

Chuck Plunkett

Director, CU News Corps
University of Colorado Boulder
College of Media, Communication and Information
Department of Journalism
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Teaching

- Worked alongside Mei-Ling McNamara during the summer of 2018 to get a solid introduction to teaching CU News Corps
- Co-taught CU News Corps with McNamara fall semester 2018. Partnered with The Colorado Sun to publish students reporting on gentrification in Denver's Sun Valley and Westwood neighborhoods
- Co-taught CU News Corps with Emilie Johnson spring semester 2019
- Reporting 2 spring semester 2019
- Served as an advisor to a masters student doing an independent study spring 2019
- Co-taught CU News Corps with Johnson fall semester 2019
- Reporting 2 fall semester 2019
- Co-taught CU News Corps with Lindsey Pierce Martin, formerly of The Denver Post, spring semester 2020
- Opinion Writing spring semester 2020
- Served on an honors committee spring semester 2020
- Served as an internship advisor spring 2020
- Taught CU News Corps summer 2020
- Served as an internship advisor for three students summer 2020
- This semester I am co-teaching CU News Corps with Amy Brothers, formerly of The Denver Post
- I'm also teaching Opinion Writing this semester
- Working this year as the honors thesis advisor for a student comparing transformational media coverage about the death of George Floyd with the murder of Emmett Till
- Also serving this semester as an internship advisor

Education

MFA, Creative Writing
University of Pittsburgh, 1995

Completed hours and story collection toward MA, Creative Writing
Syracuse University, 1992

BA, English
University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1989

(Of note: 2018 recipient, Colby College Elijah Perish Lovejoy Award for a courageous act of journalism, an honorary doctor of laws degree.)

Professional Experience

More than 22 years of newsroom experience, including:

The Denver Post

- Editorial Page editor, columnist, July 2016 – May 18, 2018
- Politics editor, July 2011 – June 2016
- Government Watchdog reporter, Jan. 2011 – June 2011
- Editorial writer, Nov. 2008 – Dec. 2010
- Politics reporter, Feb. 2007 – Oct. 2008
- General assignment/Enterprise/Investigative reporter, July 2003 – Jan. 2007

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

- Investigative, special assignments reporter, Oct. 2001 – June 2003
- General assignment/Enterprise reporter, Jan. 2001 – Sept. 2001

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, from April 1996 – Dec. 2000

- State Enterprise reporter
- City Desk reporter
- Business Desk reporter
- Editorial assistant, Business Desk

Recent Awards

For work with The Denver Post editorial pages to launch what is now known as “The Denver Rebellion.”

- The University of Denver Journalism in the Public Interest Award.
- The Colorado Association of Libraries Julie J. Boucher Community Honor Roll Award for Intellectual Freedom.
- The ACLU Colorado Tajiri Award, for media work on behalf of civil liberties, received jointly with former Daily Camera editorial page editor David Krieger.
- The Colby College Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award (mentioned earlier)

- The National Press Club's John Aubuchon Press Freedom Award.

Recent Appearances

- [“When Local News Dies, So Does Democracy,”](#) TED.com, posted a reedited version of the TEDx recording listed below on March 3, 2020
- [“When Local News Dies, So Does Our Democracy,”](#) TEDxMileHigh recording, Denver’s Buell Theater, June 22, 2019
- Speaker, University of Colorado Graduate Teacher Program, Jan. 26, 2019

Recent Panels

- [“Swatting at Vultures: Lessons learned from The Denver Post staff rebellion,”](#) Southwest Education Council for Journalism and Mass Communication conference, Metropolitan State University Denver, Nov. 2, 2018
- [“Shrinking Newsrooms and Community Impact,”](#) Goldfarb Center, Colby College, Oct. 8, 2018
- Online News Association Digital Media Conference, University of Colorado Boulder, May 18, 2018

University Service

- Led judging for the Al Nakkula Award for Police Reporting, co-sponsored by the University of Colorado Boulder Department of Journalism and The Denver Press Club, spring semester 2020
- Joined Assistant Vice Chancellor of Strategic Media Relations and speechwriter Dave Curtin and on the committee to hire a speechwriter, editorial writer for Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano, fall semester 2019
- Led judging for the Al Nakkula Award for Police Reporting, co-sponsored by the University of Colorado Boulder Department of Journalism and The Denver Press Club, spring semester 2019

Recent Publications

- [“The Denver Rebellion: How I Went Rogue at Work,”](#) TEDxMileHigh blog, Feb. 22, 2020, with Kendra Sand
- [“The Awful Lessons of Goodloe Sutton, Racism and Hate,”](#) The Colorado Sun, Feb. 24, 2019
- [“Don’t Sit Back and Let the Aldens of the World Commit Great Evil,”](#) The Colorado Sun, Jan. 27, 2019
- [“A New Sun in Born, and Brighter Days are Ahead,”](#) The Colorado Sun, Sept. 16, 2018,
- [“I Stood Up for The Denver Post and Was Forced to Resign,”](#) Rolling Stone, May 7, 2018
- [“As Vultures Circle, The Denver Post Must Be Saved,”](#) Denver Post editorial, April 6, 2018
- [“With More Cuts Coming to The Denver Post, What About the Letters to the Editor?”](#) The Denver Post, April 6, 2018
- [“The So-Called ‘Michael Handcock’ cover-up,”](#) The Denver Post, March 9, 2018
- [“Donald Trump’s True Believers,”](#) The Denver Post, Jan. 19, 2018
- [“Lying Donald Trump Can’t Be Trusted, and That Needs to Stop Now,”](#) Denver Post editorial, Jan. 25, 2017
- [“After Sutherland Springs, a Prayer for Our Country Churches,”](#) The Denver Post, Nov. 13, 2017
- [“Give Those Heinous Confederate Statues the White Flag They Deserve,”](#) The Denver Post, Aug. 25, 2017

- [“A Warning From and For a Troubled Land,”](#) The Denver Post, July 21, 2017
- [“For Dick Lamm, an End of Life Question of Another Sort,”](#) The Denver Post, May 26, 2017

Publications, Fiction

- “Livewell,” Cimarron Review, Spring 1990
- “An Ill-Considered Bet,” The Texas Review, Spring/Summer 1993