

TRACIE MCMILLAN

Detroit, MI and Brooklyn, NY | traciemcmillan.com | [@tmmcmillan](https://twitter.com/tmmcmillan) | 646.286.8349

AFFILIATIONS AND RECENT WORK

1999 – Present ***Independent, Award-Winning Journalist and Author***

- In 2019, sold proposal for *The White Bonus: What Racism Gets Us In America*, to Henry Holt, Inc.;
- In 2012, published award-winning book, *The American Way of Eating*, a *New York Times* bestseller;
- Published work with a wide range of publications including *National Geographic*, *Mother Jones*, the *New York Times*, *National Public Radio*, the *Washington Post*, *Harper's*, and the *American Prospect*;
- Various speaking engagements, media commentary, and public appearances, including "The Rachel Maddow Show," Logan Symposium on Investigative Journalism, Chautauqua Institution.

2017-18; 2014 ***Professor of Writing***

- 2017 "Food Writing: Intersectionality on Your Plate," New York University Steinhardt School of Education, Nutrition and Food Studies Department, graduate level instruction;
- 2014 "Writing About Inequality," Wesleyan University Koeppel Fellow, undergraduate instruction.

2013 – Present ***James Beard Journalism Awards Committee***

- Helped administer prominent prize, helped foster transparency, accountability, and inclusion.

2012 – 2013 ***Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellows, University of Michigan***

- Spent academic year on fellowship at university campus in class of 16 journalists;
- Participated in fellowship exchange and life; represented fellowship publicly.

2011 – 2019 ***Sr. Fellow, Institute for Investigative Journalism, Brandeis University***

- Participated in community of journalists specializing in investigative reporting.

2001 – 2005 ***Managing Editor, City Limits magazine***

- Managed independent, award-winning monthly magazine covering politics and policy in New York City, and regularly reported news and award-winning features on low-wage work and social policy.

BOOKS

2019 ***Work in Progress, The White Bonus (Henry Holt)***

- Sold book proposal marrying memoir, narrative journalism and investigative reporting to quantify the cash value of whiteness and question the benefits of white supremacy.

2012 **Author, *The American Way of Eating* (Scribner)**

- Published *New York Times* bestseller, [*The American Way of Eating: Going Undercover at Walmart, Applebee's, Farm Fields and The Dinner Table*](#), a first-person, undercover investigative book about America's food system. Reporting ranged from undercover jobs across food system to in-depth reporting of the social, political and historical context of the American food system and low-wage labor market;
- Widely recognized for its reporting and writing, including:
 - Winner, [Sidney Hillman Prize for Book Journalism](#)
 - Winner, [Books for a Better Life Award](#)
 - Finalist, [James Beard Journalism Awards](#)
 - Finalist, [Investigative Reporters and Editors Awards](#)
 - Finalist, [International Association of Culinary Professionals Book Awards](#)
- **Select Impact:**
 - Used to frame *Congressional Quarterly's* 2012 report on farm bill;
 - Used in successful community efforts to halt construction of a Walmart in Watertown, MA;
 - Inspired Betti Wiggins, school food director for Detroit Public Schools, to raise starting wage for her division from minimum wage to \$10 an hour;
 - Taught across disciplines at universities across the country, often as a common read.

RECENT CLIPS OF NOTE

New York Times *Sunday Review*

- ["White resentment on the night shift at Walmart"](#), 12/17/2016
- ["What do we think poverty looks like?"](#) 7/8/2017

Mother Jones *and Type Investigations*

- ["How One Company Is Making Millions Off Trump's War on the Poor,"](#) Jan/Feb 2019
- ["Maximus, Inc.'s Safety Net Contracts,"](#) and ["How to Track the Monetization of the Safety Net,"](#)

National Geographic

- ["The New Face of Hunger,"](#) August 2014
- ["How China Plans to feed 1.4 Billion Growing Appetites,"](#) Feb. 2018
- ["Menu of the Future: Insects, Weeds, and Bleeding Veggie Burgers,"](#) Nov. 2018; international cover story on 10 editions

AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Russell Sage Foundation (2020-21)

- Awarded three-month residential fellowship for spring 2021

MacDowell Colony Resident (2020)

- Awarded two-month residency at writer's colony

Wildacres Retreat Residency (2019)

- Awarded residency at writer's colony

Type Investigations Grant (2017-2019)

- Awarded significant financial support in service of reporting on the monetization of the safety net

James Beard Journalism Award (2013)

- Winner, "As Common As Dirt," *The American Prospect*
- Finalist twice previously; highlighted as a notable finalist by *The New Yorker*

Book awards (2013)

- The five awards I received for *The American Way of Eating* are listed under "Books"

Whole Living magazine: Food Visionary (2012)

- Named a leading "Food Visionary" in prominent consumer magazine

Mesa Refuge Residency (2011)

- Awarded residency for writers addressing issues of social justice

Fund for Investigative Journalism (2010)

- Awarded grant to pursue reporting on farm labor and completion of book

James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism (2006)

