JOURNALISM & COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORKING NIGHT

Wednesday, March 15
7-8:30PM
Cox Hall Ballroom

GUEST DIRECTORY
Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Sponsored by:
- The Career Center
- Center for Creativity & Arts
- Emory Alumni Association
- Department of Media Studies
- and a grant from the High Five Foundation
Tips for Making the Most of Journalism & Communications Networking Night

1. **The liberal arts and sciences pair with Journalism and Communications fields in so many ways.** The desire to educate and influence the general public, to find truth, or to entertain: aspiring journalists and communications professionals are motivated by these goals. Whether you’re an English and Creative Writing or Media Studies major - or studying in business, pre-law, public health or in the humanities, arts and sciences - many of us want to impact others locally or globally.

2. **Tonight, 30 different Emory alumni and professionals have planned to be here to meet YOU.** This is your chance to learn about some of the different pathways into these professions - and if you like what you see, making a face-to-face connection greatly increases the likelihood of connecting again - perhaps for the sake of internships, volunteer work, jobs or gap year experiences. At little risk to you, these conversations can inform your next steps - in Atlanta or elsewhere!

3. **It’s a “mixer” - a chance to gather with others in a fun, casual atmosphere.** Guests won’t be standing behind tables, they’ll be mingling with you and your peers, making conversations less intimidating and more enjoyable.

4. **Take time to review this Guest Directory before coming.** Networking at a mixer is less overwhelming when you have a gameplan for who you want to find and talk to before you arrive. Some of our guests are Emory alumni - designated by graduation year and school (ie. C-Emory College, OX-Oxford, B-Business, L-Law, T-Theology, PH-Public Health, G-Graduate School of Arts & Sciences).

4. **It’s not hard to form authentic connections at this event.** It starts by valuing who people are, rather than simply what they can do for you. Each guest’s bio provides clues about what the two of you have in common, or what interests you share.

5. **You don’t need to bring a resume.** If you want to follow up with one of our guests to explore an opportunity to get involved, simply ask them for a business card - you can follow up with a timely thank you note and a resume the next day.

6. **How do I introduce myself?** Smile, make eye contact, and offer a firm handshake. Share your name and then a few things your listener might like to know about you. That might be your hometown, major or year in school. You might open by saying what part of their role resonates most with your interests and values. You can also let them know about key influences or experiences in your own life that have made you curious to pursue a similar career path!

7. **I’ve introduced myself. What next?** Listening is one of the best ways to engage. Try asking a thoughtful question to get to know the person you are meeting. Try one of the following: Where are you from originally? How did you become interested in this field? If you could describe an average day in your job, what would it look like? What do you find most rewarding (or challenging)? Describe one of your favorite projects. What attracted you to work for this organization? How would you describe the people and culture? What opportunities might exist for someone with my interests and strengths?

8. **Conversation doesn’t have to be competitive.** It’s not practical to wait in a single-file line to talk with every guest at a party or an event - that’s why people naturally form semi-circles, or clusters. This saves a guest from having to repeat information - but also reflects your own ability to listen and communicate with guests and peers in a group. Walk up and find a comfortable space in the circle, offer friendly eye contact with others, and then simply listen to what is being shared to get your bearings.

9. **Await a verbal or nonverbal cue to join in - then introduce yourself and ask a question.** Speak loudly enough for all to hear. Refrain from asking multiple questions at once and give everyone a turn - others may have questions similar to your own! Is someone else nearby wanting to join in? Make room in the circle and help them to feel welcome.

10. **Keep an open mind.** A guest who is standing alone might appreciate you taking the initiative to say hello. Walk over, introduce yourself, and thank them for coming. You’ll often be pleasantly surprised by what you share in common!

11. **Stretch your comfort zone.** Conversation gets easier the more you practice! Try meeting 3-5 people. To excuse yourself from one conversation and move on to the next, try these simple steps: 1) thank the person you’re speaking to and let them know what you appreciated about their sharing; 2) if you’d like to follow up after the event, state your intentions and then ask for their business card; 3) give a handshake and a smile; 4) politely exit.

12. **Should I follow up with people I spoke to at the event?** Yes. Develop a habit of sending a thank you note no later than the next day to create a timely and lasting impression. *Tonight is only the beginning*...building relationships takes follow up and initiative. For more advice about how to stay connected, schedule an appointment at The Career Center at 404-727-6211.

