

THE

**S**  **PA**

**2016 AWARDS**

**FOR EDITORIAL EXCELLENCE**



**SOPA**  
The Society of Publishers in Asia

# What's the next big thing in news? Look around.

## How journalists are using 360 video on YouTube.

Journalists are using off-the-shelf tech to bring people with them to new places

Scan QR codes with your smartphone and see how different the news looks in virtual reality and 360 video. This is best experienced with headphones and smartphones.



### Hajj 360

An Al Jazeera reporter took a Ricoh Theta with her to Mecca.



### Hong Kong Unrest

Immersiv.ly captured not just the sights but the noise and eerie silences of the 2014 protests.



### Turnhalle, Hotel, Container

Berliner Morgenpost lets people experience the reality of refugees' lives (click on the VR logo on the bottom left to use it in Cardboard)



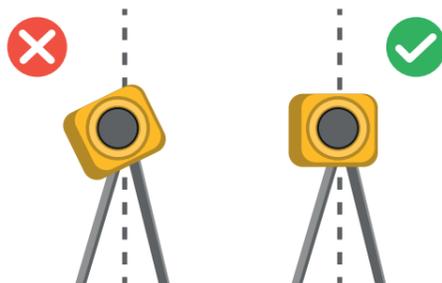
## WANT TO TRY SHOOTING A ROOM IN 360? SOME TIPS



Think of a 360° camera as a person. You are holding your viewer's head in your hands!



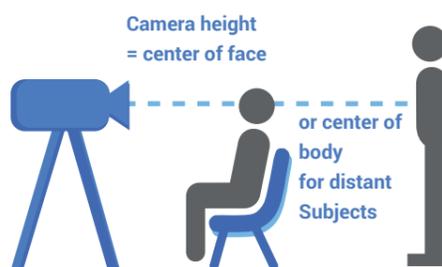
So move straight. The viewer should choose which way to look.



Keep the camera level. Don't tilt the world.



Know your camera's dead spots to avoid stitch lines!



Try a mic stand or monopod at standing or sitting height. Hand-held 360 video can create the impression of a giant holding your head in its hands.



Here's a 360° video that illustrates these best practices. Or visit Tom Small's channel on YouTube to see this and more 360 videos he's shot.



Keep track of YouTube's latest 360 videos here!

[www.youtube.com/360](http://www.youtube.com/360)



## About the SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence

The SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence were established in 1999 as a tribute to editorial excellence in both traditional and new media, and were designed to encourage editorial vitality throughout the region. The awards cover a broad range of categories reflecting Asia's diverse geopolitical environment and vibrant editorial scene.

Central to the SOPA Awards' ongoing success is the high caliber of international judges who preside over the award entries. The SOPA Awards have consistently secured judges from many of the region's leading newspapers as well as consumer and trade magazines and academics from prestigious universities – a reflection of the stature of the awards. Judges ensure that entries are analyzed and selected according to a demanding set of criteria.

The SOPA Awards are coordinated by a committee of publishing professionals from the business and editorial sectors. These dedicated individuals volunteer their time throughout the year to ensure the awards, rules, judges, entries, sponsorships and promotions all come together smoothly.

The SOPA Awards set a valuable benchmark for the industry, and have become news items in their own right, generating media coverage and attention not only across the Asia-Pacific region, but also in the global arena.

## Corporate Support

Sponsorship is key to ensuring the awards' growth, and over the past years, SOPA has been fortunate in receiving strong, continuous support from its partners. As the awards have grown, so too has the interest from corporations, and this year, we look again to the generosity of sponsors to help us deliver the best awards we can.

The SOPA 2016 Awards for Editorial Excellence is supported by Invest Hong Kong (Platinum Sponsor) and Google (Gold Sponsor). CatchOn is the public relations partner, Media OutReach is the newswire partner, and High Technology Printing Group Limited is the printing partner.

