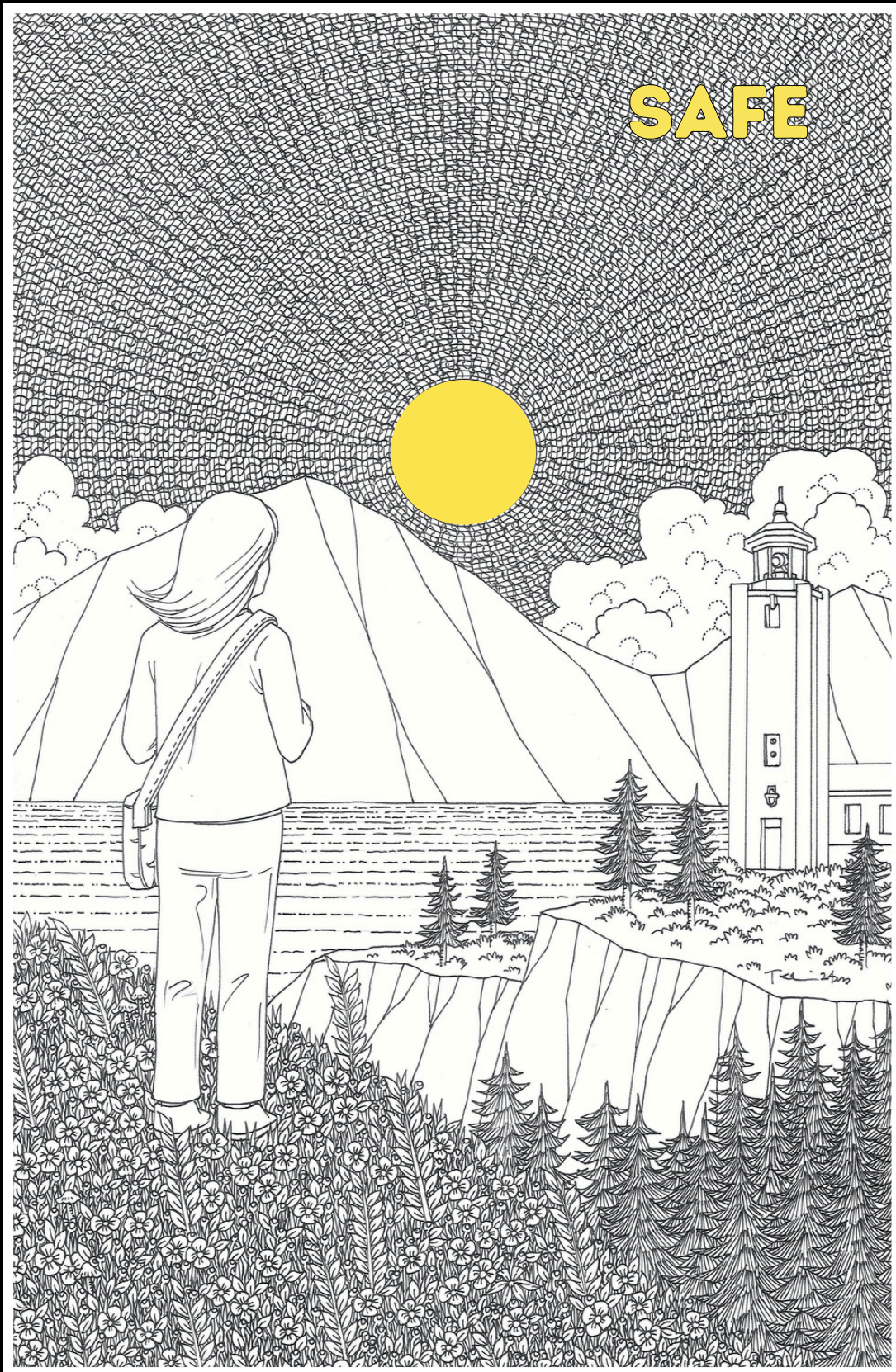


NAVIGATING THREATS • SEEKING TRUTH • SHINING LIGHT



ART BY TED KIM

ALASKA PRESS CLUB CONFERENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE AND ALASKA PUBLIC MEDIA

APRIL 10-12, 2025

#AKPRESSCLUB25

QUICK LOOK

Alaska Press Club 2025

APRIL 10	8:15 A.M.	4 P.M.	5 P.M.
	Radio Day Begins Alaska Public Media	Radio Network Meeting Alaska Public Media	Radio Day Reception Alaska Public Media
APRIL 11	8:30 A.M.	4:30 P.M.	6:30 P.M.
	All Media Day Begins UAA Rasmuson Hall	Merch Swap & Sale UAA Rasmuson Hall	Press Party Akela Space
APRIL 12	8:15 A.M.	10 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
	All Media Sessions UAA Rasmuson Hall	Conference Keynote UAA Rasmuson Hall	Awards Celebration 49th State Brewing

- THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS -

Atwood Foundation through the Alaska Center for Excellence in Journalism Fund

Alaska Public Media | A-Mark Foundation

University of Alaska Anchorage Department of Journalism and Public Communications

International Women's Media Foundation

UAF's Snedden Chair in the Department of Science and Environmental Journalism

The Stoop | The Northern Light | KRUA 88.1 FM

Alaska Teen Media Institute | Credit Union 1 Alaska | Akela Space

National Public Radio | NPR Next Gen Radio

THURSDAY, RADIO DAY | ALASKA PUBLIC MEDIA

8:15-8:45 A.M.	Doors Open Register for the conference, get some breakfast and hot drinks and warm up for the training. TV Studio
8:45-9 A.M.	Welcome Remarks Alaska Public Media's CEO Ed Ulman welcomes guests back to Radio Day. Then Chief Editor and Senior Vice President of Journalism Lori Townsend lays out the day's agenda. TV Studio
