

The Convention at a Glance

Thursday, July 13

- 8:30 am – 5 pm:** Registration
9 am – 4 pm: Super Workshops of various lengths
4:15 – 5 pm: Members Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 pm: Opening reception at Reuters, 3 Times Square
Keynote: Betty Wong, managing editor, Reuters America

Friday, July 14

- 8:30 am – 6 pm:** Registration
8:30 – 9:45 am: Networking Breakfast
10 – 11 am: Keynote: Brian Williams, anchor, NBC Nightly News
11 am: Newsmaker Q&A: Richard Boucher, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, interviewed by Nikhil Deogun, deputy Washington bureau chief, The Wall Street Journal
12:30 – 2 pm: Lunch
2 – 6 pm: Job fair (Room 555); individual critiques (West Lounge)
2 – 3:30 pm: Panels, workshops, salon
4 – 5:30 pm: Panels, workshops, salon
6:30 – 9 pm: Reception, Arledge Cinema, Lerner Hall
Keynote: Riz Khan, anchor, Al Jazeera International
9:30 – 11:30 pm: Desis and Hip Hop after party presented by MTV Desi

Saturday, July 15

- 9 am – 10:30 am:** Plenary: The State of Press Freedom in South Asia
11 am – 12:30 pm: Panels, workshops, salon
12 – 6 pm: Job fair (Room 555); individual critiques (West Lounge)
12:30 – 2 pm: Lunch (dosa and halal carts will serve piping hot food outside Lerner Hall)
2 – 3:30 pm: Panels, workshops, salon
4 – 5:30 pm: Panels, workshops, salon
6:30 – 11:30 pm: Gala dinner
Keynote speaker: Tom Curley, President & CEO, Associated Press, winner of SAJA Journalism Leader Award ♦ SAJA Hall of Fame Induction of the late A.M. Rosenthal of The New York Times

Sunday, July 16

- 11:30 – 2 pm:** Networking brunch featuring South Asian comics – Malika Restaurant, 210 E 43rd St. (near Grand Central Station)

South Asian Journalists Association

Convention & Awards Dinner

July 13-16, 2006

Columbia University
New York City

SAJA | south asian
journalists
association
www.saja.org

Welcome from SAJA's President

Hello there, my fellow convention attendees!

On behalf of all of us on the board of the South Asian Journalists Association, let me welcome you to our 2006 Convention and Awards Dinner! It's going to be our best one yet!

SAJA's convention planning team, led by Vice President Vikas Bajaj, has been working very hard for a very long time to put together this year's program, and I have no doubt you'll think it's been worth every effort.

Whether it's one of our thought-provoking panels, hands-on workshops or special guest salons, there's something here for everyone. And that's just the daytime! The activity continues into the evenings, with receptions, a hip-hop showcase, and of course, our Awards Dinner on Saturday night.

And if you make it through all that (and you definitely want to) there's the Survivors' Brunch on Sunday!

Of course, another hallmark of the SAJA Convention is the networking. A lot of fascinating people are at this convention, so take the time to meet and greet each other. I hope I get the chance to meet all of you!

All best,

Deepthi Hajela
President, South Asian Journalists Association

The Convention Schedule

THURSDAY, July 13

9 am - 4 pm

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Bootcamp for Broadcast Journalists: "LIVE, LOCAL, LATE BREAKING"*

Practice makes perfect but what they don't teach you in J-school is what you have to hone on the air. That may be what makes the perfect live shot more elusive for some than others. But whether you're in Market 198 or at a network, the ability to go LIVE is essential for any TV reporter and/or anchor. ♦ This workshop will examine the art of the live shot. Participants will have the opportunity to synthesize information from a mock breaking-news event before "going live." The elements, including breaking information and time constraints, will be recreated to mimic the pressures involved in delivering a story live on the air. Seasoned news professionals will then provide tips and feedback on the live shots, which will be recorded for on the spot critiques. Yes, you can keep your tape. ♦ But the training doesn't stop there. The workshop will end with a discussion on negotiating your contracts with leading talent agents Steve Herz and Carol Perry of If Management. The session will focus on career development for anchors, reporters and producers in news and sports broadcasting at all career levels. The all-day session will be conducted in a computer lab at Columbia Journalism School and includes a break for lunch. ♦ For broadcast journalists of all levels

