



May 2025 Newsletter

Before we launch into all the great things happening this month, I first need to extend an apology. We made a mistake, and we apologize if the error caused any confusion. In last month's newsletter, we provided the wrong date for the third annual Coachella Valley Media Hall of Fame induction ceremony and journalism awards. Thankfully some of our loyal readers and donors noticed the discrepancy and brought it to my attention. We all need good editors! The correct date is **Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026**. The event will take place at the Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort and Spa in Rancho Mirage, with a new slate of Hall of Fame honorees and award winners. Tickets will go on sale this fall.

See photojournalism at its finest in Desert Images exhibition



The opening of our exhibition, "Desert Images," is just a few days away.

A remarkable collection of photographs of newsmakers in the Valley – from sports stars like Serena Williams and Novak Djokovic to politicians such as Donald Trump, Bernie Sanders and Barack Obama – goes on display this Saturday, May 10, from 5-8 p.m. at the Impell Gallery, 610 S. Belardo Road, in Palm Springs. The photographs will remain on

display and sale at the gallery from Monday, May 12, through Friday, May 16, from 1-5 p.m.

The images, taken by local photojournalists, have been donated to CVJF from various news organizations, including The Desert Sun, Coachella Valley Independent, Palm Springs Life, and El Informador Del Valle. Celebrated photographer Michael Childers also donated a photograph for sale. The exhibition is produced in partnership with the City of Palm Springs.

The photographs are for sale, with proceeds going toward a CVJF internship specifically focused on visual journalism. By acquiring these evocative prints, you're not just bringing a piece of the desert's story into your home or office — you are also investing in the future of community journalism. If you cannot attend the exhibition in person, you can explore the collection and make a purchase here: [CVJF Newsmakers Photo Shop](#).

CVJF partners with community foundation to support coverage of local philanthropy

CVJF is excited to partner with the Inland Empire Community Foundation to support The Desert Sun's Desert Scene coverage of philanthropy and nonprofit organizations. IECF has led fundraising for this important newsroom role for more than two years through its Desert News Fund, which was established in 2022 to strengthen local journalism. CVJF is joining the effort.

Donors who want to ensure the continuation of The Desert Sun's impactful coverage of the local philanthropic scene can make contributions to either organization. IECF focuses on corporate donors as well as support from individual donor-advised funds, while CVJF focuses on grassroots fundraising. Together, we hope the community will support this important content.

To donate to IECF's Desert News Fund, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/35rbscwh>. IECF also accepts contributions by check. Those may be addressed to IECF, with "Desert Community News Fund" in the memo field, and sent to IECF, c/o Desert Community News Fund, 3700 Sixth St., Suite 200; Riverside, CA 92506.

To donate through CVJF, please go to: <https://cvjf.org/>. Checks can be sent to CVJF at PO Box 207, Palm Springs, CA 92263.

Help us grow local news in the Valley – make a contribution to The Indio Post



Our goal isn't just to save local news from extinction. We're here to help it grow.

That's why we're so enthused to support the recent launch of The Indio Post, a sister publication to the successful Palm Springs Post, that will provide the Coachella Valley's largest city and the eastern end of the Valley with a new source of local news. You can check out the new site at www.theindiopost.com.

The Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation is hoping to provide \$24,000 worth of start-up financing via a dollar-for-dollar fundraising drive. We will match all contributions earmarked for The Indio Post up to a total of \$12,000. We're grateful for any amount you can give to this cause. A donation link is on our website, <https://cvjf.org/>.

Finding the next generation of journalists with intern/fellowship grants

One of the goals of CVJF is to provide newcomers to the profession with opportunities to get a toehold in the industry. Toward that end, the foundation has approved grants for five local news organizations to hire interns or fellows in the coming months.

Each year since we first extended two grants for interns/fellows in 2022, we have been able to add an additional grant due to the wonderful support of our donors. Thank you!

This year's five grants were awarded to the Coachella Valley Independent, The Desert Sun, El Informador Del Valle, KESQ, and The Palm Springs Post. We'll introduce you to the new class of interns/fellows in a future newsletter once they have been hired.

Join our Fourth Estate membership program — and support local history, too

They say news is the first rough draft of history — and when you become a member of the Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation's Fourth Estate Membership Program, you help ensure that both are preserved for generations to come.

As a special benefit, Fourth Estate members who join at the "Supporter" level or above can opt-in to receive a **free annual membership** to one of five local historical societies:

- Palm Springs Historical Society
- Desert Hot Springs Historical Society
- Historical Society of Palm Desert
- La Quinta Historical Society
- Coachella Valley History Museum (Indio)

Support trusted local journalism and celebrate the organizations that keep our community's story alive. To become a CVJF member, go to: <https://cvjf.org/membership/>. Once you join, we will reach out to confirm which historical society you are interested in supporting.

As always, we thank you for your support of the Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation.

Randy Lovely, Board President
Coachella Valley Journalism Foundation
cvjournalismfoundation@gmail.com
www.cvjf.org

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.