

Fred Brown (1961): was one of the first technical journalism majors when CSU started that program in 1961. He also was one of the first inductees into the department's Media Hall of Fame 50 years later, in 2011. He was editor of the Collegian in 1960-61, doubling its publication schedule from two to four times a week, after launching a weekly summer edition in 1960. He graduated in three years, then worked briefly at the Bent County Democrat, the Boulder Daily Camera and finally, after getting a master's degree from Northwestern University in 1963, landed his dream job and spent 50 years writing for The Denver Post, mostly about politics and government. He's been active in the Society of Professional Journalists: national president, 1997-98; author/editor of two SPJ ethics books, 2011 and 2020 editions; and he taught media ethics at the University of Denver for 15 years. He is and has been a member of several local and national boards related to journalism, and does occasional consulting gigs about journalism standards. He is also an active swimmer, cyclist and (with wife Mary) Denver Zoo volunteer and African safari traveler.

Gary McCormick(1975): During my time at CSU, I searched as the production manager for the Collegian for several years (73, 74, 75), following a start in ad sales. After working in television and newspapers following graduation, I then worked in government public affairs devling and managing the largest and first public involvement/information programs. I followed that with public relations positions with Scripps Networks, parent company of HGTV, DIY Network, Food Network and others. Perhaps the most significant achievement was serving as 2010 Chair and CEO of the Public Relations Society of America and President of the PRSA Foundation in 2006 and 2007. Following that service, CSU named me to the inaugural class of the Hall of Fame in Journalism and Public Relations in 2011.

Scott D. Bluebond(1981): has close to 40 years of experience managing marketing, public relations and communications programs at a variety of for profit and non-profit companies. He is currently based in Philadelphia as a manager of regional media relations for AmeriHealth Caritas, one of the nation's leaders in health care solutions for those most in need. Bluebond has held positions at for profit companies including WWDB-FM in Philadelphia and Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom in Allentown, PA. His non-profit work in Philadelphia includes positions at Please Touch Museum for Children, The Cancer Support Community of Philadelphia, and Green Tree School & Services. He has taught speech communications with an emphasis in media relations at the University of North Carolina, speech communications at Pennsylvania State University and speech communications and film appreciation at Colorado State University. He has worked on-air at stations including WHSL-FM in Wilmington, NC, and KIIIX-AM and KCSU-FM in Ft. Collins, CO. He is the owner of Xperience Matters Marketing, which provides marketing, public relations, and communications assistance to a variety of for profit and non-profit businesses. Bluebond has a B.A. degree from Pennsylvania State University and an M.A. degree from Colorado State University. Both degrees are in speech communications with an emphasis in broadcasting. His Master's thesis is titled "A Uses and Gratifications Study of Public Radio Audiences."

Joanna Bean (1989): I worked at The Collegian from roughly 1987-89. I worked in several roles, including as a reporter and in the backshop doing paste up and proofing of the paper each night. I don't know how much of this information you want. After graduating from CSU in December 1989, I got a job as a

business reporter at The Gazette in Colorado Springs. I worked in a variety of roles there, including assistant features editor, business editor, managing editor and Editor in Chief. I was the editor and project manager of our Other Than Honorable series, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 2014 for national reporting. I left The Gazette in January 2015 to work at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs in communications and alumni relations. In August of this year, I joined Pax8, a Denver-based technology company, as Communications Content Strategy Director. I loved working at The Collegian and continue to follow the paper through the newsletter and social media. When I was at CSU, I was Joanna Schmidt.

Darren Barakat, class of '92: Rocky Mountain Collegian sportswriter in 1991, sports editor in 1992. In 1997 I was hired as a copy editor at the East Valley Tribune in Mesa, Arizona. I was promoted to sports copy desk chief in 2001, then to universal desk chief in 2007. I supervised a department of about 25 copy editors and page designers. The second promotion came just as the world was canceling their newspaper subscriptions and logging into Facebook for all their news. The paper started losing money, then the layoffs began. The losses snowballed. Three years later I was out the door. I have done a number of writing, editing, and page design jobs since then. I won a few awards from the Arizona Press Club and Arizona Newspapers Association, although it's easier to do when the number of journalists has shrunk to the bone. Today, I work as an editor for an online education publisher. On the side, I have started editing books for an independent publisher. I have been married to my wife, Lynn, for 25 years. We have a daughter, Jordan, who graduated from college in 2020 and is now a software engineer.