Instructors: Hari Sreenivasan, ABC News; Reena Ninan, FOX News; Lou Young, WCBS; Steve Herz and Carol Perry, If Management; Others TBA

[Room: 601B, Journalism School]

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Computer Assisted Reporting (presented by Investigative Reporters and Editors)*

Computer assisted reporting is often seen as some sort of magic act done behind the curtain by the nerds of the newsroom. But it is far from it. It is a tool to be used by every beat and general assignments reporter. Ron Nixon, a computer assisted reporting editor at The New York Times, will show how reporters can incorporate basic CAR skills into beat reporting. The workshop will cover data analysis in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, retrieving data from Web sources and a brief introduction to database software applications such as Microsoft Access. ♦ The all-day session will be conducted in a computer lab at Columbia Journalism School and includes a break for lunch. ♦ For journalists of all levels

Instructors: Ron Nixon, The New York Times

[Room: 601A, Journalism School]

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Photojournalism*

Photographers of all levels will make their way to Richmond Hill, Queens, where the visual challenge will be to capture a day in the South Asian enclave. You will be back in time for the opening reception. Work will be showcased at a later point of the convention. ♦ For photographers of all levels and non-photographers who want to learn photography.

Instructors: Scott Lewis and Preston Merchant, photojournalists

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Narrative Writing*

A former writing coach at the Omaha World-Herald and director of tailored programming at the American Press Institute talks about how to bring narrative elements to even the shortest of daily stories. He trades his tips on how to spot details during the interviewing and reporting process that bring color to copy, how to use storytelling techniques, how to develop story structures and narrative elements, and how to write short but compelling pieces on a daily basis. ♦ For intermediate journalists

Instructor: Steve Buttry, director of tailored programs and former writing coach, American Press Institute

[Room: 503]

Thursday, 10 am - 1 pm

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Editing with a Critical Eye*

Editors play numerous roles from boss, teacher, psychologist and coach. But they need coaching and training, too. This session is meant to serve that purpose for both reporters aspiring to editing and mid-career editors seeking to learn new lessons. Hear tips from two seasoned editors about the tools and tricks they use to enliven, sharpen and, when needed, fix copy that arrives in their queues and in boxes. ♦ For intermediate journalists

Instructors: Ray Hennessey, editor SmartMoney.com; and Mark Prendergast, retired editor, The New York Times

[Room: 502]

Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Becoming a Better Business Journalist (presented by The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania)*

Learn to navigate the business world more effectively with insight from the faculty of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. This workshop will include a discussion of timely business topics and useful tips for reporters, from spotting accounting tricks to understanding the intricacies of hedge funds and other investment vehicles. ♦ For intermediate journalists

Instructors: Brian J. Bushee, Ph.D., assistant professor of accounting, The Wharton School; and Todd Millay, J.D., executive director, Wharton Global Family Alliance

[Room: 501]

Thursday, 10 am - 4 pm

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Cutting-Edge New Media Journalism: An Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling, Blogs and Video Blogs*

Internet journalism is no longer about shoveling print copy to the Web. Established news organizations as well as independent journalists are blending text, audio, video and photographs to create a compelling form of storytelling perfectly suited for the Net. And video bloggers are bypassing traditional media all together to post reports directly to the Web. This hands-on workshop will give you the skills required to jump into these new forms of journalism. You will be pleasantly surprised at how simple it can be to produce pieces in this potent medium. The all-day session will be conducted in a computer lab at Columbia Journalism School and includes a break for lunch. ♦ For journalists of all levels but the following computer skills are a prerequisite: Basic Web site design and digital image editing skills.

Instructor: Angela Morgenstern, senior producer, MTV.com; others TBA

[Room: 501A, Journalism School]

Thursday, 1 pm - 3 pm

SUPER WORKSHOP: *Turning Your Story into a Documentary*

Do you want to turn a print or broadcast story into a documentary? This class provides an overview of how it's done from conception to production to distribution. ♦ For broadcast and print journalists and non-journalists

Instructor: Mridu Chandra, documentary filmmaker.

