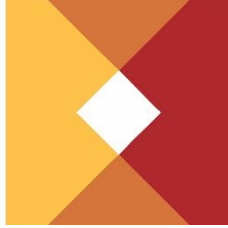


Coachella
Valley
Journalism
Foundation



April 2025 Newsletter

We're excited for the launch of The Indio Post; please support this new venture



With more than 90,000 residents, Indio is the largest city in the Coachella Valley and rightly deserves its own source for local news. Well, we're here to help.

The Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation has launched a fundraising campaign to offset the project's start-up costs. CVJF will match dollar-for-dollar up to \$12,000 in donor support to finance The Indio Post, a newsletter and website that will launch in the coming weeks. Founder Mark Talkington and Editor Kendall Balchan, who have been running the highly successful Palm Springs Post for several years, are expanding their footprint to the eastern side of the Valley.

This is a rare opportunity to grow local news in the Valley, and we'd love for you to be a part of it. Regardless of whether you live in Indio, we hope you will support this important addition to the local media ecosystem. To donate: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/fundraising/donate-to-launch-the-indio-post>

Desert Images exhibit spotlights photojournalism, raises internship funds



CVJF is shining a bright light on photojournalism with an exhibition of images featuring newsmakers in the Coachella Valley.

"Desert Images: Newsmakers" opens at the Impell Gallery, 610 S. Belardo Road in Palm Springs, from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday, May 10.

The exhibit is designed to bring public attention to the important role

photojournalism plays in helping to tell the community's story.

The images include iconic moments with sports stars like Serena Williams and Rafael Nadal, actors such as Jamie Foxx and Nicole Kidman, and political figures from Donald Trump to Barack Obama and Bernie Sanders.

The photographs were taken in the desert by local photojournalists. CVJF secured the images from various local news organizations, including The Desert Sun, Coachella Valley Independent, Palm Springs Life, and El Informador Del Valle.

The photographs also will be for sale, with proceeds going toward a CVJF internship specifically focused on visual journalism. The event is produced in partnership with the City of Palm Springs.

The photographs will remain on display and sale at Impell Gallery from Monday, May 12, through Friday, May 16, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

CVJF receives its largest donation to date with support from the Knight Foundation

The Knight Foundation, a non-profit that focuses on supporting a more effective democracy by funding free expression and journalism, has awarded CVJF \$45,000. The donation will be used to fund internships/fellowships with Valley news organizations for the next two years, with additional funds dedicated to CVJF's efforts to provide training and professional development opportunities for local journalists.

CVJF wraps up third successful CV Giving Day fundraising drive

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, CVJF again was a top charity in terms of dollars raised during the third annual Coachella Valley Giving Day. Individual donations totaled almost \$7,000, while we received additional large donations of \$5,000 from the Auen Foundation, \$3,000 from supporters Barbara and Keith Kizziah and \$2,500 from long-time supporters Bob and Lori Dickey. In total, we raised more than \$17,000!

Nicholas Robles of College of the Desert joins the CVJF board



Please welcome Nicholas Robles to the CVJF Board of Directors.

Nicholas is the public information officer of College of the Desert. He comes to the board with more than two decades of experience in journalism, public relations, marketing and government affairs. Before joining College of the Desert, Nicholas served as chief of public affairs for SunLine Transit Agency, where he led communications, government relations and public outreach. He began his career in broadcast journalism at KNBC in Los Angeles, developing a foundation in storytelling and media relations. Nicholas is a member of the Hispanic Public Relations Association and California Public

Information Officers Association. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in journalism and a Master of Arts in communications. He lives in La Quinta.

Presentation of the history of editorial cartoons receives community support



More than 75 community members attended a provocative presentation on the history of political cartoons in America with nationally recognized cartoonist Mike Thompson.

Thompson's March lecture, "Laughing Out Loud: The Provocative History of Political Cartoons in America from Ben Franklin to Donald Trump," traced the evolution of political cartoons from our nation's colonial past to the present day. Framed copies of some of Thompson's fascinating illustrations are available for purchase at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cvjf-political-cartoons-shop>

Save the date for the next Media Hall of Fame luncheon!

It's never too early to plan for CVJF's annual Media Hall of Fame induction ceremony and journalism awards. The event is sure to be a sell-out for the third year in a row. That's why we're asking you to save the date – Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2026. We will be back at the Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa in Rancho Mirage with a new slate of Hall of Fame honorees and award winners.

Finally, as we wrap up another month, I want to share some exciting news. In late March, CVJF recorded its 1,000th donation! With support from more than 400 donors, our ongoing efforts to support local journalism have clearly achieved strong grassroots support. While it's always great to see a \$45,000 donation, our ongoing success relies on the commitment from individual donors in our community. I want to give a special shoutout to one donor – John Linder – who started making monthly contributions to CVJF four years ago this month.

As always, we thank you for your support of the Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation. Please make a donation (www.cvjf.org) or join our Fourth Estate Membership Program (<https://cvjf.org/membership/>).

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To donate, go to our website and click the donate button using a credit or debit card or send a check to the Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation to PO Box 207, Palm Springs, CA 92263.