9-10:15 A.M.	Navigating Breaking News Ravenna Koenig NPR Western Bureau Chief and former Alaska journalist Ravenna Koenig led NPR's coverage of the wildfires in Maui and, more recently, coordinated with Alaska member stations to report on the fatal Bering Air plane crash outside Nome for national air. She speaks about news judgment in tough situations, staying organized when things are happening fast and why asking for outside help can be a lifeline for keeping the information flowing to local audiences. She'll share examples of breaking news stories where everything came together. TV Studio
10:30-11:45 A.M.	Ethics Issues in Reporting on Crime and Government Kelly McBride Kelly McBride, NPR Public Editor and chair of the Craig Newmark Center for Ethics and Leadership at the Poynter Institute, covers ethics in crime reporting and the top ethics issues she's hearing about from reporters under the second Trump administration. TV Studio
NOON	Lunch Catch up with your colleagues in the radio network during a provided lunch. If you have an idea for a small group discussion or mini training during this time, we'll have a sign-up sheet. If you prefer to relax, eat and chat, that's great too. TV Studio

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

We'll spend the afternoon rotating between breakout sessions, with topics pre-selected by public radio journalists. Spend time learning from and with your colleagues.

1-1:45 P.M.	Writing a Great Host Intro with Robert Woolsey and Annie Feidt. Upstairs Conference Room
	Non-narrative Storytelling with NPR Next Gen with Doug Mitchell, Jamie Diep, Wesley Early and Colette Czarnecki. TV Studio
	Self-editing: Bringing Your Best to an Editor with Kirsten Dobroth and Jeremy Hsieh. Sunshine Conference Room
2-2:45 P.M.	Writing Short: Boiling Down into an NPR spot with Ravenna Koenig. TV Studio
	Narrative Storytelling with Theo Greenly and Claire Stremple. Upstairs Conference Room
	Engaging Your Community in Your Reporting with Rachel Cassandra and Eric Stone. Sunshine Conference Room