[Room: East Lounge]

Thursday, 3 - 4 pm

NETWORKING: *Getting the Most Out of the SAJA Convention*

Come meet fellow conventioners and get some tips on how to best use your SAJA time and the connections you make here. You are welcome to bring resumes for informal critiques. ♦ For all journalists and non-journalists

[Fifth Floor Common Area]

Thursday, 4:15 pm - 5 pm

SAJA General Membership Meeting

All paid members of SAJA and those who'd like to become members are welcome.

[Room: 555]

Thursday, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Opening Reception hosted by Reuters (*A conversation with Betty Wong, managing editor of Reuters America*)

As managing editor for Reuters's North and South American operations since February 2004, Betty Wong oversees a staff of 650 journalists. She is one of the senior-most Asian Americans in journalism today. A former Wall Street Journal reporter, before taking on her current role, Betty held a range of jobs at Reuters from senior Wall Street correspondent to Americas equities editor. But ask her what her biggest accomplishments are, and she points to her daughters—Kristen, 12 and Amanda, 9.

[Reuters America, 3 Times Square, corner of West 43rd & Broadway]

FRIDAY, JULY 14
10 am - 11 am

PLENARY: *Brian Williams, anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News*

Brian Williams, the most watched nightly news anchor on American television, will deliver a keynote and take questions from the audience in his first-ever SAJA appearance. Williams has made several trips to South Asia as a reporter and since he became anchor of the nightly news in late 2004. Earlier this year, Williams and NBC News won the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award for coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. He has covered stories ranging from the tsunami in South and Southeast Asia, the death of Pope John Paul II and the war in Iraq.

[Room: 555]

Friday, 11 am - 12:30 pm

NEWSMAKER Q&A: *Richard A. Boucher, assistant secretary of state, interviewed by Nikhil Deogun, the deputy Washington bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal.*

Richard Boucher has a résumé long on senior diplomatic posts and took over the South and Central Asian beat in early 2006 just as President Bush made his first trip to the Subcontinent. A former spokesman for the State Department under both the Clinton and Bush administrations, Boucher has become the administration's point person on South Asian affairs at a crucial inflection point for U.S. relations with India, Pakistan and other countries in the region. ♦ Nikhil Deogun, the second in command at The Wall Street Journal's Washington bureau, has covered a range of beats at the newspaper from mergers and acquisitions to public policy.

[Room: 555]

Friday, 2 pm - 3:30 pm

PANEL: *Choosing the Trade Pub Path*

What steps must reporters and editors take to score a job at a trade publication? What must they do if they want to jump from trade pubs to mainstream media?

Speakers: Cathy Panagoulis, The Wall Street Journal; Daniel Dupont, Inside Defense Publications; Andrew Noyes, Communications Daily trade newspaper.

Moderator: Gopal Ratnam, Defense News

[Room: Satow]

PANEL: *Covering Your Own Company (presented by the Society of American Business Editors and Writers)*

Nothing in business journalism is harder than reporting on your employer, supervisors and colleagues. But good news organizations recognize that their credibility lies in providing coverage of themselves. In this discussion organized by the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, three veteran journalists talk about how, deftly and thoroughly, a conscientious reporter can get the job done.

Speakers: David Andelman, Forbes.com; James Madore, Newsday; Mark Mitchell, CJR Daily

Moderator: Josh Mills, Bloomberg News/SABEW

[Room: 568]

WORKSHOP: *Investigative Business Reporting (presented by The New York Times)*

Learn how to land great investigative stories off of the business beat with Barry Meier, who wrote a series of stories about the defects in implantable heart devices made by the Guidant Corporation. He won a George Polk award for his work and was a Pulitzer Prize finalist earlier this year. Meier will talk and take questions about how he approaches his stories, dealing with sources who want to remain anonymous and using documents and other sources of information.