## Award Categories (Listed in order of presentation)

1. Excellence in Reporting on Women's Issues (女性议题新闻奖)
2. Excellence in Digital News (卓越网络新闻奖)
3. Excellence in Human Rights Reporting (卓越人权报导奖)
4. Excellence in Feature Writing (卓越专题特写奖)
5. Excellence in Magazine Design (卓越杂志设计奖)
6. Excellence in Lifestyle Coverage (卓越生活时尚报导奖)
7. Excellence in Explanatory Reporting (卓越解释性新闻奖)
8. Excellence in News Photography (卓越新闻摄影奖)
9. Excellence in Business Reporting (卓越经济报导奖)
10. Excellence in Information Graphics (卓越资料图像奖)
11. Excellence in Reporting Breaking News (卓越突发性新闻奖)
12. Excellence in Opinion Writing (卓越评论奖)
13. Excellence in Editorial Cartooning (卓越漫画奖)
14. Excellence in Reporting on the Environment (卓越环境报导奖)
15. Excellence in Feature Photography (卓越特写摄影奖)
16. The Scoop Award (独家新闻奖)
17. Excellence in Investigative Reporting (卓越调查报导新闻奖)
18. Journalist of the Year (年度记者奖)

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## SOPA Chairman's Message



Welcome to the 18th Annual SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence.

The Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA) was established in 1982 as a not-for-profit association with a founding tenet to recognize and celebrate the highest measures of journalistic quality and integrity. Today, the SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence are highly coveted and regarded as the industry gold standard for journalism in Asia Pacific.

We are especially proud to have received a record number of entries this year. Each entry is evaluated against an exacting set of criteria. We value the steadfast commitment made by our team of leading international judges and the Editorial Committee, chaired by SK Witcher, who all selflessly volunteer their time. As is our tradition, the SOPA Awards are again assisted this year by experienced administrators at the Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong.

As we celebrate the 2016 SOPA Awards, special thanks and appreciation are due our sponsors: Invest Hong Kong, Google, Media Outreach, CatchOn and High Technology Printing Group Limited. Their support is vital to the success of this important event.

SOPA's enduring commitment to excellence is evidenced by a wide range of initiatives: SOPA stands as an unwavering proponent of freedom of the press in Asia; we advocate best business practices that support and sustain our industry; and SOPA embraces technological advances that best serve the information needs of our audiences, magnifying both the scope and impact of our content.

In partnership with the Bring Me A Book Foundation, SOPA champions an ongoing commitment to encourage and develop literacy skills in underprivileged children. And throughout the year, SOPA produces a series of Media Insider events that serve as a forum to bring together the publishing community to share ideas and consider authoritative and diverse points of view.

Tonight, we recognize the very best in our field. We are also pleased to celebrate the lifetime achievements of Ms. Ying Chan, as she is inducted into the Society of Publishers in Asia as an Honorary Member.

On behalf of the SOPA Board, we extend our appreciation to all award entrants who share our passion and strive to be the best. We thank you for joining us this evening.

Enjoy the program!

**Raymond T. Warhola**  
SOPA Chairman 2016

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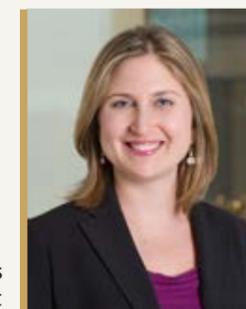
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**Michael Chu**

Group Director,  
Group Marketing & Events  
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**Jacquelyn Drozdoff**

Corporate Communications  
Director, Asia Pacific  
The Wall Street Journal



**Judy Fong**

Regional Sales Director  
TIME Inc.



**Alex Ko**

General Manager  
(Business Department)  
Ming Pao Newspapers Limited



**Serene Lee**

Senior Vice President  
Forbes Asia



**Jane Lewis**

Senior Director, Sales  
Legal Global Growth & Operations  
ASEAN/North Asia  
Thomson Reuters



**Helena Phua**

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**Tracy Young**

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Apple Daily has the highest circulation among all audited paid newspapers in Hong Kong.  
It has an average daily circulation of 149,739 copies  
[Source: Hong Kong Audit Bureau of Circulations (HKABC) - Audited Circulation Report (July to December 2015)]



## Master of Ceremonies



### Tara Joseph

Chief Correspondent  
Reuters TV, Asia

Tara has been a journalist with Reuters for two decades, and is currently chief correspondent for Reuters TV, Asia. She covers general and financial news stories across the Asia region, syndicated to Reuters clients globally and on Reuters digital products.

Tara is also the President of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong.

Before moving to Asia, Tara was the lead anchor for Reuters Financial TV based in London, and was appointed global editor in 2000. She started her journalism career as a freelancer based in Hong Kong, and worked as an assistant producer at the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour in New York.