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3-3:45 P.M.	Narrative Storytelling with Theo Greenly and Claire Stremple. Upstairs Conference Room
	Engaging Your Community in Your Reporting with Rachel Cassandra and Eric Stone. Sunshine Conference Room
	How to Write a Great Host Intro with Annie Feidt and Robert Woolsey. TV Studio
4-5 P.M.	Radio Network Annual Meeting What can we do to make the statewide radio network stronger? A network update and discussion with Alaska Public Media's Lori Townsend, Annie Feidt and Kirsten Dobroth. TV Studio
5-6 P.M.	Radio Day Reception Debrief with your colleagues over snacks and drinks. Alaska Public Media

FRIDAY, ALL MEDIA | UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

8:30 A.M.	Welcome Breakfast snacks and hot drinks. Rasmuson Hall Lobby
9-10:15 A.M.	How to Thrive and Hit Deadline Samie Solina Join multimedia journalist Samie Solina as she shares practical strategies for excelling in the fast-paced world of journalism. She delves into the art of effective time management and gives you a plan. We'll also explore ways to transform seemingly mundane assignments into compelling stories, revealing how to uncover hidden angles and make even the most routine topics shine. Rasmuson Hall 101
	Telling the Bigger Story Ravenna Koenig Have you ever heard a national story and wondered how the broad issue it highlights affects your community specifically — or thought something happening locally might illustrate a wider phenomenon? NPR Western Bureau Chief and former Alaska journalist Ravenna Koenig breaks down how to zoom in — or out — in your reporting. She'll also talk about how reporting on the way an issue reverberates outside your community can benefit a local audience by helping them understand how their experience fits into a broader context. Rasmuson Hall 110
	Ethically Using AI as a Journalist Sage Smiley Generative artificial intelligence can be a powerful tool. Kiplinger Fellow in Artificial Intelligence and KYUK News Director Sage Smiley lays out baseline ethics for using AI in the newsroom, and outlines how newsrooms throughout the world are using AI to supplement the fundamentally human craft of storytelling. Rasmuson Hall 211

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**10:30-11:45
A.M.****Protect Yourself Against Online Abuse and Harassment | Rosem Morton with Juanita Islas**

Led by Next Gen Safety Trainer Rosem Morton with the International Women's Media Foundation, this session equips journalists with practical tools and strategies to enhance their digital security. Participants will learn how to safeguard their communications, protect sensitive data and mitigate online threats while working in high-risk environments. **Rasmuson Hall 101**

Public Records Requests | Nat Herz

Alaska investigative journalist Nat Herz explains how to go about requesting documents from state and federal agencies, and how to fit records requests into a daily beat. **Rasmuson Hall 110**

Bolstering Alaska Journalism: How We're Working for You | Panel

Local journalism is at a unique crossroads in history, when technological innovation, public support and philanthropy are meeting to create new paths forward. What are Alaska's journalism support organizations doing to support high-quality local journalism and the people and organizations that make it possible? What are some of the local and national collaborations in this space? Meet the leaders of journalism support orgs and hear about the tools they offer.

Rasmuson Hall 211

NOON**Lunch: Press Club Survey Results | Victoria Barber and Rosey Robards**

Last year, Press Club conducted a survey of journalism professionals, asking questions including: Where do journalists live? What do they cover? How much do they get paid? How do they feel about their industry? The survey received a total of 117 responses and provides valuable information about how journalists perceive their work and professional environment. Join us for a showcase of the results! This project is a collaboration with Alaska Center for Excellence in Journalism Fund Advisory Committee and Agnew Beck. The project was supported by an Alaska Community Foundation Strengthening Organizations Grant and MacArthur Foundation. **Rasmuson Hall Lobby and 101**

Lunch provided by Alaska Press Club.