Speaker: Barry Meier, The New York Times

[Room: 501]

WORKSHOP: *Covering Islam (presented by the Religion Newswriters Association)*

Get tips to better understand the world's fastest-growing religion from an award-winning religion writer, and write more accurately about today's changing world.

Speaker: Deborah Caldwell, Beliefnet.org

[Room: 503]

WORKSHOP: *The Census Story and How it Impacts Immigration*

As the immigration debate rages on, this speaker looks into how reporters can use census figures to their advantage to tell the story in new, and more accurate, ways.

Speaker: Wendell Cochran, American University

[Room: 502]

SALON: *Daljit Dhaliwal, PBS' Wide Angle*

The former CNN and ITN anchor will talk about her latest endeavor, hosting the PBS documentary show Wide Angle, the lessons she has learned over her career, and the world of broadcast journalism writ large.

[Room: East Lounge]

Friday, 4 pm - 5:30 pm

PANEL: *How I Got the Story (Broadcast, Multimedia)*

SAJA's own 2006 award winners share the story behind their stories.

Speakers: TBA

Moderator: Sandeep Junnarkar, City University of New York Journalism School

[Room: Satow]

PANEL: *Turn Freelancing into a Career*

Not sure of how to collect story ideas as a freelancer? Want tips on the best way of pitching them to established publications? Now is your chance to get answers to those questions. The session will include freelance reporters and the editors that hire them. It will be led by SAJA board member Kiran Khalid

who has built a successful career as a freelance broadcaster.

Speakers: Marci Alboher, freelance writer; Anita Malik, editor in chief, East West magazine; More TBA.

Moderator: Kiran Khalid, freelance TV reporter and producer

[Room: 568]

WORKSHOP: *Photography: A New Viewfinder on the World*

From his work with the Columbine shootings to Ground Zero, this award-winning photographer shows how to capture the world's most crucial moments into memorable photos.

Speaker: David Handschuh, New York Daily News

[Room: 503]

SALON: *Samuel Freedman, Columbia University*

This newsmaker, professor, and former New York Times reporter shows why he's an inspiration to students and would-be book writers around the country. This session is specifically designed for student members, though others are welcome to sit in.

[Room: East Lounge]

Friday, 6:30 pm - 9 pm

RECEPTION: *Keynote by Riz Khan, anchor, Al Jazeera International*

Riz Khan, the former CNN International anchor, will be the very public face of the new Al Jazeera International channel that is set to launch later this year. He will share with us some of the work that is going on behind the scenes at the new channel and talk about making the leap from the highest echelons of American broadcast journalism to a new venture that is being eagerly and anxiously awaited by world leaders and ordinary viewers alike. He will also take questions from the audience.

[Arledge Cinema, Lerner Hall, Columbia University]

Friday, 9:30 pm - 11:30 pm

AFTER-PARTY: *Desis and Hip hop, presented by MTV Desi*

[Party/Performance space, Lerner Hall, Columbia University]

Hip-hop has become a vital part of Desi culture over the last decade, providing a voice to South Asians seeking clarity in identity and their place outside of the subcontinent. ♦ Raeshem Nijhon, a producer at MTV Desi, will lead the session along with Murali Balaji, a freelance journalist and author based in Philadelphia. ♦ CHEE MALABAR is one half of hip hop duo, the Himalayan Project. Their songs and lyrics, which range from personal narratives to conceptual pieces that speak to the American experiences of two men of color, have been cited in doctoral dissertations and found their way into college curricula. ♦ Born to Indian parents in North Carolina, THEISHANTI is a rapper, producer, label owner who has been constantly battling and reshaping perceptions of who he is supposed to be. After a successful major label debut on SonyAsia with former group DDP, THEISHANTI's solo album "India

Bambaataa" is set for release this fall on Flatbush Junction Recordings. ♦ KABIR, a veteran of the Boston hip hop scene, released his third full length album, "Peaceful Solutions" on April 25, 2006 in a partnership between Uncle Trouble Music, his own label, and New York-based Raptivism Records. Kabir's interest in politics and economics may be a reflection of his upbringing—he is the son of Amartya Sen, whose work in economics won him the Nobel Prize.

