COMPASS Staff

Nancy Baron
Director of Science Outreach, COMPASS
Nancy.Baron@compassonline.org
@Nancy_Baron

Nancy Baron is the Director of Science Outreach for COMPASS. Nancy holds workshops around the world for academic, government, and NGO scientists helping them develop core competencies as scientist communicators who want to make their work relevant to journalists, policy makers, and the public. Nancy began her career as a biologist in Banff National Park, spent 6 years as Director of Education at the Vancouver Aquarium, then morphed into journalism. She has won numerous writing awards including the Canadian Science Writers Science in Society and National Magazine awards. An ardent naturalist, she published a popular field guide, The Birds of Coastal British Columbia (Lone Pine Publishing) and a “how to” communications guide book for scientists titled Escape from the Ivory Tower (Island Press). Nancy received the 2013 Peter Benchley Ocean Award for Excellence in the Media for her work at the intersection of science and journalism.

Journalist Experts

David Malakoff
Deputy News Editor, Science Magazine
dmalakof@aaas.org
@DavidMalakoff

David Malakoff is a Deputy News Editor specializing in coverage of science policy, energy and the environment. A native of Washington D.C., he has spent more than 25 years reporting on how scientists influence government policy, and how government policy shapes science. In addition to reporting for Science, he has worked as an editor and correspondent on NPR’s Science Desk, for Conservation Magazine, and as a freelancer for numerous outlets.
Kendra Pierre-Louis
Climate Desk, The New York Times
kendra.pierre-louis@nytimes.com
@KendraWrites

Kendra Pierre-Louis recently joined the climate desk as a reporter in New York. Kendra is the author of the book, “Green Washed: Why We Can’t Buy Our Way to a Green Planet,” and has worked at Popular Science and Inside Climate News. She has written extensively about the intersection of humans with their environment, and has incorporated visual reporting, like her coverage of the EPA’s photography archive documenting What America looked like before the EPA cleaned it up. She grew up in Queens, graduated from Cornell University, SIT Graduate Institute, and MIT, has lived in France, and counts seeing a polar bear in the wild as one of the best experiences of her life.

Madeline Sofia
Assistant Producer, Science Desk, NPR
mksofia3@gmail.com
@maddie_sofia

Madeline Sofia is an assistant producer on NPR’s Science Desk, and specifically for Joe’s Big Idea. The goal of Joe’s Big Idea is to tell scientific stories that explore the minds and motivations of researchers, and highlight the scientific process. Joe’s Big Idea is also involved in helping young scientists become better scientific communicators. These scientists are part of a world-wide group known as Friends of Joe’s Big Idea, or FOJBIs. Madeline is in charge of connecting the FOJBI community and facilitating their growth as communicators. FOJBIs regularly volunteer at outreach events, hold science socials, and contribute to blogs. Before working at NPR, Madeline received her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Rochester Medical Center. She studied Vibrio cholerae, a fascinating 4 billion-year-old, single-celled organism that's evolved to outsmart the human immune system — and cause cholerae. If you’re interested in working with us, check out the JBI Facebook page.

John Upton
Features Journalist, Climate Central
johnupton@gmail.com
@johnupton

John Upton is a features journalist at Climate Central, which is a nonprofit where scientists and journalists work together to research and report on the changing climate. Upton studied science and business in Australia and he previously worked as a journalist in California and in India. Now based in New York, he produces feature stories that are guided and informed by science, vividly revealing how climate change and solutions to it are affecting the lives of Americans. During a decade of international reporting, Upton has written for outlets that include the New York Times, Slate, Nautilus, VICE, Grist, Pacific Standard, Modern Farmer, and Audubon magazine.