## Keynote Speaker



### Ma Ying-jeou

Former President  
Taiwan

Ma Ying-jeou was elected president of Taiwan in 2008 and was in power for eight years, leaving office on May 20. He began his two-term presidency by pledging to improve cross-strait relations, international relations and the domestic economy. A capstone of his tenure was a historic meeting with China's leader, Xi Jinping, in November 2015. It was the first such meeting since the 1940s, when the Chinese Nationalists retreated across the Taiwan Strait after being defeated in a civil war by the Communists.

On the domestic front, Mr. Ma's administration initiated reforms in various areas, including restructuring the central and local government, education, health care, welfare, taxation, income distribution, law and order and the environment.

Born in Hong Kong in 1950, Mr. Ma graduated from Harvard Law School in 1981. He is married to Madam Chow Mei-ching, and they have two daughters. Before he was elected president, Mr. Ma held several government posts, most notably as vice minister of the MAINLAND AFFAIRS COUNCIL, as Taiwan's justice minister and as mayor of Taipei. He also served three terms as the chairman of the Kuomintang, or Nationalist Party, from 2005 to 2013.

**105**  
AWARDS  
2006-PRESENT

# A LEGACY OF EDITORIAL EXCELLENCE



## SOPA Honorary Member 2016



**Ms. Yuen Ying Chan**

Yuen Ying Chan is a journalist, journalism professor and media consultant. From 1999 to 2016, she served as the founding director of the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at The University of Hong Kong, a teaching and research department offering professional education, undergraduate and graduate degree programs. JMSC graduates work at major media organizations throughout the world, and some have launched start-ups to explore new forms of journalism in the digital age.

Under Ms. Chan's leadership, the JMSC has become the hub of pan-Asian journalism promoting journalism standards, freedom of expression and digital innovations. The JMSC is also a pioneer in the teaching of convergent media, data journalism and media entrepreneurship. It has served as the administrator of the SOPA Awards since 2011.

Ms. Chan also was the founding dean (2003-12) of the journalism school at Shantou University, China, where she set up programs grounded in journalism values of balance, fairness and truth-telling.

Before joining The University of Hong Kong in 1998, she spent 23 years working as a reporter and editor in New York City for the New York Daily News, NBC News and Chinese-language dailies. Her honors include a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University and a George Polk Award for her coverage of the people-smuggling trade from China. For her battle against a criminal libel suit in Taiwan, she was awarded an International Press Freedom Award by the Committee to Protect Journalists in 1997. In 2013, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Asian American Journalists Association in the United States.

Ms. Chan consults often for Chinese and international media organizations and contributes to the global journalism community through her many public service roles. She is on the board of directors of the Media Development Investment Fund and is a member of the World Economic Forum on Social Media. She is a founding member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and has edited six books on the media in mainland China.

Ms. Chan will retire from the JMSC in August and is plotting her life after.



## 105 awards in the last 10 years

It is an honour and a privilege to be recognised again by our peers at the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA) for the work of our reporters, editors, designers and illustrators.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation go to SOPA and to our hardworking teams at the *South China Morning Post* for continuing to strive for excellence in journalism.



**SOPA**  
The Society of Publishers in Asia



**South China Morning Post**  
Make every day matter

## Speaker



### Jahabar Sadiq

Former Chief Executive Officer  
The Malaysian Insider

Jahabar Sadiq was chief executive officer and editor of The Malaysian Insider, Malaysia's fastest growing news portal until it was shut down on March 15, 2016, and has been a journalist in print, news wires, television, radio and online since 1988.

He was a senior producer with Reuters Television, the international news and information broadcast agency, from 1998 to 2009, interviewing world leaders, captains of industry and others from Afghanistan to East Timor.

He had also had an earlier stint in Reuters as a political and economic news correspondent and was briefly a producer in AP Television.

He started his career in the New Straits Times and spent a year in Business Times before joining Reuters.



## Editorial Committee Chair's Message



As the Editorial Awards for Excellence mark their 18th year, the takeaway from the record-breaking number of entries received is: Good journalism is alive and kicking in the Asia-Pacific region!

