Investigative Journalism
The press, news media, and investigative journalists whose courageous work exposes acts of tyranny and malfeasance and stands as a bulwark for freedom, justice, and democracy.
Click organization to visit their website

2019 Investigative Journalism Grantees

100Reporters
$100,000
First installment of $200,000 two-year grant for Double Exposure Investigative Film Festival and Symposium
100Reporters exists to hold accountable those wielding power and controlling money. They believe that the only effective challenge to that corruption is through a similarly global effort, uniting the observations and experiences of citizens the world over with the most solid journalistic skills.
Washington, D.C.

Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism (Transformative Culture Project)
$75,000  General Operating Support
The Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism was built to meet the growing need for deep feature reporting and to support existing media infrastructure in New England. The organization partners with regional, alternative, and ethnic news organizations, and they also fund and train freelance reporters, designers, photographers, and other media makers.
Boston, MA

The Bristol Cable (NEO Philanthropy)
$87,550
Final installment of a $262,650 three-year grant for General Operating Support
The Bristol Cable shakes up local journalism, reporting on the stories behind the headlines and puts Bristolians in charge of their media. Powered by over 2,000 members who all have a say and own an equal share in their media co-operative, they publish stories that matter to the public not big business, uncovering wrongdoing and injustice in the city.
Bristol, United Kingdom
The Bureau of Investigative Journalism (NEO Philanthropy)
$77,250
Second installment of a $334,250 three-year grant for General Operating Support
The Bureau of Investigative Journalism informs the public about the realities of power in today's world. Through fact-based, unbiased reporting, they expose systemic wrongs, counter misinformation and spark change.
London, United Kingdom

Center for Investigative Reporting
$500,000
Final installment of a $1.5-million three-year grant for General Operating Support
Publishing across a range of media platforms, Center for Investigative Reporting engages the public through investigative journalism to expose injustices and hold the powerful accountable. Reveal, produced by CIR and PRX, is public radio's first hour-long show dedicated to investigative reporting, featuring stories from CIR and co-productions with dozens of newsrooms worldwide.
Emeryville, CA

The Centre for Investigative Journalism (NEO Philanthropy)
$231,750
First installment of a $309,000 grant for Solidarité: The Fourth CIJ Logan Symposium, Paris Autumn 2020

$103,000
First installment of a $386,250 four-year grant for General Operating Support
The Centre for Investigative Journalism is a think-tank, alternative university, and experimental laboratory set up to train a new generation of reporters in the tools of investigative, in-depth and long-form journalism across all media.
London, United Kingdom

Codebreaker Films (International Documentary Association)
$105,000
Two untitled films
Director Sonia Kennebeck and Producer Ines Hofmann Kanna are a filmmaking team and the founders of production company Codebreaker Films, focusing on documentaries about national security and human rights issues.
Oakland, CA
FairWarning
$50,000
Outright installment of a $75,000 grant for General Operating Support
FairWarning is a nonprofit investigative news organization with a reputation for strong accountability journalism and growing audience reach. Recently, they produced a path-breaking report on the immunity of small farms from OSHA investigations, even when workers are killed on the job. A former top Labor Department official called the story "a devastating piece" and, for the first time in decades, Congress is considering eliminating the small farm exemption.
Pasadena, CA

Freedom of the Press Foundation
$125,000
Protecting the Right to Publish
Freedom of the Press Foundation protects, defends, and empowers public-interest journalism in the 21st century. This grant supports engagement in a campaign of public and legal advocacy focusing on protecting the rights of all journalists to gather and publish secret information in the public’s interest.
San Francisco, CA

Nina Gilden Seavey (George Washington University)
$50,000
Challenge grant for My Fugitive Podcast
My Fugitive tells the story of Howard Mechanic, a student protester arrested in 1970 after an ROTC building was burned down at Washington University in St. Louis. Nina Gilden Seavey began exploring the subject almost 30 years ago, and along with the documents obtained from a successful FOIA lawsuit, she has uncovered information about FBI, CIA and military intelligence surveillance programs.
Washington, D.C.

Global Investigative Journalism Network
$100,000
First installment of a 300,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support
The Global Investigative Journalism Network provides journalists worldwide the state-of-the-art tools, training, and connectivity to link together colleagues around the globe, enabling them to do their jobs more effectively than ever before.
Silver Spring, MD
inewsource
$100,000
*Final installment of $300,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support*

$50,000
*Challenge grant for General Operating Support*

inewsource is the only news organization in the San Diego region whose sole focus is satisfying a need for investigative and data-based journalism. inewsource is an independent nonprofit dedicated to shining a light on government actions, accounting for public spending and prompting intelligent discussions that lead to informed decisions.

San Diego, CA

InvestigateWest
$25,000
*General Operating Support*

InvestigateWest's mission is to strengthen communities, engage citizens in civic life and help set the policy agenda in the Pacific Northwest through powerful, independent investigative and explanatory reporting. The organization’s reporting focuses on the environment, public health, government accountability and social justice issues.

Seattle, WA

Investigative Reporting Workshop
$300,000
*Final installment of $900,000 three-year grant for a The Accountability Project*

The Investigative Reporting Workshop, based at the School of Communication at American University, publishes in-depth stories about government and corporate accountability, ranging widely from the environment and health to national security and the economy. The Accountability Project enables journalists and researchers to search hundreds of government data sets from different sources—curated, standardized and indexed by IRW’s team—that would otherwise be siloed or unavailable (https://www.publicaccountability.org).

Washington, D.C.

Invisible Institute
$300,000
*Second installment of a $900,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support*

The activities of the Invisible Institute cohere around a central principle: we as citizens have co-responsibility with the government for maintaining respect for human rights and, when abuses occur, for demanding they be addressed. Among the tactics the Invisible Institute employs are investigative reporting, curation of public information, strategic litigation, and orchestration of difficult public conversations.

