

THINKING STORY LIKE A JOURNALIST

PANEL AND PITCH EVENT

WEDNESDAY
March 20
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

COMPASS TRAINER



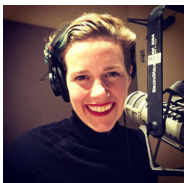
NANCY BARON

Director of Science Outreach

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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 six 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.

JOURNALISTS



ASHLEY AHEARN

Independent Journalist

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Ashley Ahearn is an award-winning public media journalist who has covered science and the environment for NPR and member stations for more than a decade. Most recently, she co-created, hosted and produced the podcast, *Terrestrial*, in partnership with the NPR Story Lab and KUOW in Seattle. Ashley’s stories have appeared on *Marketplace*, *All Things Considered*, *Here and Now*, *The World* and other NPR shows. She has a masters in science journalism from the Annenberg School at the University of Southern California and has completed reporting fellowships at the Knight Center at MIT, the Vermont Law School, the Metcalf Institute at the University of Rhode Island and the Institutes for Journalism and Natural Resources. She recently started her own podcast consulting company, Ahearn Productions. In her spare time Ashley rides motorcycles and horses or plays outside with her husband and dog.



TRISTAN AHTONE

Associate Editor, Tribal Affairs

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Tristan Ahtone is a member of the Kiowa Tribe and serves as associate editor for tribal affairs at High Country News. He has reported for PBS NewsHour, Frontline, National Native News, Wyoming Public Radio, NPR, Al Jazeera America, Indian Country Today and National Geographic. Tristan's stories have won multiple honors, including investigative awards from Public Radio News Directors Incorporated and the Gannett Foundation. He additionally was awarded a Nieman Fellowship to study at Harvard University in 2017. He is president of the Native American Journalists Association.



EMILY BENSON

Asst Editor for the Northwest, Northern Rockies and Alaska

High Country News

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Emily's lifelong love of the outdoors was sparked by a childhood spent swimming and paddling the lakes and rivers of New York State's Adirondack Mountains. She earned a bachelor's degree at Colgate University in central New York, a master's degree in biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and a graduate certificate from the University of California Santa Cruz's Science Communication Program. Emily contributes to High Country News' coverage of Alaska, the northwest and the Northern Rockies. She lives in Moscow, Idaho, and spends most of her free time cross-country skiing or cooling off in the nearest lake or river, depending on the season.



AVIVA RUTKIN

Data and Math Editor, The Conversation

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Aviva Rutkin is the data and math editor at The Conversation U.S., a nonprofit media outlet with content written by academics and edited by journalists. She was previously a reporter/editor at New Scientist. Her work has also appeared in BBC, National Geographic, MIT Technology Review, Metro, Salon and Mashable. She studied neuroscience at Union College and science writing at MIT.