*Require a disability-related accommodation to participate? Please email pbredde@emory.edu to make arrangements.
Saeed Ahmed is an editor, coach, and story-teller whose mandate is to dream up new and unique ways to present the news beyond text. In his current role as a Senior Editor for trending content and creative storytelling at CNN Digital, Saeed helps make decisions about news coverage at a network with a reach of two billion people worldwide, ensuring that essential reporting shows up not only on CNN’s TV, web, and mobile platforms – but on a broad network of newspapers and television websites around the world. Saeed speaks Bengali, Urdu and Hindi and can read and write in Arabic, having been born in Bangladesh and raised in the Middle East before coming to Atlanta to attend college at Morehouse. He has used his language skills to augment CNN’s on-the-scene reporting from South Asia on stories ranging from the Benazir Bhutto assassination to the garment factory disaster in Bangladesh. Before coming to CNN, Saeed worked for seven years as part of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution’s breaking-news team that was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for its coverage of the 2005 Fulton County Courthouse shooting. When he’s not working, he likes to run (and take photographs while doing it), cook, play in a rock band and draw cartoons. You can follow him on @writer_dad (Instagram); @saeed_ahmed (Twitter) and SaeedAhmedjournalist (Facebook).

Max Blau (10C) is an award-winning Atlanta-based journalist. He is a Southern correspondent for STAT, the Boston Globe Media’s national health and life sciences website, where his stories often focus on health care, mental illness and addiction. Max has also written for CNN, The Guardian, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Atlanta Magazine, and Creative Loafing. A graduate of Emory University, where he double-majored in sociology and economics, he is now earning his MFA in narrative nonfiction writing at the University of Georgia.

Cassady Buck is Talent and University Relations Specialist for Cox Media Group (CMG), whose operations currently span more than 20 media markets and reach approximately 52 million Americans weekly – including more than 31 million TV viewers, 3.5 million newspaper readers, and 14 million radio listeners. Among its holdings are 14 broadcast TV stations, more than 60 radio stations, and six daily newspapers. CMG also operates more than 100 digital sites and services, like MundoHispanico, Rare.us, Clark.com, Dawg Nation, SEC Country, Hookem.com, and All22. Cassady supports CMG’s Internship and Digital Talent Programs and is here tonight alongside fellow CMG staff Morieka Johnson and Emory alumna Katy Heath looking to expand CMG’s relationship with students, staff and faculty at Emory.

Hilary Cadigan (10C) is the Food Editor at Creative Loafing Atlanta as well as a freelance journalist and branded content writer. After graduating from Emory with a B.A. in English and creative writing and a minor in sociology, Hilary lived and worked in Chiang Mai, Thailand as managing editor of Citylife, the most-read English language magazine in the region. Her writing has appeared in The Atlantic, Salon, NYLON, Huffington Post, Tricycle: The Buddhist Review, Consequence of Sound, and other publications. She has also worked previously as publishing coordinator for Oz Publishing in Atlanta.

Arefa Cassoobhoy (94C, 98PH, 99M) is a board-certified internal medicine doctor and Medical Editor at WebMD, as well as a member of the Advisory Board of Medscape Internal Medicine. At WebMD, Dr. Cassoobhoy helps ensure that all WebMD health information is correct and current – both overseeing the national network of doctors that reviews content across the site and working with the editorial teams that create it. Her scope includes health news, special reports, WebMD Magazine, videos, mobile applications, tools, and health reference material. She represents WebMD as a subject matter expert through media, blogs, and WebMD Magazine. At Medscape, she is the host of Arefa MD’s Morning Report, a weekly video release featuring key medical news impacting primary care doctors. Arefa received her
B.S. in medical anthropology and joint MD/MPH degree from Emory. In her current medical practice, she sees patients at the Women’s Wellness clinic at the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

**Beverly Cox Clark** is the Director of Communications for Emory University’s College of Arts & Sciences, having worked in public relations and communications within higher education for more than 18 years. She became the first Director of Communications for Emory College in 2015 after serving more centrally in Emory’s Communications and Public Affairs division as a Senior Communications Officer and Associate Director of Media Relations. Like many PR professionals, Beverly had previous experience as a journalist and reporter, having worked for newspapers in Georgia and as a writer and editor for *The Red & Black* as a journalism student at The University of Georgia. Beverly has served on the Emory Scholars Selection Committee and is a 2015 graduate of Leadership DeKalb.