Curators: Murali Balaji, author and journalist; Raeshem Nijhon, producer, MTV Desi; and Ajay T. Nair, associate director of the University of Pennsylvania's Asian American Studies Program

Saturday, July 15

9 am - 10:30 am

PLENARY: *State of Press Freedom in South Asia*

When it comes to telling the truth about politics, society and community in some countries in South Asia, journalists face physical risks that their American counterparts could never imagine. Listen to their stories of how they took on those challenges, and sometimes risked their lives, to tell the story and keep their readers informed.

Speakers: Imran Aslam, president, GEO TV; Saleem Samad, exiled journalist and former Time correspondent in Bangladesh; Paramendra Bhagat, Nepali blogger; Bob Dietz, Committee to Protect Journalists.

Moderator: Ramesh Rao, chairman of the communication studies and theatre department at Longwood University (Farmville, Virginia)

[Room: Arledge Cinema]

Saturday, 11 am - 12:30 pm

PANEL: *Reporting on Foreign Terrain*

Reporters who have been in the field for years discuss the challenges—and rewards—of making international news relevant to both their American and overseas audiences. With the global reach of news Web sites, foreign correspondents' work is just as quickly distributed to and digested by their sources and subjects in distant lands as it is by the readership back home. How do the writers confront the challenge of making their dispatches accessible to their domestic audience without simplifying away nuance and details that are far more real in the places they are reporting from?

Speakers: Ken Dilanian, correspondent, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Jackie Spinner, reporter, The Washington Post, Adam Davidson, correspondent, NPR. Moderator: Sudarsan Raghavan, staff writer, The Washington Post

[Room: Satow]

PANEL: *Spotlight on the South Asian Economy*

The economy in South Asia has been earning more and more headlines in the Western media—what are they getting right, and what stories might they be missing? The question is taken on by reporters and editors who have been involved in the coverage of the region and its fast-changing economy. And joining them will be an entrepreneur based in India who is leading a microfi-

nance enterprise that has gotten a great deal of attention in recent months.
Speakers: Raju Narisetti, Hindustan Times Media Group; Amy Waldman, correspondent, Atlantic Monthly; Vikram Akula, chief executive, SKS Microfinance; Anupreeta Das, freelance reporter.
Moderator: S. Mitra Kalita, business reporter, The Washington Post
[Room: Arledge Cinema]

PANEL: *Wading Through Visa Issues*

If your biggest barrier to your dream journalism job has been your immigration status, this session is for you. Find out the options available to you to break down that barrier. The path is not easy, and some recent changes in the laws and rules governing immigration have made it tougher on foreigners seeking to work in the United States.

Speakers: Tammy Lee, Law Offices of Richard Goldstein; Aman Kapoor, Immigration Voice; Jui Chakravorty, reporter, Reuters.
Moderator: Gopal Ratnam, reporter, Defense News
[Room: 569]

WORKSHOP: *Long-form Writing*

Tell a tale with the tips and techniques shared here on how to write compelling magazine-style stories. Taking techniques from such groundbreaking authors as Truman Capote, George Orwell, Lillian Ross and Barry Bearak, as well as those he uses in writing his own books and articles, Amitava Kumar will lead a discussion, with audience input, on great long-form writing.

Speaker: Amitava Kumar, author, magazine writer, blogger and Vassar professor
[Room: 503]

WORKSHOP: *Getting noticed: Résumés, cover letters and making the right connections*

How do you get past a sea of candidates for that perfect job? What's the best route to catch the eye of a hiring editor? The journalism gatekeepers who judge applicants talk about how to make the best pitch and get noticed. ♦ This session is specifically designed for students and members early in their careers, though others are welcome to sit in.

Speakers: Mariccar Frias, ABC News; Jane Light, Reuters; Pat Thompson, South Florida Sun-Sentinel.
[Room: 502]

WORKSHOP: *Broadcast News Writing*

The resident expert reveals what broadcast reporters and producers should—and should not—do to achieve great on-air news writing.