That's all the more notable given the rising challenges to journalists doing their jobs in almost every part of the region – not just in countries traditionally hostile to a free press— but also in more open societies like Japan, where there's pressure to toe the government line.

Crackdowns on media in mainland China have continued apace, while in Hong Kong, threats to press freedom are on the increase as are perceptions of greater levels of self-censorship among local journalists. The mysterious disappearance of five Hong Kong booksellers who were associated with provocative books about top mainland figures has fueled the unease, especially because some were holding overseas passports.

Elsewhere around the region, Thailand's military government has called for an "attitude adjustment" among its critics, and recent measures appear aimed at restricting visas for certain foreign reporters. And in Malaysia, the country's sedition laws are being used to help clamp down on local journalists.

The Editorial Committee is composed of working reporters, editors and academics, who volunteer their time. They all deserve a big thanks as does the Journalism and Media Studies Centre of The University of Hong Kong for its vital role in administering the awards and ensuring their independence and credibility.

### S.K. Witcher

Chair  
SOPA Editorial Committee 2016

## Head of Judges' Message



There's a lot of outstanding journalism to celebrate this year, and yet again I was awestruck by the courageous reporting that went into so many of the entries.

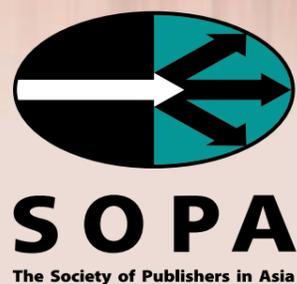
That result is all the more impressive considering the many threats facing the region's media, including budget cuts that have sidelined many talented colleagues as the industry struggles to adapt to the digital-media age and changing consumer habits.

The competition was also fiercer: the average number of entries in each category was 14, with eight categories registering more than 20 entries. While it's wonderful to see so many worthy submissions in a such a diverse group of categories, that also means our judges – all busy professionals in their own right – had to work harder than ever this year. The SOPA Awards enjoy the respect and reputation they have today in no small part because of the respect and reputation of the judges who volunteer their expertise. On behalf of the SOPA Awards administrator, I thank them.

This year's entries have clearly demonstrated the immense talent of the region's journalists, and how valuable their work is in revealing to the world human rights abuses of migrant laborers, the plight of women in tradition-bound societies, and networks of corruption at the highest levels, to mention just a few topics represented this year. I know I speak for the 100 industry professionals who served as judges when I say it was an honor, albeit an often exhausting one, to review so much excellent work.

### Jeffrey Timmermans

Head of Judges  
SOPA Editorial Committee 2016



## The Society of Publishers in Asia

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Stands for Freedom of the Press in Asia.

Strives for the highest standards of excellence in content and journalistic integrity.

Embraces emerging digital platforms and technologies.

Encourages best business and operating practices.

Provides for building up the skills of media professionals across the region.

Encourages the development of literacy skills in underserved Asian children in partnership with Bring Me A Book.

Unites media owners, marketing agencies, business partners and advertising clients for mutual benefit.

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Embrace progress.

Be the best.

Build better skills.

Encourage the next generation.

Unity begins with You.

Become a SOPA member.

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## IN MEMORIAM



### Tom Leander

Tom Leander was an unflagging proponent of press freedom in Asia and a serious voice for integrity in Asia's media.

A longtime business reporter, his final post was in maritime journalism as Asia editor-in-chief of Lloyd's List. He was known as an avid mentor, a charity volunteer, and a composer of music. He is universally remembered as a gentleman and generous human being.

Tom devoted much of his free time over many years to serving on the Editorial Committee of The Society of Publishers in Asia, including as the committee's chairman from 2012 until January of this year. He continued to serve as a member of the committee sharing the workload and providing invaluable guidance.

He was a tireless spokesman for SOPA's mission to uphold the highest standards of journalism and to reward the best of those efforts around the region through the annual SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence.

His unexpected death in March at the age of 61 left a big hole in all our hearts and on the Editorial Committee where his wise counsel is sorely missed.



