/or in your community?
- Why is mentoring so vital to women and LGBTQ+ people in particular in your community or workplace?
- How does mentoring foster empathy?

RESOURCES

- [ArtofMentoring.net](https://www.artofmentoring.net)
- *Better Allies*, a book by Karen Catlin on how to support an inclusive workplace
- [JournalismMentors.com](https://www.journalismmentors.com)
- [Mentoring.org](https://www.mentoring.org)
- [Society of Professional Journalists – Student Leadership Institute](https://www.societyofprofessionaljournalists.org/leadership-institute)
- [Solutions Journalism Network](https://www.solutionsjournalismnetwork.org)

POTENTIAL PARTNERS/SPEAKERS

- Local business leaders
- Local community leaders
- Business associations
- Community associations
- Campus organizations or campus leaders

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES BEYOND A PANEL

- Hold a community event that connects mentees and mentors.
- Ask young women and LGBTQ+ people what they're looking for in mentors.
- Hold a workshop on how cisgender white men can be better allies.

Credits

WRITER

Carolyn Abate

COPY EDITOR

Joan D. Saunders

GUIDE DESIGNER

Michael Silva

INDIE LENS POP-UP TEAM

Kristy Chin

Senior Manager,
Engagement & Impact

Zoe Stahl

Associate Manager,
Engagement & Impact

Beatriz Castillo

Senior Director,
Engagement Operations

ADVISORS

Heather Courtney

Director, Producer,
and Cinematographer,
Breaking the News

Princess A. Hairston

Director, Producer,
and Cinematographer,
Breaking the News

Chelsea Hernandez

Director, Producer,
and Cinematographer,
Breaking the News

Diane M. Quon

Producer,
Breaking the News

Eliza Licht

Impact Producer,
Red Owl Partners

INDIE LENS POP-UP

Indie Lens Pop-Up is a neighborhood series that brings people together—virtually and in-person—for film screenings and community-driven conversations. Featuring documentaries seen on PBS's *Independent Lens*, Indie Lens Pop-Up draws local residents, leaders, and organizations to discuss what matters most, from newsworthy topics and social issues to family and community relationships. Since its inception in 2005, more than 6,700 Indie Lens Pop-Up events have brought an estimated 400,000 participants together to discuss issues that impact local communities. For more information, visit its [website](#).

INDEPENDENT LENS

Independent Lens is an Emmy® Award-winning PBS documentary series. With founding executive producer Lois Vossen, the series has been honored with 10 Academy Award nominations and features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by ITVS, *Independent Lens* is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Acton Family Giving, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Ford Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, and National Endowment for the Arts. Stream anytime on the PBS app. For more visit its [website](#).

Join the conversation with
#BreakingTheNewsPBS on X, Facebook,
and Instagram at @IndependentLens.

ITVS

ITVS is a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization that has, for more than 25 years, funded and partnered with a diverse range of documentary filmmakers to produce and distribute untold stories. ITVS incubates and co-produces these award-winning films and then airs them for free on PBS via our weekly series, *Independent Lens*, as well as on other PBS series. ITVS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Humanities: American Rescue Plan, Acton Family Giving, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Wyncote Foundation. For more information, visit its [website](#).

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), a private, nonprofit corporation created by Congress in 1967, is the steward of the federal government's investment in public broadcasting. It helps support the operations of more than 1,500 locally owned and operated public television and radio stations nationwide. CPB is also the largest single source of funding for research, technology, and program development for public radio, public television, and related online services. For more information, visit its [website](#).