Speaker: Merv Block, America's leading broadcast writing coach
[Room: 501]

SALON: *Peter Bhatia, The Oregonian*

Ask the questions that have always been on your mind of one of journalism's senior-most South Asians. Bhatia is the executive editor of The Oregonian in Portland and a past president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He has served as an inspiration to many aspiring reporters and editors through his long career.

[Room: East Lounge]

PANEL: *Breaking Into Journalism (presented by the Asian American Journalists Association, New York chapter)*

Want to know the secrets of successful journalists? Then join this multi-medium panel of experts for insider information, honest advice, and candid real world stories. From television to magazines, radio to newspapers—this group will surely enlighten the aspiring journalist in all of you.

Speakers: Barbara Chen, producer, ABC; Prashant Gopal, reporter, The Record; Jennifer Abbasi, assistant editor, Parenting
Moderator: Cindy del Rosario Tapan, Deputy Editor, Martha Stewart Living Radio, and president, AAJA-NY
[Room: Satow]

PANEL: *How I Got the Story (Print)*

SAJA's own 2006 award winners share the story behind their stories.

Speakers: TBA
Moderator: Sandeep Junnarkar, City University of New York Journalism School
[Room: 569]

WORKSHOP: *Deadline Writing*

Find out how to write a compelling story even as the clock ticks down to deadline and the competition is breathing down your neck.

Speakers: Shaheen Pasha, staff writer, CNN/Money; Michael Reid, deputy managing editor, Dow Jones Newswires
Moderator: Suleman Din, The Star-Ledger
[Room: 501]

WORKSHOP: *Design and Graphics (presented by the Society for News Design)*

Get tips from two talented and experienced design leaders on how to make your publication more visually appealing. Phil Nesbitt, now a consultant to newspapers and other publications, has worked at a range of publications including The Record in Bergen County and the Chicago Sun-Times. Steve Wolgast is a design editor at The New York Times and a graduate of the Journalism School at Columbia University.

Speakers: Phil Nesbitt, design consultant and past president of SND; Steve Wolgast, news design editor, The New York Times.
[Room: 503]

WORKSHOP: *Covering Middle Eastern minorities in the United States (presented by the Arab and Middle Eastern Journalists Association)*

The workshop will identify the diverse populations of Arabs and Middle Easterners to journalists and help clarify the often nuanced differences between people who sometimes share the same languages and religions. From Coptic Christian Egyptians, to Shia Muslim Iranians, the program will seek to offer advice and strategies on how to learn about, approach and cover these communities. We will critique and highlight previously published work

on these groups that have unwillingly been thrust into the spotlight since 9/11. ♦ Note: this session will be off-the-record, so that the speakers can feel free to talk about their experiences.

Speakers: Andrea Elliott, The New York Times; Tamer El-Ghobashy, New York Daily News

[Room: 502]

WORKSHOP: Figuring Out Blogs and Whatever's Next

As journalism speeds into the next generation, get a handle on which are the best blogs today for journalists and how you can join the blogging revolution.

Speaker: Sreenath Sreenivasan, dean of students, Columbia University

[Room: 568]

SALON: Ketan Gandhi, Home News Tribune

Listen to words of advice from the first South Asian publisher of an American daily newspaper. ♦ Ketan Gandhi was appointed to president and publisher at the Home News Tribune last year, after 19 years with Gannett Co. He started with Gannett in 1986 as a staff accountant with a paper in Pennsylvania. A native of India, he did his undergraduate work at Bombay University and got his MBA at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

[Room: East Lounge]

Saturday, 4 pm - 5:30 pm

PANEL: Covering Iran: Echoes Of Iraq? presented by the Arab and Middle Eastern Journalists Association

As the temperature rises in the stand-off between the US and Iran we examine how the media has presented the country, the regime and the nuclear issue. Our distinguished panel will discuss the practicalities of reporting from Iran, navigating the various agendas of officialdom on both sides, exiled opponents and US-based think tanks.

Speakers: Guy Dinmore, The Financial Times; Ervand Abrahamian, City University of New York; Michael Massing, Columbia University; John Danizewski, The Associated Press.