**Samantha Darby** is Lifestyle Editor at Romper.com, a website for millennial moms that covers everything from how to increase milk production and find inclusive, feminist books for your child to rocking a smokey eye on three hours of sleep and surviving on Chipotle for dinner. Before becoming an editor, she worked as a lifestyle writer for Romper and has freelanced for sister site Bustle, as well as The Huffington Post, HelloGiggles, mom.me, mamalode, YourTango, and Babble. She also writes book reviews and covers children’s literature at the Barnes & Noble Kids’ Blog. Basically, she writes. A lot. Samantha is also a mom to her daughter, Alice, which means she’s really great at completing half a day’s work in the time it takes to watch Finding Dory. You can find her on Twitter at @SamanthaDarby.

**Mark R. Davis** is a Public Affairs Specialist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a division of the nation’s Department of the Interior. In simpler terms, Mark will tell you he’s an advocate for creatures that swim, creep and fly. In that capacity, his role includes writing press releases as well as articles for dissemination across a wide array of traditional and digital media platforms. His subjects have ranged from tiny – a 2.5-inch catfish found only in one river in Arkansas, for example – to massive: searchers recently found a 16-foot Burmese python in the Florida Keys, a place where the huge crawler is not welcome. Mark began this role recently, after working for several years as a reporter for an array of newspapers in his native North Carolina, as well as in Tampa, Philadelphia and Atlanta. He graduated from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with a bachelor’s degree in Journalism. When he’s not at work, you might find him coaching baseball.

**Tomika DePriest** is Senior Director of Communications for Emory’s Division of Campus Life, ensuring all communications within the Division consistently and accurately articulate a mission, vision, and goals that align with the overall University brand. More broadly, she is part of the Communications and Public Affairs team working to advance the reputation of Emory. Her previous communications experience includes roles serving as Executive Director of Communications at Spelman College and with Turner Broadcasting Systems and Southern Company. Tomika has received accolades for her work from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Public Relations Society of America. She holds a B.A. in English from Spelman, an M.A. in humanities from Clark Atlanta University, and a certificate from the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education.

**Natalie Duggan (14C)** is a 2014 graduate of Emory College with a B.A. in anthropology and journalism. Professionally and personally, she is interested in the art of storytelling and how stories about health unite people all over the world. Since January 2017, she has been working as a Digital Health Communications Specialist with ICF International, currently serving the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(CDC) within the Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development (DSEPD). There, she provides expertise in the areas of digital content creation, campaign development, graphic design and photography, social media channel management, and communications strategy. Previously, Natalie held roles as a Wellness Marketing Coordinator at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta (2016-2017) and as a Communications Specialist at the CDC Foundation (2014-2016). During her undergraduate years at Emory, Natalie interned at Emory Medicine magazine, CDC, Georgia Health News, the CNN Medical Unit with Dr. Sanjay Gupta, and was an ORISE fellow at the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

RICHARD L. ELDREDGE has been reporting on all things Atlanta since 1990. He is the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of daily digital arts and entertainment magazine EldredgeATL.com. Rich is also a contributing writer for Billboard magazine, where he recently interviewed Jason Aldean and Harry Belafonte, and is a Contributing Editor for Atlanta Magazine. From 1993 to 2009, Eldredge served as a Reporter for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and is still known for his role as the Head Writer for the AJC’s Peach Buzz, writing more than 4,000 editions of the popular daily celebrity briefing.

JUDY FORTIN is a veteran former broadcast journalist and CNN Headline News anchor who made the transition to non-profit cancer communications six years ago. Also an award-winning former CNN Medical Correspondent, Judy now serves as Senior Director of Communications at the Winship Cancer Institute, handling everything from media relations to magazine and video production to web and social media posting. Each day her team is responsible for all external and internal cancer communications at Emory University. Before coming to Winship, Judy served as the National Director of Media Relations for the American Cancer Society. She earned a B.A. in Government and French from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine before getting her start as a reporter for WCVB-TV in Boston and WMUR-TV in Manchester, New Hampshire. Fortin then became widely known for her work as a CNN Headline News anchor from 1990-2006.

FENLY FOXEN is a news journalist from South Africa with 14 years of experience in broadcast journalism. She now is a Reporter and Producer for WABE’s Closer Look at FM 90.1 in Atlanta. There, she is part of a news team that goes into metro Atlanta neighborhoods to provide context, storytelling and a sense of place – interviewing some of the biggest newsmakers, but also folks who don’t often get a voice. The show features a mix of local national and international stories and interviews and is an interactive space to share ideas and dig deeper into issues. Fenly started out in radio as a news anchor for Channel Africa before moving to TV as a news writer and reporter for South African Broadcast Corporation. When CNBC Africa came to Johannesburg, Fenly became one of the channel’s news anchors, later hosting a show called We the People and then another called Women in Business. Due to the popularity of the latter, Fenly was a runner up for CEO Magazine’s Most Influential Women in Business.

TYLER GOLDBERG (14OX, 16C) serves as a Competitive Media Strategist at Canal Partners Media in Atlanta. In political communications at CPM, Tyler helps plan and execute media strategy for campaigns and ballot initiatives across the United States. In 2015, he served as the Campaign Manager for Melba Burrell, who ran for Mayor of Milledgeville, GA, and he has also worked on the campaigns of Jason Carter, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, as well as in the Press Office of Governor Andrew Cuomo. He holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and government from Emory University and upon graduation in 2016 was a recipient of the 100 Senior Honorary.
**Floyd Hall** is a cultural producer, storyteller, writer and documentarian from nearby College Park. Professionally, his role as a media strategist at his firm **FloydCreates** often relates to the intersection of media and technology as platforms to bring cultures together and make the world a more fulfilling place. As an artist, he is interested in the process of how we come to define and design ourselves and is passionate about how history, culture and art blend together to construct narratives of place. Floyd has worked in media strategy, research and production spanning the Gaming, Brand Management, Nonprofit Arts, Social Change, Sporting Goods, Sports Media and Beauty industry sectors. He holds a B.S. in mathematics from Morehouse College, a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech and an MBA from Columbia University with concentrations in media and strategy.

**Katy Heath (15C)** is a Senior Multimedia Account Manager at **Cox Media Group**, which owns and operates many of Atlanta’s powerhouse media brands, including *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and WSB-TV. In her role, she manages and grows advertiser relations with over 50 travel and tourism clients. She builds strategic plans to help her clients achieve their goals, drawing from a portfolio that includes print, programmatic, native, social media, SEM, SEO, and more. At Emory, she studied psychology and Spanish and was involved in chaiTunes a cappella, Greek life, Tour Guides, and Ad Hoc Productions.

**Rodney Ho** covers entertainment for **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**, where he has interviewed everyone from Miley Cyrus to Oprah Winfrey. At the AJC, Rodney has been a full-time Reporter since 2001 and a Blogger since 2004, focusing mainly on TV and radio. Now his blog is one of the AJC’s most popular, covering shows such as *American Idol*, *The Real Housewives of Atlanta* and *The Walking Dead* extensively. A New York native and Princeton University graduate, Rodney held prior roles at both the *The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Wall Street Journal* covering topics of education and entrepreneurship, before moving to Atlanta in 1994. Married to Emory University Law School graduate Helen Kim Ho, he also dotes over his English bulldog Goo Goo and Corgi mix Moses.

**Morieka Johnson** serves as Senior Communications Manager for **Cox Media Group** (CMG), a publishing, digital media and broadcasting subsidiary of Atlanta-based Cox Enterprises. There, she works to attract, retain and engage employees through interesting stories and videos on the company’s intranet site, as well as its Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter accounts. Morieka also guides CMG’s executive leadership team as they share the company’s goals and key initiatives. And her communications work doesn’t end there. In her spare time, she volunteers with pet organizations and has a writes a regular blog providing tips for new dog owners on her website, [Soulpup.com](http://www.soulpup.com).