Student Media Meetup

New York Times Audience Editor Nicole Stock will join student media groups for lunch. Grab a plate in the Rasmuson Hall Lobby and then head upstairs to learn more about Stock's career and work. Thanks to UAA Student Media (The Northern Light and KRUA 88.1 FM.) **Rasmuson Hall 211**

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

**1:30-2:45
P.M.**

Creating Community | Hannah Yoon

This session will dive deep into Hannah Yoon's experience in building community as a freelance photographer and how that gives her a sense of safety and stability in the industry. She will also talk about the importance of building relationships in the communities she covers and spends time working in. **Rasmuson Hall 101**

Reporting on Sensitive Topics | Panel

Reaching out to a source you know has been through trauma is never easy, whether that's over the phone or in a courtroom. Yet their perspective could be the perspective your story needs. Veteran journalists share tips for reporting on sensitive topics, including approaching sources, getting great interviews, considerations as you produce your story, and maintaining your own mental health throughout the process. Panelists are Michelle Theriault Boots of the Anchorage Daily News, Rachel Cassandra of Alaska Public Media and Rebecca Palsha and Eric Sowl of Alaska's News Source. Moderated by Angela Denning of CoastAlaska. **Rasmuson Hall 110**

Listening to Your Audience | Nicole Stock

New York Times Audience Editor Nicole Stock breaks down how audience signals can inform your news coverage and trending stories. **Rasmuson Hall 117**

Alaska News Coalition Meeting

The Alaska News Coalition, a nonprofit formed last year to help newspapers find answers to financial sustainability, will discuss its goals and its projects. Come learn about the soon-to-be-live Alaska Public Notices website. The meeting is open to publishers, general managers, editors — and anyone else who is curious. **Rasmuson Hall 211**

**3-4:15
P.M.**

Investigating the Criminal Justice System | Andy Mannix

This session will teach you how to report on cops and courts using an investigative state of mind. Andy Mannix will provide practical tips for pushing past the police report or press release, whether you're covering a routine crime story or one with national resonance. He will also discuss how he and others at the Minnesota Star Tribune covered the murder of George Floyd, using an investigative journalism lens to link what happened to larger failures in the criminal justice system in the weeks and months that followed. **Rasmuson Hall 101**

Storytelling in the Age of Artificial Intelligence | Brad Hillwig

During a 20-plus-year career in media, 2024-25 Atwood Chair of Journalism Brad Hillwig has explored nearly every aspect of the art and business of storytelling. In a world of rapid news cycles, instant reactions and evolving technologies, Hillwig shares why the timeless craft of storytelling might be more valuable than ever and offers important lessons for navigating the modern media landscape in the age of artificial intelligence. **Rasmuson Hall 110**



CONFERENCE SURVEY

Tell us how it went!
Share your hopes and dreams
for next year?

**4:30
P.M.****Merch Swap and Sale**

Bring your newsroom merch for swap or sale. We provide the space and you provide the merch and method for people to purchase. For those bringing swag, there will be some space available for storing items during the day if needed. **Rasmuson Hall Lobby**



BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4:30-5:30 p.m.): Have an idea for a breakout conversation? See the Breakout Board next to the registration desk to reserve space. Please notify registration about your breakout so that we can promote it.

**6:30
P.M.****Press Party at Akela Space**

Mingle with fellow journalists over pizza and beer.
Akela Space, 320 W. Sixth Ave #132F



Recommended
\$5 donation.

SATURDAY, ALL MEDIA | UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE**8:15 A.M.****Welcome**

Breakfast snacks and hot drinks provided by Alaska Press Club.
Rasmuson Hall Lobby

**8:45-9:45
A.M.****Alaska Press Club Board Meeting**

Annual meeting and elections. Interested in volunteering or running for the Alaska Press Club board? Board applications are available at alaskapressclub.com. **Rasmuson Hall 110**

**10-11:15
A.M.****KEYNOTE | George Floyd, Watchdog Journalism and Meeting the Moment | Andy Mannix**

Minnesota Star Tribune reporter Andy Mannix will speak about the importance of credible watchdog journalism in these uncertain times. Mannix will talk about being part of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team that covered the killing of George Floyd and aftermath, and the attempts from biased or dishonest sources to subvert the narrative over the past five years. He'll also talk about the war on truth and why the mission of journalism is more critical than ever at this moment. **Rasmuson Hall 101**

**11:30
A.M.****Lunch: Real Talk on Newsroom Leadership, and its Future | Panel and Discussion**

A conversation in two parts: First, hear from current newsroom leaders about what they wish they'd known before they became managers. Second, join a guided open discussion about what newsroom leadership can and should look like in the future. Featuring panelists Angela Denning of CoastAlaska; Rashah McChesney of the Chilkat Valley News; and Matt Simon of Alaska's News Source. Moderated by Vicky Ho of the Anchorage Daily News.