Moderator: Walid el-Gabry, Arab and Middle Eastern Journalists Association

[Room: Satow]

PANEL: Getting Your Book Published

Turn those far-off aspirations of publishing your dream novel or nonfiction work into reality with tips from these authors and agents. Hear a discussion between three successful authors. The session will be led by SAJA board member and New York chapter coordinator Aseem Chhabra, a long-time freelance arts reporter.

Speaker: Kiran Desai, author of The Inheritance of Loss and Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard; Marina Budhos, author of Ask Me No Questions; Nausheen Pasha-Zaidi, author of The Colour of Mehndi; Neeru Nanda, author of If: A Collection of Short Stories.

Moderator: Aseem Chhabra

[Room: 569]

WORKSHOP: Covering New York City Through the Numbers

Learn how to dig deep into U.S. Census data in order to uncover untold stories about your city and community and to strengthen ongoing reporting. Professor Beveridge will teach census research methods, using data on New York City and its 8 million residents. Specific attention will be paid to the demographics of South Asians in New York—how many there are, how much they earn, how many of them speak English, and much more.

Speakers: Andrew Beveridge, Queens College and census expert

[Room: 502]

WORKSHOP: The Road to Fellowships

Find out from successful fellows how to add a reporting fellowship to your résumé.

Speakers: Sumathi Reddy, The Baltimore Sun and a recent fellow of the International Reporting Project; Callie Crossley, program manager, Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University

[Room: 503]

SALON: Fred de Sam Lazaro, The Newshour with Jim Lehrer

One of last year's SAJA Award winners answers your questions about his groundbreaking medical coverage for PBS, from AIDS in Africa to women's issues in India.

[Room: East Lounge]

Saturday, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Cocktail hour

A time to make new connections and connect with old friends

[Lerner Auditorium lobby]

Saturday, 7:30 - 11:30 pm

Gala Awards Dinner (Featuring a keynote address by Tom Curley, president and chief executive, The Associated Press)

[Lerner Auditorium, Lerner Hall, Columbia University]

Masters of Ceremonies: Hari Sreenivasan, correspondent, ABC News, and Suchita Vadlamani, co-host "Good Day Atlanta," Fox5.

Tom Curley became president and CEO of The Associated Press in June 2003, and is only the 12th person to head the news cooperative since it was founded in 1846. During his tenure, he has been committed to pushing for freedom of information and open access to government, and has been recognized for his work in pushing for greater government accountability. Curley was previously president and publisher of USA Today, the nation's largest-selling daily newspaper. From 1998 he was also senior vice president of the newspaper's owner, Gannett Co., Inc., publisher of 100 daily newspapers in the United States.

SAJA will induct into its Hall of Fame A.M. ROSENTHAL, the late The New York Times editor and a former New Delhi bureau chief for the newspaper.

Before A.M. Rosenthal edited The New York Times he had a long and storied career as a reporter and foreign correspondent. He covered many assignments with distinction, including serving as the newspaper's bureau chief in New Delhi during the turbulent 1950's. South Asia left a lasting impression on the young Rosenthal, and he wrote frequent and passionate columns about the Subcontinent during the 1990's. In a 1997 column that bore the headline "India, Mon Amour," he wrote: "I love India for personal reasons. It gave me decades of discovery, learning and friendships -- and lots and lots of stories to write. All I had to do was go out and scoop them up; for reporters a golden land." His enduring interest in South Asia and his distinguished career in journalism make A.M. Rosenthal a natural addition to the SAJA Hall of Fame.

Dinner program coordinator: Sumi Das, correspondent, CNN

Sunday, July 16
11:30 am - 2 pm

Networking brunch featuring South Asian Comics
[Malika Restaurant, 210 E 43th Street, near Grand Central Terminal]

RAHUL SIDDHARTH has been a fixture on the New York desi comedy scene for the last eight years. He has performed with the Gurus of Comedy Tour and worked on various TV, theatre and film projects. He has performed in productions as wide ranging as Twelfth Night to a short film about shaving. Among his skills, Siddharth is proud to list on his résumé are bodysurfing, mambo, and--surprise, surprise--an Indian accent.

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