



The Society of Professional Journalists is the nation's largest and most broad-based journalism organization, dedicated to promoting high standards of ethical behavior and encouraging the free practice of journalism. Founded in 1909 as Sigma Delta Chi, SPJ works to inspire and educate the next generation of journalists and protects First Amendment guarantees of freedom of speech and press. The Greater Los Angeles professional chapter celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2009.

"Fighting the Fakers"

SPJ/LA Presents a Panel on Media Literacy May 17 at 7 p.m.

"Fake news" is an accusation leveled almost daily by pundits and politicians, while conspicuous fact-checking has become a mainstay of political coverage. Public confidence in the press has fallen to single digits. And Facebook is gearing up efforts to fight "information operations" designed to "distort ... political sentiment."

- How can the average reader sidestep spin and sort out the truth?
- Identify what's left out of a story?
- Fact check the fact checkers?

- How can reporters avoid bias and signal the authority of their sources?
- Identify the narrative within the chaos of social media?
- What are media outlets doing to fight back?
- What's the long-term impact on the free press?

Join our panelists for a discussion on media literacy in an age of instant and endless information, followed by Q&A.

Panelists:

- **Jim Newton** is a veteran journalist who spent 25 years at the Los Angeles Times -- working as an editor, bureau chief and columnist -- before joining the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and founding Blueprint magazine. Jim has authored three critically acclaimed and best-selling biographies.
- **Evan George** is the managing producer for public radio station KCRW's "To the Point," the live, nationally syndicated show hosted by Warren Olney, which provides a daily in-depth look at national and international issues driving headlines. Before radio, Evan covered health care and courts as a newspaper editor and reporter.
- **Kelly Whitney**, director of integrated media for NBC4, oversees the station's digital news coverage and social media strategy. Kelly began her career as a print reporter and has covered beats ranging from courts to biotech.

When: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7 p.m.
(doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Where: Chemistry 3 Room, Los Angeles City College

Parking: Free parking is available in the faculty lot at North Heliotrope Drive and Monroe Street (campus address is 855 N. Vermont Avenue)

Note: The Chemistry Building is at the north end of campus on Willow Brook Avenue (see campus

map here: <http://www.lacitycollege.edu/public/cmap/LACC-Campus-Map.pdf>) and Chem 3 is on the basement level

Cost: Free to the public. Students are encouraged to attend.

RSVP: spjlosangeles@gmail.com

For more information about SPJ/LA, visit www.spjla.org



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