Rasmuson Hall Lobby and 101

Lunch provided by UAF's Snedden Chair in the Department of Science and Environmental Journalism.

**12:45-2
P.M.****Vertical Video and Social Media | Samie Solina**

Multimedia journalist Samie Solina will go over industry trends and how younger news viewers consume content on social media. Whether you're in broadcast, print or radio, you'll gain valuable insights on how to adapt your content strategy to connect with a younger audience who increasingly consumes news and media through mobile devices.

Rasmuson Hall 110**Covering the Courts | Casey Grove and Michelle Theriault Boots**

Courts are full of stories but can be intimidating and confusing for reporters to access. Veteran journalists Michelle Theriault Boots of the Anchorage Daily News and Casey Grove of Alaska Public Media will share some examples from their past work and a primer on how reporters can mine court documents for story ideas and, better yet, go into courthouses to tell important stories unfolding inside. We'll cover not just criminal trials but how to spot lawsuits, the differences between federal and state court, practicing good courtroom etiquette, how to get hard-to-obtain documents and often-overlooked types of court hearings that can yield story ideas. **Rasmuson Hall 117**

Great Stories Working Within Constraints | Claire Stremple and Eric Stone

Alaska journalists work with limited time and other constraints. Experienced journalists Claire Stremple of KTOO and Eric Stone of Alaska Public Media talk about how to do great stories within these constraints, by drawing on examples from their work. Moderated by Andrew Kitchenman, Alaska Beacon. **Rasmuson Hall 211**

**2:15 - 3:30
P.M.****Why Representation Matters | Hannah Yoon**

Hannah Yoon will talk about her personal journey in the photojournalism world and how she came to cover Korean diasporic stories along with stories in South Korea. **Rasmuson Hall 110**

Covering Public Safety Emergencies | Panel

Veterans of covering and managing coverage of public safety emergencies like hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, tsunami warnings and volcanic eruptions talk through keeping cool, setting priorities, staying safe, lessons learned, great strategies and best practices. Featuring panelists Paula Dobbyn, UAF's Snedden Chair; Matt Simon of Alaska's News Source; and Annie Feidt of Alaska Public Media. Moderated by Julia O'Malley. **Rasmuson Hall 117**

Covering the Alaska State Capitol Remotely | James Brooks

Keeping on top of the Alaska Legislature can be difficult, especially from far away. Reporter James Brooks of the Alaska Beacon shares tips, tricks and resources to make it easier.

Rasmuson Hall 211**THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!**

**3:45-5
P.M.**

Alaska Journalism Ad Hoc Meeting

Collaboration is going to be the key to address the many challenges facing newsrooms and individual journalists. Journalism support organizations, educators and newsroom leaders are invited to talk about the next steps for supporting journalism in Alaska. This is an opportunity to further establish collective priorities and increase our impact in the state. **Rasmuson Hall 110**

Managing Physical Safety While Reporting | Rosem Morton with Juanita Islas

In this collaborative workshop with International Women's Media Foundation Next Gen Safety Trainer Rosem Morton, journalists will learn how to assess and prepare for risks they may encounter in the field. This training covers actor mapping, security measures, identity-based risk assessment, and best practices for remote and community reporting. **Rasmuson Hall 117**

Self-care for journalists: Staying sane with Yoga, Breathwork and More | Paula Dobbyn

Journalism is a fast-paced, deadline-driven profession in an industry undergoing profound change. Explore techniques for maintaining your well-being — while telling great stories, meeting deadline and winning awards — with veteran Alaska reporter, journalism educator and yoga instructor Paula Dobbyn. Comfortable clothes and a yoga mat are encouraged, but not required. **Rasmuson Hall 211**