Charles Hale (2001): During my time as a student at CSU I spent a lot of time at KCSU where I hosted several shows and worked for a year as the Promotions Director. Currently I own and operate Driver 8 Records in Old Town Fort Collins. I still love radio and host the Ajax Diner Book Club on Sunday nights on KRFC. More information about Driver 8 Records can be found at [www.driver8records.com](http://www.driver8records.com) or [www.facebook.com/driver8records](http://www.facebook.com/driver8records) or on Instagram @driver8recs

Francis Sanzaro (2002): was a writer for the Collegian during his time with RMSMC and has published an article with the New York Times, "The Transcendent Power of Walking".

Ashley Colburn McCaughan(2010): is a three-time Emmy award-winning TV producer and host. McCaughan is a California native when she is not jet setting around the world. She began her career as a host, producer, and writer for Wealth TV in 2009 where her first travel show "WOW Croatia!" was awarded Croatia's Golden Pen award (Best U.S. media) and won an Emmy in 2010. Following her success with the Croatia show, Colburn created "TAKEOFF with Ashley Colburn" a travel series that premiered in 2010 on WealthTV and took her to over 25 countries on 6 continents over 2 seasons. Since late 2011 McCaughan has run her own production company, Ashley Colburn Productions, with the aim of "Finding the Wonder in the World. Wonderful People. Wonderful Cultures. Wonderful History." ACP filmed an original series called WONDERS of Europe and season 2 was filmed around Asia. WONDERS is currently distributed worldwide. After ten years on the road, McCaughan has filmed in 40 countries and visited more than 60. With more than 30 trips to Croatia behind her, she is Croatia's biggest fan and

ambassador. After filming the entire country, her knowledge and interest continued to grow since her first visit in 2009. She has spent 2 summers teaching Public Speaking and Communications at Rochester Institute of Technology 's global campus in Dubrovnik. McCaughan delivered her first TED Talk in October 2019 about her experiences living with women around the world, which is the theme of her newest television series. McCaughan recently sang on "Singing with the Stars" reality TV show and was the runner-up with Croatian pop star, Bojan Jambrosic.

Joel Delgado(2014): My role at the student media was rotating each position for the sports and entertainment block for CTV. Things like running teleprompter, directing, assistant directing, actioning graphics, and monitoring audio levels. I also produced a movie review series that aired on CTV as a content block, called "Unwound." This was back in 2014 haha! But my highlight film career achievements have been starting my own film/photo production company "Panoptic Productions LLC" and making films that support small local businesses and NPOs in Colorado. My latest short narrative film just got accepted into a few film festivals and is up for best picture at both! I'm currently working on two documentary films right now. One is about Samoan culture and tattooing, where I travel to the Samoan Islands to document their chiefdom culture and tattoo origins. And the other is a local film about beekeeping, honey production and the state of pollinators in our environment. I'm based in Denver right now and help anyone make great inspiring, educational and entertaining films. I'm also a diverse photographer and certified drone pilot. <https://www.panopticproductionsllc.com/>

Dillon Thomas (2014): Previous roles at student media:

- CTV Sports show anchor 1 semester, freshman 2010.
- CTV News anchor, Sophomore 2011-1st semester senior year 2013
- CTV News director: Sophomore 2011-1st semester senior year 2013
- KCSU 2013 Summer DJ

Graduated May 2014.

Current Update:

- After graduation I worked for 2.5yr in Fayetteville, AR as a news anchor/reporter.
- In October 2016 I was hired at CBS Denver as a reporter (now CBS News Colorado.)
- In 2021 I shot/wrote/edited/hosted a 30min documentary, entitled "SCARRED" near-entirely by myself. It was about the Cameron Peak Fire in Larimer County, the state's largest fire ever, and the lasting impacts.
- In 2022 "SCARRED" won a Heartland Emmy for best "News Special." I also was awarded the Heartland Emmy the same night for best "Video Journalist" which recognizes those who shoot/write/edit their own content. The VJ award was also due to my work on "SCARRED"
- I also am CBS News Colorado's fill-in/backup male anchor.

