



Wichita Professional Communicators

Affiliated with Kansas Professional Communicators and NFPW

www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com

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WPC Event Details

Registration A \$5 donation is suggested to help fund WPC's scholarship. You may donate via [Eventbrite](#) when you register for the meeting or on our [Donate page](#).

Suzanne Perez is an education and general news reporter for KMUW and the Kansas News Service, where she covers K-12 and higher education. Before joining KMUW in March, she spent over 30 years at The Wichita Eagle, where she was a news reporter, columnist and opinion editor.

Tom Shine joined KMUW as director of news and public affairs in 2017. He helps guide daily news coverage and coordinate coverage with the Kansas News Service, a collaboration of four NPR stations in Kansas. Before joining KMUW, he spent 37 years at The Wichita Eagle in various reporting and editing roles.

Making the Switch: Newspapers to Public Radio



Suzanne Perez
News Reporter,
KMUW

Finding a Home on The Range



Tom Shine
Director of News & Public Affairs,
KMUW

May 5, 11:30 a.m., Zoom



As newsrooms change, journalists are forging new paths in a shifting media environment. Learn how two local newspaper reporters are adapting and excelling on public radio.

Join Wichita Professional Communicators for a two-for-one virtual program with Tom Shine and Suzanne Perez from KMUW. For "Making the Switch: Newspapers to Public Radio," Suzanne will explore her journey from The Wichita Eagle to KMUW and the Kansas News Service. In "Finding a Home on The Range," Tom will discuss the creation of The Range, KMUW's weekly show that shares stories about where we live and the people who live here.

Our monthly meeting will take place virtually from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, on Zoom. Please [register](#) so we know who is coming. Zoom details will be posted on the Eventbrite online event page. Following the program, there will be a networking opportunity for those who would like to meet others in breakout groups via Zoom.

WPC monthly meetings and annual fundraisers support a scholarship fund for Wichita-area students pursuing a career in communications. So come network, get inspired by guest speakers and help a future communication colleague in the process!



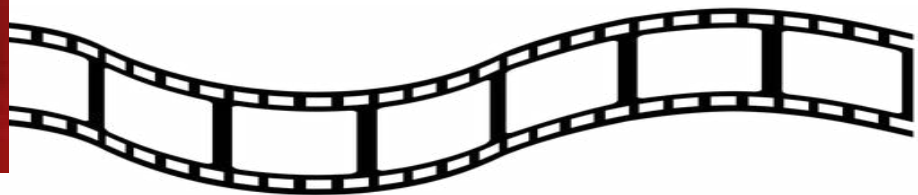
2021 Gordon Parks Award for Outstanding Black Filmmaker

This award will be given to a feature-length narrative film with no traditional distribution at the time of the festival, and it's open to films of any production budget from any country and will be awarded to any director who self-identifies as Black, African-American or Black Diaspora.

Awards: \$5,000 Cash Prize and Spotlight Screening at the 19th Annual Tallgrass Film Festival.

Presented by the Tallgrass Film Festival in partnership with David Parks, The Kansas African-American Museum, the NAACP Wichita chapter, Cargill Industries, Wichita State University Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

For more information, visit the website [here](#).



Susan Hund-Milne January 23, 1946 - March 31, 2021

Susan Hund-Milne, longtime member of the National Federation of Press Women, was a gentle, soft-spoken and seemingly simple woman who would be pleased with this summary from her obituary: "(She) was lucky to live a very full life and spent retirement doing everything she loved: traveling, attending the 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, gardening, and being one hell of a Grandma."

However, Susan also was an activist at heart who challenged the patriarchy and status quo throughout her life. She participated in campus anti-war protests as a student at Wichita State University and helped establish and write for the "Free Press," Wichita's underground newspaper from 1968-1970. She traveled to Chicago to protest the Vietnam Conflict at the 1968 DNC convention and, after earning her journalism degree, moved to San Francisco during the counterculture movement.

