

a forum on America's falling-out with mass media

**February
23-25, 2021**

We see how polarized our country has become - progressives over here relying excessively on The New York Times and MSNBC for their news, conservatives over there relying on Fox News and The Wall Street Journal.

Yet, what gets far less attention is the growing majority of Americans who have given up faith in mass media altogether. According to a 2020 Gallup poll, only 40% of Americans trust newspapers, television and radio of any kind to report the news “fully, accurately and fairly.” In short, America’s trust in mass media has fallen on hard times.

Join us as we discuss what this fall means for the future of our democracy and society.



Tuesday February 23

7:00 PM EST

Opening Address:

Does mass media even matter anymore?

Brian Stelter
CNN

Wednesday, February 24

2:30-3:30 PM EST

Session I: Talks and Workshops

**To what extent can Social Media
be trusted to carry the torch of
truth?**

Ashley Landrum
*Texas Tech University
College of Media & Communication*

Fake News: Is It Real?

Paul Teller
Office of the Former Vice President

**How Media Literacy will keep you
from being uncool**

Jonathan Ebinger
George Washington University

**Frenemies:
In the relationship between
media and the administration
- where is the line between
“adversarial” and “antagonistic?”**

Sebastian Smith
AFP wire service

**Doom Scrolling: Why, when, and
how should we all turn it off?**

Student-led Workshop

Khloe Quill
University of Maryland

**An Indecent Proportion:
How do we ensure we get
properly-proportioned news
coverage when media outlets
have no interest in serving it up?**

Elaine Monaghan
Indiana University

**Getting more voices and
representation in media and
science (in Spanish)**

Paula Andalo
Kaiser Health News

4:00-5:30 PM EST

The Big Breakout: The National Profile Project

open to all high school students

After a quick workshop in writing flash profiles, students from schools across the country will meet in breakout rooms to interview each other and write contributions to our upcoming publication, “Profiles from a Pandemic.”

Thursday, February 25

4:00-5:00 PM EST

Session II: Talks and Workshops

**Voices of America:
How can we protect journalism
and journalists from political
attacks?**

Paul Farhi
The Washington Post

**Fighting Gaslighting:
How can we recognize and resist
when facts are undermined,
denied, and manipulated?**

Sammer Hajhamad
Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School

**Data Dump:
Has big-data journalism buried
the human story?**

Rafael Lorente
*Philip Merrill College of Journalism
University of Maryland*

**Misplaced Nostalgia?
Were the “good old days” of only
three networks really better?**

Anne Farris Rosen
*Philip Merrill College of Journalism
University of Maryland*

**Gaming the Newsfeed:
How analytics, behavioral
microtargeting, and automated
up-ranking drive polarization.**

Julie Cohen
Georgetown University Law Center

**Blurred Lines:
Reporters editorializing?
Anchors acting like gatekeepers?
Are media roles too blurred for
our own good?**

Eun Kim
CQ Roll Call

7:00 PM EST

CLOSING PANEL

**Polarizing & Paralyzing: how do we disrupt the polarization of mass media and its
paralyzing effect on America?**

A.B. Stoddard (*Real Clear Politics*), Kim Wehle (*University of Baltimore*),
and Rick Berke (*STAT*)

Register at

<https://tinyurl.com/reg4trust>

Registration is open, required and free-
for everybody, for every event.

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