Chicago, IL
Inside Climate News
$125,000
Staff Videographer
One of the largest environmental newsrooms in the country, ICN is committed to establishing a permanent national reporting network, training the next generation of journalists, and strengthening the practice of environmental journalism. ICN covers clean energy, carbon energy, nuclear energy and environmental science—plus the territory in between where law, policy and public opinion are shaped.
Brooklyn, NY

Investigative Reporting Program (Regents of the University of California)
$327,463.68
Final installment of $900,000 three-year grant for the annual Reva and David Logan Symposium on Investigative Reporting and General Operating Support
The Investigative Reporting Program at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism is dedicated to promoting and protecting the practice of investigative reporting. The Reva and David Logan Symposium routinely brings together a veritable “who’s who” of top journalists, law enforcement and government officials to address the critical issues confronting this specialized field.
Berkeley, CA

Iowa Center for Public Journalism/IowaWatch
$10,000
Challenge installment of $30,000 grant for General Operating Support

$20,000
Outright installment of $40,000 grant for General Operating Support
The vision of the Iowa Center for Public Affairs Journalism is to be the preeminent Iowa organization that trains current and future investigative journalists and increases the demand for and understanding of vetted, verified journalism. The organization produces multimedia investigative and community affairs journalism online, for radio program/podcast and via media partners, while coaching student journalists to do this work at a highly ethical level.
Iowa City, IA
The Lens
$100,000
Final outright and challenge installments of $150,000 two-year grant for General Operating Support
The Lens is the New Orleans area’s first nonprofit, nonpartisan public-interest newsroom dedicated to unique investigative and explanatory journalism. Their mission is to educate, engage, and empower readers with information and analysis necessary for them to advocate for a more transparent and just governance that is accountable to the public.
New Orleans, LA

MapLight
$25,000
General Operating Support
MapLight is an investigative journalism (nonpartisan) nonprofit that connects money’s influence on politics to empower journalists, citizens, and advocacy groups to hold government accountable. MapLight’s investigative journalism exposes the links between political money and legislative outcomes, enabling greater government oversight.
Berkeley, CA

Stefania Maurizi (Transparency Toolkit)
$8,000
Source Protection for Aggressive Investigative Journalism
Support for an encrypted system that assists the Italian investigative journalist Stefania Maurizi’s work on journalistic source protection that allows sources to share sensitive documents in anonymous form.
Fabro, Italy

Midwest Center for Investigative Reporting
$60,000
For Your Gift for Pam Dempsey and General Operating Support
The Midwest Center for Investigative Reporting is an independent, nonprofit newsroom devoted to educating the public about crucial issues in the Midwest with a special focus on agribusiness and related topics such as government programs, environment and energy. Pam Dempsey is the executive director of the Midwest Center for Investigative Reporting. She is an award-winning journalist who has done investigative reporting and editing on topics including agribusiness, migrant farm workers, health, housing and Native American government.
Champaign, IL
Northern New Mexico Radio Foundation-KSFR Radio
$6,325
Here & There with Dave Marash Radio Program
Here & There with Dave Marash is a radio show and podcast produced by Santa Fe Public Radio KSFR-FM and recorded in Dave’s home studio in Tijeras, New Mexico. On each show a single guest takes a deep dive into a timely topic affecting people HERE, in New Mexico and the American Southwest, and THERE, everywhere else. Guests include journalists, experts, and witnesses with insights into major news stories.
Santa Fe, NM

Oklahoma Watch
$40,000
General Operating Support
Oklahoma Watch is a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to produce in-depth, investigative journalism on public-policy and quality-of-life issues facing the state.
Norman, OK

San Francisco Public Press
$75,000
Outright installment of $85,000 grant for General Operating Support
The San Francisco Public Press is an independent local, in-depth news organization dedicated to investigating social, economic and environmental problems. Founded in 2009, the Public Press produces a website and a quarterly print newspaper.
San Francisco, CA

San Quentin News (Social Good Fund)
$108,000
Second installment of $486,000 three-year grant for General Operating and Expansion Support
San Quentin News’ mission is to report on rehabilitative efforts in order to increase public safety and achieve social justice. As one of the world's only full-fledged inmate produced newspaper, San Quentin News is a standard bearer for enlightening prisoners, policy makers, and the public at large.
Richmond, CA

Vision Maker Media
$200,000
General Operating Support
Vision Maker Media is a comprehensive, national resource for the advancement of Native media. They seek to engage and heal Native communities by reclaiming voices and stories, celebrating the diverse Native cultures, traditions and values, and supporting creativity and innovation in media.
Lincoln, NE
WHISPeR (Institute for Public Accuracy)
$20,000
Challenge installment of a $70,000 grant for Whistleblower and Source Protection Program (WHISPeR) at ExposeFacts
The WHISPeR program provides whistleblowers and journalist sources in the national security & human rights arena with critical support using three strategies: impact litigation, media outreach, and informing policy. WHISPeR focuses on issues of government surveillance, accountability for torture and unlawful targeted killing, curbing excessive government secrecy, and fighting discrimination in the counterterrorism context.
Washington, D.C.

Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism
$125,000
General Operating Support
Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism is a nonpartisan nonprofit that increases the quality and quantity of investigative reporting in Wisconsin, while training current and future generations of investigative journalists. Its work fosters an informed citizenry and strengthens democracy.
Madison, WI

YR Media
$100,000
Second installment of $300,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support and Chicago Expansion
Youth Radio is a Peabody Award-winning media production company and learning institution that prepares diverse young people for the 21st-century digital workplace. They offer hands-on education and employment in journalism, arts, and technology, as well as access to support services like academic advising and mental health care.
Oakland, CA