After moving back to Wichita, marrying and starting a family, she wrote many articles about

the city's history for "The Westside Story," a local newspaper, and eventually bought the paper. She also researched, wrote and co-published "Spotlight on Wichita," a longtime popular resource. Her journalism career netted her awards from the Kansas Professional Communicators and NFPW, among other organizations.

She was active in WPC for many years, serving twice as president (1997, 2011) and program coordinator (2008) and at-large on the board for several years.

She was active in her church for more than 30 years. Susan is survived by her sister, Jeannie Hund; brother, Ron Hund; husband, Rod Milne; son Jesse Milne (Kym); and grandchildren Regan and Layne Milne.



WPC will be honoring Susan with a book memorial at the Wichita Public Library.

Shannon Littlejohn

Job Opportunities

Keeping an eye out for you

- **Spirit Aerosystems** is looking for a [corporate communications specialist](#).
- **Signal Theory** has openings for an [account manager](#) and an [associate account manager](#).
- **The Wichita Eagle** is looking for an [opinion editor](#).
- **TempleLive Wichita** has an opening for a [director of brand engagement](#).

More Jobs!

- **Intrust Bank** is looking for a [content strategist](#) and a [graphic designer](#).
- **Downtown Wichita** has [paid internship opportunities](#) in communications and multimedia.
- **Textron Aviation** is looking for a [communication intern](#).

From the WPC President

Volunteering Benefits are Life-Changing



As April marked National Volunteer Month, I've been reflecting on the importance of volunteerism and how critical it is to not only Wichita Professional Communicators, but to our community and the world.

When you volunteer, you're not only positively impacting the lives of people in your community, you're also reaping some positive benefits yourself. According to the Mayo Clinic, research shows the benefits of volunteering include the following:

- Reduced stress levels and a decreased risk of depression, as volunteering increases social interaction and helps build a support system based on common interests
- A sense of purpose and the opportunity to learn valuable skills
- Helps you stay physically and mentally active
- Helps you meet others, and develop new relationships and friendships

I've found all of those benefits to be true while volunteering through Wichita Professional Communicators. I've developed new friendships and continue to learn new skills from our talented

members and monthly programs.

WPC wouldn't be successful without some hard work behind the scenes. I want to express my deep gratitude for those who have volunteered to assist on our board this year: Dawn Monroe, vice president; Kylie Cameron, secretary; Emily Christensen, treasurer; Jennifer Eaton, membership VP; Sean Jones, programs VP; Naomi Shapiro, courtesy/reservations chair; Wilma Moore-Black, past president and scholarship committee co-chair; Shannon Littlejohn, historian; Judy Conkling, scholarship committee co-chair; Leisl Sackschewsky, newsletter editor; and Beth Bower, at-large board member.

If you are looking for a volunteer role, WPC is in need of a social media chair on our board of directors, or we have other committee roles you may be interested in. You can email me at darcyg@live.com for more information. Additionally, there are many other nonprofit organizations who could benefit from your talents. I encourage you to visit volunteerkansas.org to explore opportunities in your area, or simply reach out to an organization you're passionate about. The results could be life-changing.

Darcy Gray

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Vanessa Whiteside

What is your current profession?

I'm the owner of Delightful Life Media, a business I recently launched after working for years in a marketing agency setting. I work as a freelance writer, blogger, and social media marketer for area businesses.

What do you love the most about your field?

I love the variety. I love elevating brands using strategy. Any time I can bring brand awareness to a small business, it's an incredibly rewarding experience.

What is something people don't know about you?

People may not know that I'm a travel writer. I love taking to the road and discovering more about a town or city. The best feeling is when someone tells me that they never knew a business existed (that they now want to visit!) until they read my post.



Photo by Tomoko Uji

Member Spotlight (cont.)

If you could go back in time ten years and tell yourself something, what would you say?

Get ready! You are going to be a business owner one day. It's going to be a wild ride.



Sisters in Crime

National Organization
Considers Kansas Chapter

The national organization of mystery and thriller writers, Sisters in Crime, is looking to establish a Kansas Chapter. Do you know any female writers or media that might be interested in a networking opportunity? This chapter will be active in mutual support through social media, as well as helping each other with neutral feedback.