## Members of the SOPA Editorial Committee



**Wei Gu**

Correspondent  
The Wall Street Journal



**Vivian Kwok**

Editor-in-Chief  
Bloomberg Businessweek  
(Chinese)  
彭博商業周刊 / 中文版



**Louise Lucas**

Journalist  
Financial Times



**David Merritt**

Executive Editor, Asia Pacific  
Bloomberg



**Carolyn Qu**

Deputy Editor  
Reuters Chinese News  
Service



**Brian Rhoads**

Managing Editor  
South China Morning Post



**Yin-Chuen Wu**

President  
CommonWealth Magazine



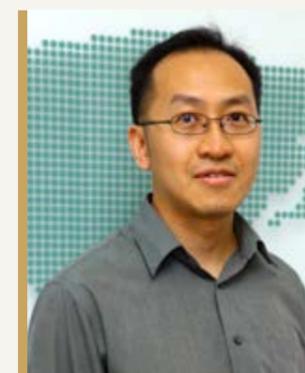
**S.K. Witcher**  
Chair

Deputy Asia Editor  
The International New York Times



**Jeffrey Timmermans**  
Head Of Judges

Associate Professor of Practice  
Director, Bachelor of Journalism programme  
Journalism & Media Studies Centre,  
The University of Hong Kong



**Dr. King-Wa Fu**  
Deputy Head Of Judges

Associate Professor  
Journalism & Media Studies Centre,  
The University of Hong Kong



## List of Judges

Name	Company	Title
Zoher Abdoolcarim	Time Inc.	Asia Editor, TIME
Thomas Abraham	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Associate Professor
Patrick Boehler	The International New York Times	Digital Editor
Keith Bradsher	The New York Times	Hong Kong Bureau Chief
Marianne Bray	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Honorary Lecturer
Quinton Chan	Weber Shandwick	Senior Vice President, Public Affairs
Long To, Wade Chan	Hong Kong Baptist University	Lecturer, Media Arts, Academy of Film
Pui King Chan	The University of Hong Kong	Honorary Lecturer
Joseph Chan	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Professor
Ying Chan	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Professor
King Cheung Chan	Hong Kong Economic Journal	Former Deputy Publisher
George Chen	Facebook	Head of Public Policy, Hong Kong & Taiwan
Allen Cheng	Institutional Investor	Asia Bureau Chief
Siu-Wai Cheung	Hong Kong Baptist University	Director of MA in International Journalism Studies
Joyce Choi	Jacada Travel	Expert Travel Designer
Reg Chua	Reuters	Executive Editor, Editorial Operations, Data & Innovation
Judith Clarke	Hong Kong Baptist University	Associate Professor
Dean Cox	Independent/Freelance	Photojournalist & Documentary Photographer
Phillip Day	Market News International (MNI)	Asia News Editor
Bob Drogin	Los Angeles Times	National Security Editor
Graham Earnshaw	SinoMedia Ltd	CEO
Robin Ewing	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer, Director of International Journalism program
Tak Ho Fong	Independent Commentators Association	Committee member
William Foreman	University of Michigan	Associate Director of International Communications
Brian Fowler	Bloomberg News	Managing Editor, Japan and Korea
King-wa Fu	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Associate Professor
Ian Gill	Freelance	Writer
Danny Gittings	HKU SPACE	Associate Professor
Paul Goddard	Freelance	Media Consultant
Nisha Gopalan	Bloomberg	Columnist
Jeremy Grant	Financial Times	Managing Editor, FT Confidential Research
Tom Grundy	Hong Kong Free Press	Editor-in-chief
Wei Gu	Dow Jones	Editor of China Wealth and Luxury and Head of Original Reporting for CWSJ, The Wall Street Journal
Billy Ho	Next Magazine	Head of Photo Department (News and Business)
Brant Houston	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Professor and Knight Chair in Investigative Reporting
Siu Fun Hui	now TV	Manager, Documentary Section, News and Business Information
Terril Jones	Claremont McKenna College	Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies
Glenda Korpmaal	The Australian	Associate Editor
Anne Kruger	The University of Hong Kong	Assistant Lecturer
Elaine Kurtenbach	The Associated Press	Asia Business Editor
Vivian Kwok	Modern Media	Chief Editor of Bloomberg Businessweek (Chinese)
C K Lau	School of Communication, Hong Kong Baptist University	Associate Dean and Principal Lecturer in Journalism
Justine Lau	CLP Holdings	Public Affairs Manager
Kelvin Lee	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
Urban Lehner	Wall Street Journal	Retired, Editor and Publisher Asian Wall Street Journal
John Lent	International Journal of Comic Art	Chief Editor/Publisher
Matthew Leung	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Honorary Lecturer
Xin Li	Dow Jones	Managing Editor of Chinese Wall Street Journal
AJ Libunao	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Assistant Lecturer
Kin-ming Liu	KM & Associates	Director
Ka Hing Lo	Exmoo News	Former Senior Reporter
Darren Long	South China Morning Post	Head of Graphics and Magazine Design

