

Jim Rendon

Newsroom leader, Journalist, Editor

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Versatile editor and writer who excels at finding and shaping compelling stories to engage readers. • Proven newsroom leader who can direct coverage and motivate teams to meet high goals. • Contributed to many national outlets including *The New York Times Magazine* and newspaper. • Supportive editor who helps writers hone their craft.

Experience:

Chronicle of Philanthropy

Executive Editor November 2025-present

- Direct coverage of the nonprofit sector including supervising six reporters and editors, editing all news stories, some features, cover stories for the print publication, and two newsletters.
- Work with staff to conceive and shape stories, assign articles to both staff and freelancers, edit, write headlines, select art, and evaluate story performance.
- Edit and manage annual Philanthropy 50 issue of the year's biggest donors. Initiated and oversee data reporting projects.
- Boosted the story output of my team and improved performance on important metrics including subscriptions and registrations.
- Developed new editorial workflows and helped revamp our newsletters to improve engagement.

Director, Fellowship Program and Impact Journalism May 2025-November 2025

- Assigned and edited two in-depth features a month that examine the success or failure of big philanthropic efforts.
- Managed a fellowship program that helps local news outlets cover nonprofits. Mentored reporters and editors at four newsrooms, conducted outreach for the program, ran the selection process, and organized trainings.

Fellowship director and Senior Writer October 2024-May 2025

- Wrote news stories, features on philanthropists like Melinda French Gates, and long form print stories while managing the fellowship program.

Senior Writer April 2019-May 2025

- Wrote news and investigative feature articles including an examination of pharmaceutical companies that used patient advocacy groups to fuel the opioid crisis and malfeasance at Vote.org and other nonprofits. Many of my articles have been distributed by our partner, the Associated Press.

Freelance journalist 2006-2019

- Wrote for *The New York Times Magazine* and newspaper, the *Washington Post Magazine*, *Mother Jones*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Marie Claire*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Popular Science*, *Fortune*, *Outside*, *SmartMoney* and others.
- Wrote features for *The New York Times Magazine*, including an investigation of a military program that helped soldiers prepare for combat trauma and a profile of a Louisiana banker who helped his city through the financial crisis.

- Uncovered the sexual abuse of U.S. national team speed skaters and investigated the mental health challenges of female soldiers for *Marie Claire*.
- Contributed freelance articles to *The New York Times*' Sunday Business, Real Estate, and Home sections over more than a decade.

Journalist Orb Media March 2018- December 2018

- Produced videos and wrote articles for Orb, a journalism nonprofit that published with global partners including the CBC, *Die Zeit*, and *The Hindu*.

Staff Writer *SmartMoney* magazine, June 2005 to September 2006

- Wrote features on real estate and banking, including a feature on shoddy home construction and early warnings of slowing real estate markets.

Senior Feature Writer TechTarget, July 2002 to May 2005

- Helped launch a magazine for information technology executives. Filed daily stories about Cisco, IBM, and other tech companies.

Europe Bureau/Staff Writer *M-Business* magazine, August 2000 to December 2001

- Relocated to London to direct coverage of European mobile tech companies. Wrote features including a package on Finland's wireless industry.

Staff Writer *Metro* newspaper, San Jose, CA July 1998 to March 2000

- Wrote for Silicon Valley's alternative weekly newspaper including features on police violence and the incarceration of the mentally ill.

Books:

- *Upside: The New Science of Post-Traumatic Growth* (Touchstone 2015) was published to praise from *The Washington Post*, *Psychology Today*, and others. Through profiles of trauma survivors, interviews with psychologists and examination of published research, I detailed the ways that that traumatic events lead, not just to suffering, but to positive change.
- *Super-Charged: How Outlaws, Hippies, and Scientists Reinvented Marijuana* (Timber Press 2012) examines how legalization upended the cannabis industry.

Media Experience:

- Participate in radio, print, and podcast interviews including several appearances on WNYC's *The Leonard Lopate Show* and interviews on *To the Best of Our Knowledge*, Minnesota Public Radio, and others. Interviewed for articles in *Atlantic.com*, *O The Oprah Magazine*, *Dallas Morning News*, and other outlets. Present at conferences and host webinars for the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*.

Education:

Master of Journalism

University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism

Bachelor of Arts

Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY