

CALIFORNIA
**& ETHNIC MEDIA
AWARDS**
One day Symposium • Expo • Awards



Kimpton Sawyer Hotel, Sacramento | August 31, 2023

ETHNIC MEDIA SERVICES | CBM | CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

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Honoring Excellence
in Journalism Among
the State's Ethnic
Media Journalists &
News Organizations

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We're so glad you could all make it to this event!



Nearly six months ago, we began planning this event. Our objective was to create a platform for ethnic media to meet with decision-makers in Sacramento to shed light on the critical issues facing journalism and the impact on media outlets, small and large, reaching California's diverse communities. We wanted to build relationships post-COVID with the people working on the state's most pressing problems.



We had two goals for this meeting: First, we wanted to educate decision-makers about the enduring power and resilience of ethnic media at a time when all media are struggling to survive. Despite the challenges facing all media, we had more submissions for the awards than ever before, which judges deemed exceptional in scope and quality.

Second, we wanted to learn more about how decision-makers plan to communicate with our diverse audiences so we can ensure our media sector is included.

As you can see from the roster of esteemed state leaders here today, Sacramento has welcomed us with open arms. We are so grateful to the over 150 ethnic media attendees who have come from all over the state to be here today. Your presence stands as a testament to your commitment.

We're living in a time of great change. We've tested out strategies to build inclusive communications during the 2020 Census and the pandemic, and they worked. We are strengthening ties with grassroots and statewide community-based organizations to confront the rising tide of racist violence and to educate our communities about the climate crisis, among other issues. We know that government agencies and the legislature are committed to making equity a key part of the policies that govern our diverse state.

We understand the difference between fair and equitable inclusion starts with the community's right to know.

Today, we recognize it's on us to close the information gap between government and the governed.

Thank you, Sacramento leaders, for coming to the table and working with us to ensure we continue to have a robust communication infrastructure.

Regina Brown Wilson and Sandy Close

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Special congratulations to California Black Media and Ethnic Media Services as they celebrate the hard work and commitment of our Ethnic Media publications across California. The journalism they produce holds our elected officials accountable and provides channels to reach Californians living in some of the hardest-to-reach zip codes in the state.

Bravo on your continued success!

Mr. Hardy Brown,
Publisher Emeritus, Black Voice News

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Co-Emcee

Dear colleagues,



I am honored to once again chair and co-emcee this year's EMS/CBM California Ethnic Media Awards to salute the stellar, but often unrecognized journalism of ethnic media professionals who are chronicling their communities' journey in a constantly evolving America. In this climate of deep divisions, their incisive reporting and perspectives enriched by a global lens, is even more critical.

Close to twenty years ago, I migrated from the Philippines to California and began my journey as a broadcast journalist which included becoming part of the core team that established ABS-CBN International - The Filipino Channel's North America bureau in the aftermath of 9/11, and launch its flagship newscast. I then transitioned as NAM's national media network director, privileged to be working alongside a national pan-ethnic consortium of diverse media organizations.

To all the supporters and our EMS/CBM team who made this year's awards program and celebration possible, my deep gratitude to all of you for your expertise and time. To the winners, honorees and all entrants in this year's awards program, my admiration goes to you, for your commitment to your audiences. It continues to inspire me everyday, to amplify voices in our society that need to be heard.

Your fortitude shines bright through any darkness. Congratulations to all of you, and you have in me, an ally in the field forever!

Respectfully,
Darla Givens
Meteorologist, CBS13 & Co-Emcee

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Co-Emcee



Odette is director of the Maynard 200 journalism fellowship program of the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. She is also a diversity communications and media executive. This is primarily through her role as president and founding partner of Global MediaX, a strategic multicultural and international media consultancy group headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area. Previously, she was a consultant for the Democracy Fund. She is a 2022 Society of Professional Journalists Northern California Board awardee, for her work leading the Maynard 200 fellowship, which the board hailed as "one of the most powerful incubators for journalists of color." She was also a recipient of The 100 Most Influential Filipino Americans - TOFA Awards in 2020.

A respected broadcast journalist, Odette's career spans 20-plus years in the United States and the Philippines. Previously, at New America Media (NAM), she was the national media network director, television and radio news anchor/executive producer, as well as chair and co-emcee of the NAM Ethnic Media Awards. She hosted and produced NAM's weekly segment on 91.7 FM KALW in the Bay Area, the TV show "New America Now" and its monthly TV news magazine on Comcast Hometown Network (CHN) with the same program name. She was also an alternate anchor and segment producer for 'Upside' on Comcast Channel 104.

She was a regular commentator and featured panelist on KQED TV and radio programs in San Francisco including "This Week in Northern California" with legendary news anchor Belva Davis and KQED-FM's "Pacific Time."

In the 9/11 aftermath, Odette led the core group that launched the U.S. news bureau of The Filipino

Odette Alcazaren-Keeley
Director, Maynard 200 at Maynard Institute for
Journalism Education & Co-Emcee



Schedule of Events

11:00 – 1:00 PM | Registration Open (Magnolia Foyer)

11:00 – 12:45 PM | Lunch & Opening Session: THE POWER OF ETHNIC MEDIA | LUNCH & OPENING SESSION: The Power of Ethnic Media: Welcome by **California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber**, Ph.D; **US Census Director Robert L. Santos** will open the conference with a luncheon address on the power of ethnic media. Presentation of Communications Champion Awards. **MC: Darla Givens**, Meteorologist, CBS13. (Magnolia Ballroom)

1:00 – 2:00 PM | Plenary Session 1: Building Inclusive Communications: New Strategies for Messaging by State Agencies: Join leaders in the Administration who are tackling some of the state's most pressing issues and their plans of ensuring all communities are informed and connected to the process. Discussion moderated by ethnic media leaders. (Maple Ballroom, 3rd Fl)

Speakers:

- **Maricela Rodriguez**, Senior Advisor for Civic Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Office of the Governor.
- **Michelle Baass**, Director, Department of Health Care Services
- **Susan DeMarois**, Director, California Department of Aging.

Moderator: Diana Ding, Ding Ding TV

2:00 – 2:15 PM | Chat & Snack (Maple Foyer)

2:15 – 3:15 PM | Plenary Session 2: Building California Infrastructure with Equity Leading the Way: Learn how the Government Services Administration coordinates infrastructure planning across the State, including expanding broadband access, and works to ensure an equity lens. Discussion moderated by ethnic media leaders. (Maple Ballroom, 3rd Fl)

Speakers:

- **Secretary Amy Tong**, Government Operations
- **Secretary Toks Omishakin**, California State Transportation Agency

Moderator: Larry Lee, Publisher of Sacramento Observer



Schedule of Events

3:00 – 3:15 PM | Coffee Break (Magnolia Foyer)

3:15 – 4:30 PM | Plenary Session 3: Building Stronger Communities

Together: CBOs and Ethnic Media have joined forces to combat inter-ethnic violence. Learn about partnerships, strategies and tactics to address hate crimes and build relationships across racial/ethnic lines. Ethnic media reporters and CBO leaders who will share examples of collaborative projects from El Cajon to Half Moon Bay. (Magnolia Ballroom)

Speakers

- **Becky Monroe**, Deputy Director of Strategic Initiatives and External Affairs, California Civil Rights Department
- **Marcela Ruiz**, Director, Office of Equity, California Department of Social Services

CBO's

- **Helen Zia**, Director, The Vincent Chin Institute, writer/journalist and activist
- **Rick Callender**, President, CA / Hawaii State Conference of the NAACP
- **Tuyen Nguyen**, Catalyst of San Diego & Imperial Valley
- **Tazheen Nizam**, ED of CAIR, San Diego

Moderator: Martha Askenazi, Owner & Publisher, San Fernando Valley Sun

4:30 – 5:30 PM | REPORTER'S ROUNDTABLE: Breaking silence about community taboos. **Moderator: Jenna Lane**, Blue Shield of California Foundation. (Alder 1)

5:00 – 6:30 PM | EXPO AND AWARDS RECEPTION: Reception to honor leading publishers and organizations connecting communities to information and power. (Magnolia Ballroom Foyer and Terrace)

6:30 – 8:00 PM | AWARDS CEREMONY: Celebrating outstanding journalism in print, online, broadcast. (Magnolia Ballroom)



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Communications Champion Awards