Annika Mueller (2015): At CSU I was the Design Editor of the Rocky Mountain Collegian. Post college I had an internship at The Denver Post for newspaper layout design and tight after got hired at the Boulder Design Hub. I have worked there for 7 years now and create page layouts for The Denver Post and St. Paul Pioneer Press, Boulder Daily Camera and more. In my personal life I got engaged, ran a marathon and several half marathons and traveled to 5 different countries

Maddison Scruggs (2015): I was blogs manager for The Collegian, had a radio show called 'The Witching Hour' on KCSU and had a recurring YouTube video series for The Collegian's channel titled 'Dorm Life With Madi'. That YouTube series allowed me to secure a job at a radio station right after college, where I soon became Brand Manager for local station 99.9 The Point, and I doubled as their afternoon personality, Scruggs on 99.9 The Point for about three years. After working in radio, I decided to move on to Marketing and now work in Denver for Cochlear Americas.

Melanie Wilmesher (2015): My name is Melanie Wilmesher and I loved my part time role as a paper distributor in late 2015! Following my time at CSU, I moved to Denver and joined the tech industry where I now lead a global team as the Regional Director of Scaled Customer Success at Segment. In January of last year, I accomplished a major goal of mine and was able to purchase my first rental property in the metro area. I look back fondly on my time handing out papers in front of the Student Center and getting to greet everyone in the mornings! My trajectory since college has been the opposite of linear but I'll never regret taking the opportunity to try out numerous on-campus jobs, majors, clubs and activities as a student. I hope the paper is thriving and the Oval is slowly turning it's beautiful fall yellow!

Bec Whetham (2017): I came to CSU from Adelaide, Australia for a semester exchange in 2017. While there I hosted the early morning show on KCSU FM. I loved hopping on my bike at Laurel before dark and riding over the station every Tuesday. In my final year of journalism back home I landed a traineeship with ABC – Australia's public broadcaster. After starting in the news department, I landed a job as a features reporter – sourcing, writing and producing stories across TV, online and radio, to national (and beyond) audiences. My stories have touched on veteran suicide, autism in relationships, lack of mental health services in regional areas, the impact of eating disorders on families, retired couples rewilding farmland and much more. I love meeting with everyday people and helping them recognize and share their stories. In my five year career I've received various awards including Young Journalist of the Year at the South Australian Media Awards, and a national photography award for my black and white portrait of Aunty Penny Bonnie, a proud Boandik woman who's suffered from Australia's injustice towards its indigenous people. I now live in Mount Gambier, a town with a beautiful blue lake and 30,000 people, with my husband. Soon after returning from the States I invested in an offset smoker and enjoy trying to recreate the brisket and ribs I fell in love with in at tailgates and Thanksgiving. I cherish the six months I had in Fort Collins and remain grateful to the journalism and documentary staff who have inspired my career. Go Rams!

Katie Bogle(2019): When I was at CSU, I was a volunteer Radio DJ for KCSU. This year alone I started a new remote job in quality control for a tax consulting firm based out of Silicon Valley in California and got married to my wife, Michelle! I also released a music video for my newest single - "Swimming On Your Patio" which can be streamed on spotify, apple music, and all other major platforms. Hoping to do some DIY recordings and release some more original music this year or next year!

Davis Bonner (2020): While at student media, I worked on the photo desk for the Collegian, as well as hosting a season of CSU Cooks at CTV. I have several accomplishments under my belt since graduating, but the one I am most proud of is the time I spent working as a presenter/member of the Mythbusters team as part of the show's reboot for Motor Trend. I can provide more links/info if you guys need, but here is a clip from when the show aired:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrw7ARWOHFU&ab\\_channel=Backhaul](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrw7ARWOHFU&ab_channel=Backhaul)

Alyssa Gallegos (2021): I was on the RMSMC Board of Directors from 2019-2021, starting off as the Administrative Officer and later transitioned to the Chair of the Board. Halfway through my academic career, I enlisted in the Air Force Reserve and went to basic training.tech school. After returning to Fort Collins with aspirations to finish at CSU, my unit was deployed to the Middle East. I finally completed my B.A. in Journalism and Media Communications in December 2021, while overseas and finishing my time as Chair of RMSMC. After returning to the states in April 2022, CSU allowed me to walk at the Spring commencement ceremony. Currently, I am the Paid Media Coordinator with the Tennessee Titans (NFL) in Nashville, TN. This is my first ever job in sports and I am learning a ton! I am also extremely grateful for the lessons learned at RMSMC as they have carried me thus far!