- Won national prize for journalism measuring business, governmental and social affairs against the common good, for a feature series on poverty issues, "[Getting By.](#)"

Livingston Award for Young Journalists (2006)

- Finalist, for "[Getting By](#)"

Wesleyan Writer's Conference (2006)

- Recipient of Jon Davidoff Scholarship, awarded to journalists of unusual promise

Harry Chapin Media Award (2005)

- National prize for outstanding coverage of poverty and hunger, for "[The Action Diet](#)" (*City Limits*, August 2004) and accompanying data project, "[Where to Grab a Bite in NYC](#)"; finalist twice previous, for "[Market Babies](#)" (*City Limits*, January 2003), and "[The Great Training Robbery](#)" (*City Limits*, 2002);
- **Impact:** *The Action Diet* included the first analysis of food access in New York; developed a metric now widely used to measure access to healthy food, and led Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez to introduce legislation encouraging bodega owners to stock healthy food.

Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism (2004)

- Honorable mention in national prize for "[Market Babies](#)" (*City Limits*, January 2003), chronicling how the rise of home-based child care under Giuliani-era welfare reforms failed to live up to its promises.

University of Maryland Journalism Fellowships (2004)

- Fellow in program helping journalists examine how social policies affect children

SELECT RADIO AND TV APPEARANCES

- CBS Radio, national broadcast, August 6, 2014 (radio)
- "Happening Now," Fox News national broadcast, August 4, 2014 (television)
- Leonard Lopate Show, WNYC, New York broadcast; July 28, 2014 (radio)
- Radio Times, WHYY Philadelphia, local broadcast; July 16, 2014 (radio)
- All Things Considered, NPR, national broadcast; Nov. 14, 2013 (radio)
- The Splendid Table, American Public Media, national broadcast; August 25, 2012 (radio)
- C-Span Book TV; April 21, 2012 (radio)
- Patt Morrison, KPCC/Southern CA Public Radio, Los Angeles; April 17, 2012 (radio)
- Marketplace Money, American Public Media, national broadcast; Oct. 26, 2012 (radio)
- Q, CBC Radio; April 2, 2012 (radio)
- Politics Nation with Al Sharpton, MSNBC; March 8, 2012 (television)
- Jansing & Co with Chris Jansing, MSNBC; March 8, 2012 (television)
- Rachel Maddow Show, MSNBC; March 7, 2012 (television)
- The Leonard Lopate Show, WNYC; Feb. 27, 2012 (radio)
- Marketplace, American Public Media, national broadcast; Feb. 21, 2012 (radio)

SELECT SPEECHES AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES

- "Undercover and Beyond in the American Food System," University of Michigan Residential College and Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellowships, Ann Arbor, MI. October 18, 2019.
- "Women and Food," FERN Talks and Eats; Brooklyn, NY. October 1, 2018.
- "[Help Wanted](#)," Smithsonian Food History Weekend; Washington, DC. October 28, 2017.
- "The High Cost of Being Poor," Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit. May 31, 2017.
- Undercover Reporting, Logan Symposium on Investigative Journalism; Berkeley, CA. April 27-29, 2017.
- Hunger Week keynote, Loyola University; Chicago, IL. November 10, 2016.
- Common Experience program, Highpoint University; Highpoint, NC. September 15, 2016.
- Hutchins Lecture, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Chapel Hill, NC. September 13, 2016.
- Dorothy Day Memorial Lecture, Emmanuel College; Boston, MA. April 25, 2016.
- Common Ground Read and Lecture, Texas A&M University; College Station, TX. October 5, 2015.
- "[Hunger in America](#)," Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua, New York; July 1, 2014
- "Going Undercover in the Food System," Community-wide Reading Program, Kalamazoo Public Library, Kalamazoo, MI; March 5, 2014
- "Tackling Key Challenges/Opportunities in Changing Research and Policy Across the Food System," Panelist; Berkeley Sustainable Food Systems Institute Symposium, UC-Berkeley; May 6, 2013.
- "Writing About Food, Writing About Poverty," University of Mississippi at Oxford Center for Writing and Rhetoric and Southern Foodways Alliance, Oxford, MS; Feb. 25, 2013
- "Going Undercover in American Food Culture," Seattle Town Hall, Seattle, WA; October 17, 2012
- "The Food Dialogues," USFRA, The Times Center; New York City. October 4, 2012
- "Rethinking Food Politics in America," Monadnock Lyceum, Monadnock, NH; July 21, 2012
- "Going Undercover in the Food System," Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; May 21, 2012
- "Food, Labor and Concentration of Power," American University, Washington, DC; April 27, 2012
- "Is Eating Well Just for the Rich?" Zocalo Public Square and KCRW, Los Angeles; April 19, 2012
- "Reporting on Food, From the Bottom Up," Knight Journalism Bootcamp on Food Politics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; March 30, 2012
- "Going Undercover in the Food System," University of Pennsylvania; March 28, 2012
- "Going Undercover in the Food System," UC-Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism; March 14, 2012
- "Walmart and New York City's Food System," New America Foundation, New York City; Feb. 28, 2012