Yurina Melara

California Department of Public Health
Myth Busters Fellowships

Chris Holbein

RS-E

Vaccinate All58 Media Campaign

California State Library

Stop the Hate Ethnic Media Campaign

LaGrant Communications

Super Hero COVID Vaccination Campaign

Brian Ferguson

CalOES & Listos

Ethnic Media Campaigns

Connie Nakano

California Department of Aging

Protecting Older Adults in the Pandemic

Chinese for Affirmative Action

for spearheading

Stop the Hate Ethnic Media Campaign

Manjusha Kulkarni

Stop AAPI Hate

Spearheading Ethnic Media Campaign

Cynthia Choi & Vincent Pan

Stop AAPI Hate

Spearheading Ethnic Media Campaign

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All Media Entrants & Nominees

Al Enteshar
Alianza Metropolitan News
Asian American Media Inc.
Asian Journal
Beyond Borders Gazette
Black Catholic Messenger
Black Voice News
Boyle Heights Beat
Cafe Con Leche Radio
Carib Press
ChicoSol
East Palo Alto Today
El Informador Del Valle
El Nuevo Sol
El Popular
El Tecolote
El Timpano & Latino USA
Hispanic LA
Hispanic Lifestyle
Hmong Daily News
Hyundai News USA
Impulso Newspaper
India Currents
Indian Voices
Info Media Distribution
Inglewood Today
Inland Empire Community
Newspapers (El Chicano,
Rialto Record, Colton Courier)
Inland Valley News
Kiosko News
Korea Daily Los Angeles
La Nueva Voz
La Opinion
LAPost/ AACYP
Little Saigon TV
Lo Nuestro TV
Los Angeles Blade
Los Angeles Standard Newspaper
Mission Local
Myanmar Gazette
News for Chinese
News From Native California
NguoiViet Daily News/
Saigonho News
Observer Group Newspapers of
Southern California Inc.
ONME News/ The ONME Network
Our Weekly Newspaper Los Angeles
Península 360 Press
Philippines News Today
Positively Filipino
Radio Balaam
Radio TNT
Communication/Media Services
Sacramento Observer
San Bernardino American News
San Fernando Valley Sun/
El Sol Newspapers
San Francisco Public Press
SBS International, Inc.
Showbiz India TV
Silliconeer Ventures, Inc.
Sing Tao Chinese Radio
Sing Tao Daily
Sing Tao TV
Sinovision
Sky Link TV
Slavic Sacramento
The Immigrant Magazine Inc.
UNE US News Express
US News Express 新闻速递
Usknews
Vida en el Valle
Westside Story Newspaper
World Journal
www.rajiwrites.com
YTV America

ETHNIC MEDIA AWARDS

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Judges Roster

Twenty-five distinguished writers, journalists, communication specialists and academics from across California will serve as judges in this year's California Ethnic Media Awards, sponsored by Ethnic Media Services and California Black Media. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 31 at the Kimpton-Sawyer Hotel in downtown Sacramento concluding a day-long symposium on building inclusive communications across the state.

"We are honored to have such a diverse panel of judges with cultural and linguistic fluency play this very important role," said co-chair Regina Brown Wilson, Executive Director of California Black Media. "Judging entries for outstanding reporting from over 100 in-language and English language news outlets is no small task -- you're reading breaking news, feature reports, commentaries, explanatory analyses, about issues and events largely missed in general market media but deeply relevant to local communities."

"The opportunity to recognize outstanding journalism in the ethnic media sector generated such enthusiasm, it was inspiring," added co-chair Sandy Close, Director of Ethnic Media Services. "The judges know we're not just selecting winners, we're recognizing all the dedicated reporters and content producers who are keeping their audiences informed against enormous odds impacting the media landscape."

Jose Luis Benavides

Professor at the Department of Journalism, Cal State Northridge

Maeve Elise Brown

Executive Director and Founder, Housing and Economic Rights Advocates

Jon Christensen

Assistant Adjunct Professor at UCLA Institute of Environment and Sustainability, and Founder of Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies (LENS)

Diana Ding

Founder and CEO of Ding Ding TV and Founder and president of Silicon Valley Innovation Channel.

