



# JOURNEY: JOURNALISM BOOTCAMP

**A lifetime of professional journalism training at the highest level, packed into a 10-day experience**

“The role of journalism is more important now than ever, it almost feels existential, as if the reason we got into this business – to try to inform people, to hold the powerful accountable – is under attack.

“To counter the proliferation of fake news and propaganda, we need to redouble our focus on producing journalism of the highest possible caliber.”

**Adam Entous,**

*Staff Writer, The New Yorker, 2018 Pulitzer Prize winner,  
Journey program lecturer*

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Journey: Journalism Bootcamp is an intensive 10-day annual summer course in practical journalism skills, taking place in Prague and organized by the Bakala Foundation since 2015.

### **Who is it for?**

Journalism or media studies students who have finished at least two semesters of university education (or studies at higher/vocational schools of journalism) and who show strong interest in a career in reporting and news production.

Students of related study programs who have shown deep interest in journalism and have work experience in journalism.

**Applicants from the following countries:** Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, and the United States of America.

**The costs of participation are fully covered.**

## The program organizer

The [Bakala Foundation](#) is the Czech family foundation of [Zdeněk and Michaela Bakala](#), founded in 2007 to provide [scholarships](#) for talented students to study at leading universities around the world. The foundation is unique in the Czech Republic for offering broad support for education and other programs for top-level students. Through its [Kaplicky Internship](#) program, the Bakala Foundation supports young architects, and since 2020, the foundation has also been awarding scholarships for [study at American and British high schools](#).

## What does Journey offer?

- A one-of-a-kind program where students learn by doing working with leading journalists from some of the world's top media organizations
- Lectures from Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists
- Interactive seminars and workshops conducted by professional journalists, editors, and media experts from world's most renowned news outlets (such as [CNN](#), the [Washington Post](#), [The New Yorker](#), [Reuters](#), [Bloomberg](#), and [The Associated Press](#))
- Individual coaching and editing during hands-on exercises
- Access to the latest tools to fight fake news in Eastern and Central Europe
- Discussions with experts from organizations such as [Radio Free Europe](#), [ProPublica](#), the [US Embassy in Prague](#), [Sourcefabric](#), the [Czech Centre for Investigative Journalism](#), the [Vaclav Havel Library](#), and the [Aspen Institute Central Europe](#).
- Training on best practices and standards of modern-day journalism, including:
  - Journalism ethics
  - Handling sources
  - Investigative techniques
  - Interviewing and pitching
  - immersion journalism
  - Breaking news reporting
  - Mobile journalism
  - Photojournalism
  - Understanding corporate communications and PR

## Journey lecturers (examples):



### **Adam Entous, [The New Yorker](#)**

Adam Entous has been a staff writer at The New Yorker magazine since 2018, covering intelligence, national security, and foreign affairs. While working at [The Washington Post](#), Adam [shared a Pulitzer Prize](#) and a special Polk Award for stories that led to the firing of President Donald Trump's first national security adviser and the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate Russia's role in the 2016 presidential election. Adam was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in 2017 for a story about an American diplomat wrongly accused of spying. Previously, Adam worked at [The Wall Street Journal](#), where he covered national security. His articles at The Journal received back-to-back National Press Club awards for diplomatic reporting. Before joining The Journal, Adam served as a senior correspondent for Reuters based in Jerusalem and has covered the White House and Congress. He lives in Washington, D.C.



### **Evan Perez, [CNN](#)**

As Justice Correspondent for CNN based in Washington, D.C., Evan Perez reports on legal, crime, and national security issues. He previously worked at the Washington bureau of The Wall Street Journal, where he covered similar topics. Evan has reported many breaking news stories for CNN and led a workshop during Journey 2019 on mobile journalism.



### **Jessica Bruder**

Jessica Bruder is a journalist and [New America fellow](#) who writes about subcultures and social issues. Her book *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty First Century*, was named a New York Times Notable Book and Editors' Choice, won the [2017 Discover Award](#), and was a finalist for the [J. Anthony Lukas Prize](#) and the [Helen Bernstein Book Award](#).

Jessica teaches narrative storytelling at Columbia Journalism School and has been a contributing writer to [The New York Times](#) for more than a decade. She has also written for New York Magazine, WIRED, Harper's Magazine, The Washington Post, The Associated Press, The International Herald Tribune, The New York Times Magazine, and The Guardian.



### **Paul Casciato**

Paul Casciato has worked as a communications consultant and media coach since 2009, coaching business leaders and journalists from around the world. A regular consultant for the [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#), Paul is a former business, general news reporter, and editor for Reuters with more than 20 years of experience. As a journalist, Paul reported on politics, international relations, business and finance in more than a dozen countries including the United States, Britain, Iraq, and Israel, before becoming a regional editor for Reuters in London, running news coverage across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa for six years. He has interviewed CEOs, presidents, prime ministers, Olympic gold medalists, rebels, royalty, and rock stars.

## **Past Keynote speakers:**

[Seymour Hersh](#) (2016)

[Dunja Mijatović](#) (2017)

[Adam Entous](#) (2018)

**Journey 2021** will be held  
**August 5–15 at Villa Grebovka**, in Prague, Czech Republic

**More information:**

Video: [Summarizing Journey: Journalism Bootcamp](#)

Final student projects from [2019](#), [2018](#), and [2017](#)

Program [website](#)

For details on how to apply, please contact us at [journey@bakalafoundation.org](mailto:journey@bakalafoundation.org).

## Testimonials:

“Before Journey I applied several times for a job in the US without any success. I honestly had given up. But after Journey and some lessons how to pitch yourself and your stories to editors, I tried again, applying what I learned. And it worked! Just two months after Journey, I moved to the US to work in New York City, where I also met three former participants of the program and a teacher!”

*Fritz, Germany*

“To this day, I keep in contact with many former participants and consider some of them my close friends. So far, I reunited with five of them around the world and keep in contact with even more. I believe these friendships and professional relationships will last a long time during our careers.”

*Renata, Hungary*

“I have no idea how the organizers of Journey 2017 managed to pack so much into such a short time, but the program introduced me to whole new worlds in terms of the different types of journalism I might pursue and how they look from the inside.”

*Jennifer, USA*

“None of the other projects, seminars or workshops that I took part in had the same powerful impact on me as Journey did.”

*Jaroslav, Czech Republic*

“The intense exchange with the various lecturers from all fields and countries really showed me something new in the field of journalism.”

*Tereza, Bulgaria*

“What sets Journey apart in my opinion is the flexibility; the program is as much created and filled by the knowledge and skills of the teachers as it is by the students. While teachers may return next year, the participants are different. With their questions, curiosities, cultural and international backgrounds, they create each lesson together with the teacher. That’s why I was able to learn so much there.”

*Katya, Ukraine*

“The newsroom exercises were particularly valuable; they were fast-paced, challenging and very fun, and definitely gave me a taste for more of this kind of work. Classes on interviewing and subculture writing left me itching to travel and write, and also wanting to read every bit of long-form non-fiction I could lay my hands on. Speaking to journalists at RFE/RL, a station I listen to daily, was massively exciting.”

*Anna, Poland*

“When Journey started I had just begun working on a local newspaper, which I continue to do now, but my mind has been buzzing ever since August with ideas of what I would like to do next.”

*Jonathan, UK*

“The course is extremely well organized, and all costs for participants were covered. This removes the financial barrier that is usually a feature of journalism training. I hope Journey continues for a long time.”

*Nataliia, Ukraine*