Name	Company	Title
Leslie Lopez	The Straits Times, Singapore	Regional Correspondent
Louise Lucas	Financial Times	Asia News Editor
Bruce Lui	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
Luwei Rose Luqiu	Penn State University	PhD student
MaryKay Magistad	PRI's The World	Creator & Host, "Whose Century Is It?" Podcast
Rosalind Mathieson	Bloomberg LP	Managing Editor, Asia Government
Philip McClellan	The New York Times	Weekend Editor, International
Jane Meacham	Sustainable Investments Institute	Research Analyst
William Mellor	Freelance	Correspondent and Consulting Producer
Kees Metselaar	PhotoKees	Photographer and Honorary Lecturer JMSC
Lee Miller	Bloomberg News / Tsinghua University	Editor-at-Large / Professor
Ken Moritsugu	The Associated Press	Tokyo Bureau Chief
Dean Napolitano	Freelance	Journalist/Writer/Editor
Lin Neumann	AmCham Indonesia	Managing Director
Joyce Nip	The University of Sydney	Senior Lecturer
Bret Okeson	Bloomberg News	Top Editor/Asia
James Ong	Coconuts Media	Editorial Director
Philip Pan	The New York Times	Asia Editor
Tony Patrick	Freelance	Editor
Abe Peck	Medill School of Journalism / Northwestern U	Director B2B Communication
Byron Perry	Coconuts Media	Founder and Managing Director
David Plott	MLex Market Insight	Managing Editor, Asia
Guijuan Qu	Reuters	Deputy Editor of Chinese news service
Eli Reed	Magnum Photos	Photographer
Hugo Restall	The Wall Street Journal Asia	Editorial Page Editor
Brian Rhoads	South China Morning Post	Managing Editor
Keith Richburg	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Professor
Shubhrangshu Roy	Financial Chronicle	Editor-in-chief
John Saeki	Agence France-Presse	Head of Hong Kong graphics desk
Sham Yee Lan	Hong Kong Journalists Association	Chairperson
Assif Shameen	The Edge Singapore	Consulting Editor
Daniel Sneider	Stanford University, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center	Associate Director for Research
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Edith Terry	Cotton Tree Advisors	Managing Director
Jeffrey Timmermans	Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Associate Professor
Heather Timmons	Quartz	Senior Asia Correspondent
Russell Todd	University of Texas and The University of Hong Kong	Journalism teacher
Scarlet Tso	Hang Seng Management College	Associate Vice President (Communication and Public Affairs) Dean and Professor, School of Communication
Pedeo Ugarte	Agence France-Presse	Photo Director Asia Pacific
Jeremy Wagstaff	Reuters	Chief tech correspondent
Tamas Waliczky	City University of Hong Kong	Professor
Feng Wang	Financial Times	Editor-in-chief, FTChinese.com
Xiangwei Wang	South China Morning Post	Editorial Advisor
Bettina Wassener	HSBC	Senior Writer
Laurel West	The Economist Group	Editorial Director, Thought Leadership
May Wong	Hong Kong Design Institute	Lecturer
Serenade Woo	International Federation of Journalists Asia Pacific	Project Manager
Yin Chuen Wu	Commonwealth Magazine	President
Chen Wu	The Economist	Editorial Director, The Economist Global Business Review
Lea Yang	The News Lens	Editor-in-Chief
Mike Yee	Stand News	Chief Editor
Baohua Zhou	School of Journalism, Fudan University	Professor and Assistant Dean



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Invest Hong Kong has the expertise to help you set up smoothly in our city. Our services are free, confidential and tailored to your needs.

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The Government of the Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region

Where Business Goes to Grow

25/F, Fairmont House, 8 Cotton Tree Drive,  
Central, Hong Kong  
Doris Fong, Head of Creative Industries  
Tel: (852) 31071011  
Email: [dfong@investhk.gov.hk](mailto:dfong@investhk.gov.hk)

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