Anh Do

Community Engagement Editor, the Los Angeles Times, veteran reporter for Nguoi Viet

Judges Roster

Julian Do

Co-Director, Ethnic Media Services

Allison Engel

Author, Playwright, and Journalist

Louis Freedberg

Journalist and former Executive
Director of EdSource

Jon Funabiki

Professor of Journalism, San
Francisco State University,
Founder of Renaissance
Journalism, and former Program
Officer with the Ford Foundation

Tanu Henry

Managing Editor of California Black
Media, and veteran
Communications Specialist

George Koo

Business Advisor, Cross-Cultural
Communicator, and Writer for
Asian Week

Lila LaHood

Publisher for Public Press

Jongwon Lee

Veteran Journalist and Editor with
Korean News Media, member of
the State Bar of Georgia, and
Contributing Editor of Ethnic
Media Services

Nina Li

Stanford Center for Asian Research
and Education (CARE), Stanford
University School of Medicine

Ruben Martinez

Journalist, author and musician,
Professor of English, and Fletcher
Jones Chair in Literature & Writing
at Loyola Marymount University

Mary Jo McConahay

Veteran Journalist for the National
Catholic Reporter, and Author most
recently of Playing God: American
Catholic Bishops and the Far Right

Amanda Mei Kim

Author, former Communications
Director for Blue Shield Foundation
of California

Debra Nakatomi

Founder and President for Nakatomi
PR

Kayla Olvera Hilario

Department of Labor, Division of
Indian and Native American
Programs, former Tribal Affairs
Specialist with the California Census

Jaya Padmanabhan

Veteran Journalist and Fiction
Writer, Contributing Editor for
Ethnic Media Services

Richard Rodriguez

Author and Essayist

Peter Schurmann

Journalist and former
Communications Consultant for
Earth Innovation, Web Editor for
Ethnic Media Services

Jacqueline Stenson

Director of Projects at USC Center
for Health Journal



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Exhibitors

Alianza Metropolitan
Bakersfield News Observer
Beyond Borders
CNPA
DVTF PASIFIKA MEDIA NETWORK
FAC
Hispanic Lifestyle
Impulso
Inland Valley News
Kiosko News
Korea Daily
Pace News
FilAm Post
Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation
Sacramento Observer
Siliconeer / Printamp
Skylink TV SF
Usknews
YTV America (KTSD, CH 18.4)
Radio B'alam - Mayan Voices
KYPA AM1230
Arab American Historical Foundation
Latino Times



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California News Publishers Association

Blue Shield of California

PG&E

McDonald's

Toni Rembe

The Rock Foundation

California Newspaper Publishers Association

Office of Community Partnerships & Strategic
Communications (OCPSC)



**The Office of Community
Partnerships Strategic
Communications
would like to congratulate
all the participants of the 2023
California Ethnic Media Awards.
Thank you for including your
voices in the discourse of our
diverse state.**



Empowering
progress
through
inclusion.

BMO



At BMO, our purpose is to **boldly grow the good in business and life**. That means doing our part to create a more equitable and inclusive society. We're proud to be working together with organizations across California to reach zero barriers to inclusion.

Learn more about our \$40 billion commitment to the communities we serve at [bmo.com/empower](https://www.bmo.com/empower)




*The California
Wellness
Foundation*

*would like to congratulate
the winners of the 2023
California Ethnic Media
Awards!*



THE CALIFORNIA
Wellness
FOUNDATION

promoting equity, advocacy and access



Blue Shield of California Foundation is proud to support Ethnic Media Services and the 2023 California Ethnic Media Conference Awards & Expo

Blue Shield of California Foundation supports lasting and equitable solutions to make California the healthiest state and end domestic violence.

blue  of california
foundation

Blue Shield of California Foundation is an independent licensee of the Blue Shield Association

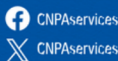
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Celebrating Excellence

PG&E proudly supports EMS & CBM and congratulates all the winners of the 2023 California Ethnic Media Awards



SoCalGas recognizes diversity and celebrates our unity. We congratulate **Ethnic Media Services and California Black Media** on their **2023 California Ethnic Media Symposium, Expo & Awards**. Ethnic Media Services shows that embracing different cultures, traditions and perspectives moves us all forward together.

Congratulations to this year's awardees on your achievement

Visit our Newsroom newsroom.socalgas.com





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LOVE HEALS
UNITY INSPIRES
COMMUNITY**

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SPREAD THE **LOVE.**

www.cablackmedia.org