If anyone is interested, they can contact Susan at susanjkraus58@gmail.com. She will then connect them with Alec Peche, the national contact at Sisters in Crime.

Communicator of Achievement

Beth Bower earns KPC's Highest Honor

Congratulations to Beth Bower, WPC board member and former WPC president, on being awarded Kansas Professional Communicators' highest honor: the 2021 Communicator of Achievement! The COA is given in recognition of professional accomplishments, community service and affiliate service to KPC and the National Federation of Press Women.

Beth is a freelance writer, editor and producer who you'll probably recall gave a presentation to WPC about her "The Pie Way ... Kansas Style" cookbook and documentary. She's an award-winning communicator who has worked at The Wichita Eagle, The Kansas Times, The Oldtown Gazette and The Daily Reporter. As a member of WPC, KPC and NFPW since 1997, she's served as WPC president, vice president, annual fundraising/mixer chair and publicity chair as well as on the WPC scholarship committee.

Beth's community service extends beyond her passion for communication, as she has led the Wichita chapter of the American Institute of Wine & Food and also served as an AIWF national board member. She's served in numerous other leadership roles, including the Butler Community College Culinary & Hospitality Advisory Board; the Exploration Place anniversary and Death by Chocolate commit-

tees; the Alzheimer's Association Advisory Board; March of Dimes board; Independent Living Resource Center Development Board and Older Adult Visioning Board. Beth's reputation as a food and wine expert has also become widely known from her partnership with her husband, Guy, who hosts a popular fine-wine half-hour show aired weekly on Wichita's KNSS radio. Together, they are an event-planning power duo and have raised thousands of dollars for various charities.



Notable among Beth's achievements is her service to country. Beth served as the second female helicopter mechanic in the Air Force and the first-ever female helicopter mechanic in the Tactical Air Command. She is pictured here with her husband Guy Bower.

WPC Members Honored at 2021 KPC Conference

Beth Bower, First Place
Specialty Articles, Food

Guy Bower, First Place
Specialty Articles, Travel Blog, Personal; Radio + Television, Talk Show

Jennifer Eaton, First Place
Electronic Newsletter, Nonprofit/Government/Educational

Janet Federico, First Place
Personal Essay

Wilma Moore-Black, First Place
Columns, Informational Information for the Media, Media Pitch

Gloria Freeland, First Place
Columns, General
Second Place
Personality Profile, More than 500 Words Specialty Articles, History

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WPC & AFFILIATES CALENDAR

In-person WPC activities are expected to resume when COVID-19 precautions allow us to safely do so.

May 5: WPC virtual monthly program, 11:30 a.m. by Zoom

May 10: WPC virtual board meeting, at noon on Zoom

June 2: WPC monthly program, 11:30 a.m. Details TBA.

June 7: WPC board meeting, at noon

June 10-13: NFPW virtual, annual conference. Early registration deadline is May 14.

Sept. 1: Save the date for WPC's annual mixer! Details TBA.

COMM LINKS

Wichita Professional Communicators

www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com

Kansas Professional Communicators

www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org

National Federation of Press Women

www.nfpw.org

NFPW Agenda Newsletter

<http://nfpw.org/pdf/currentissue.pdf>

2021 KPC Winners

(continued from page 5)

Amy Geiszler-Jones, First Place

Specialty Articles, Arts + Entertainment
Specialty Articles, History
Specialty Articles, Physical Health
Specialty Articles, Style

Second Place

Specialty Articles, Arts + Entertainment

Darcy Gray, Jennifer Eaton & Belinda Venters, Second Place

Electronic Newsletter, Nonprofit/
Government/Educational
Advertising Campaign

Madeline McCullough, Schley Schoch, Sean Yake, Katherine Dakan, Jared Chamberlain, Blake Kenneson & Jessica Newman, First Place

Advertising

Cheryl Miller, First Place

Editing for Print or Online Publications, Newsletter
Feature Story, Magazine/
Newsletter/Other
Public Relations Material, Report

Second Place

Columns, General

Third Place

Personality Profile, More than 500 Words

2021 WPC BOARD

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