**DOORS OPEN
6:30 P.M.**

Awards Celebration

Announcing winners of the Alaska Press Club contest! The award ceremony, hosted by Wesley Early and Theo Greenly, will be followed by dancing with music from DJ Spencer Lee. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door, and they include heavy apps and one beer or wine ticket. Tickets sales and donations help pay for the venue, food, drinks, sound equipment and DJ. Thank you for your contribution. **49th State Brewing, 717 W. Third Ave.**



Presenting the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Reporting in Alaska

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Your involvement with Alaska Press Club doesn't end when the conference does. Here's how you can stay engaged year round, support local journalism and access valuable resources.

GET THE LATEST NEWS

Stay informed with our newsletters featuring member opportunities and journalism resources. Sign up at our website.

EXPLORE OUR RESOURCES HUB

Find tools, guides and other resources tailored for Alaskan journalists at our online resources hub, on our website.

GET INVOLVED

Volunteer or join the Alaska Press Club board.

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM

Your membership, merch purchases and donations help us continue providing training, mentorship and support for Alaska's journalists. Donate to the Alaska Press Club and invest in the future of Alaska journalism.

Learn more by visiting alaskapressclub.com



QR: Donate here

VISITING PRESENTERS



Keynote Speaker **Andy Mannix** is the Minneapolis crime and policing reporter for the Minnesota Star Tribune. In 2020, he was part of the team of reporters covering the killing of George Floyd, which led to the Star Tribune winning the George Polk Award and Pulitzer Prize.



Juanita Islas is the Director of Programs at the International Women's Media Foundation. She oversees global fellowships, grant-making initiatives, safety training and emergency funds.



Ravenna Koenig is the Western Bureau Chief for NPR, and is based in Seattle. She is also a reporter, writer, editor and audio consultant, with more than a decade of experience working in radio, including work in Alaska.



Rosem Morton is a documentary photographer, registered nurse and safety consultant based in Baltimore, MD. She is a National Geographic Explorer whose work focuses on daily life amidst gender, health and racial adversity.



Samie Solina is a multimedia journalist based at KARE 11 in Minneapolis. She's reported from all around the western U.S., including Hawaii and Alaska.



Nicole Stock is a New York Times audience editor tracking wellness trends and reporting on personal health. As an editor with the audience team, she pays attention to what readers are interested in. Her reporting is typically in the form of service articles that seek to answer readers' most pressing questions.



Hannah Yoon is a Korean Canadian freelance photographer based in Philadelphia, PA. Her work focuses on portraiture, documentary and photojournalism work. In undergrad, she studied sociology, anthropology and psychology.



Brad Hillwig has more than two decades of journalism, communications and marketing expertise and currently serves as the UAA Atwood Chair of Journalism.



Paula Dobbyn has more than three decades of experience in print, broadcast and digital news. Mostly recently, Dobbyn was part of the Honolulu Civil Beat team nominated as Pulitzer Prize finalists for breaking news coverage of the devastating wildfire that leveled Lahaina, Maui, killing 102 people. She currently serves as the UAF Snedden Chair of Journalism.



SHOUT-OUT TO OUR LOCAL PRESENTERS!

Victoria Barber, James Brooks, Rachel Cassandra, Colette Czarnecki, Angela Denning, Jamie Diep, Paula Dobbyn, Kirsten Dobroth, Wesley Early, Annie Feidt, Theo Greenly, Casey Grove, Nat Herz, Brad Hillwig, Jeremy Hsieh, Vicky Ho, Rashah McChesney, Julia O'Malley, Rebecca Palsha, Rosey Robards, Matt Simon, Sage Smiley, Eric Sowl, Eric Stone, Claire Stremple, Michelle Theriault Boots, Lori Townsend, Ed Ulman and Robert Woolsey.

**THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENT WITH
ALASKA'S JOURNALISM COMMUNITY.**



CONFERENCE SURVEY

Tell us how it went!
Share your hopes and dreams
for next year?