**Mindy Larcom** is the **Fox 5 Investigative Team** Producer and the investigative reporter you rarely see, working for more than 20 years behind the scenes on nearly every major I-Team investigation. Her responsibilities are broad. She’s an undercover operative, a photographer, an analyst, an interviewer, researcher, writer and producer. She’s been involved in investigations that have changed state laws, sent criminals to prison and shutdown bad businesses. Before coming to Fox 5, she worked for six years as a reporter for WGST Radio. Mindy has won numerous journalism awards including a George Foster Peabody award for an investigation with partner Dale Russell (also here tonight). She attended high school at nearby Woodward Academy and holds a bachelor’s from Southern Methodist University.
Fiza Pirani (14C) is a Content Producer with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Coming from a family of immigrants, Fiza grew up glued to the news. It was how her parents learned about their new world, and what they heard or read made the biggest impact on their perceptions of their surroundings. Knowing how important it is to have a trustworthy press to shape those perceptions – and having a lifelong love of writing – led her to pursue a bachelor’s in psychology and journalism at Emory. Her current responsibilities center around producing engaging and relevant news content with the goal of increasing the AJC’s digital audiences across various online platforms. She came to the AJC after working in video production related to health at ShareWIK Media Group, as well as working in editorial at Modern Luxury’s Jezebel Magazine. Other things you should know: she graduated from Emory in 2014 and is both a crazy dog mom and big fan of the Los Angeles Lakers.

Nicole Pomarico is an Entertainment Writer for Bustle, and you can also find her work on sites like The Stir and The Things. She loves writing about all things entertainment – but Nicole’s main focus has been writing about television, including shows such as The Bachelor, Catfish, Grey’s Anatomy, Pretty Little Liars and Jersey Shore, to name a few. She has published content in Seventeen, TV Guide, and Wetpaint, and can also be found on Twitter @nicolepomarico. She holds a B.A. in English and literature from Pace University. Feel free to talk to Nicole, or tonight’s fellow guest writer Samantha Darby about Bustle.com, a site that is always looking for talented men and women to write about what’s working and what isn’t in regards to fashion, politics, technology, diversity, celebrities, health, beauty, work, sex, friendship, and how to make amazing food on a budget.

Jason Rhode is a Staff Writer for Paste Magazine, writing about politics, media, and culture. Jason’s writings have also been published by McSweeney’s, The Comics Journal, Eyeshot, Monkeybicycle, Yankee Pot Roast, and Metaphilm. With Texas roots, Jason got his start as a reporter and critic for The Lawton Constitution and as a columnist for The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and The Daily Toreador. He received both an M.A. and B.A. in philosophy from Texas Tech University and is currently working on his M.S. in information science at the University of North Texas. Fun fact: he appeared on an April 2011 episode of the quiz show Jeopardy.

Dale Russell is the FOX 5 I-Team’s government watchdog and Senior Investigative Reporter. Having spent more than 35 years investigating some of Atlanta’s biggest stories, he enjoys his role in complex, long term investigations of fraud, inefficiency, and waste in government and private business. As a result, Dale’s work has helped to shape Georgia’s political history, topple people in power, expose waste and corruption, spark criminal investigations, and change laws. Very relevant to this type of role is the responsibility for examining actions and decisions by high-ranking government officials. He belongs to the Atlanta Press Club and has worked previously for other television and radio news networks, and additionally taught journalism to high school and college students and high school journalism teachers. Dale is here tonight with I-Team partner and Producer Mindy Larcom. He holds a B.A. in education and psychology from Georgia State University and is an alum of nearby Druid Hills High School.

Elizabeth Schechter (14OX, 16C) is an Associate Campaign Manager at Response Media, a full-service advertising agency that integrates data-driven strategy, performance-based media, and behavioral email marketing to deliver measurable growth in customer acquisition and loyalty. Elizabeth works with both the client and her Account Director to develop the strategic direction of a campaign. She helps to determine a brand’s advertising approach that will resonate with consumers and also analyzes
and reports key data to ensure the campaign is meeting the client’s goals and ROI. She has worked on campaigns for Enfamil, a leading infant formula brand, as well as for Silk, Horizon Organic, and International Delight – three brands of White Wave Foods. Elizabeth graduated summa cum laude last May with a B.A in sociology and a minor in global health, culture, and society. During her time as a student, she was actively involved in Gamma Phi Beta sorority and wrote a senior honors thesis that used statistical models to evaluate the effects of the National School Lunch Program. Outside work, Elizabeth serves on the Emerging Leaders Network, a young professional committee focused on fighting homelessness on behalf of Atlanta youth with Chris 180.

**Adina Solomon** is a Freelance Writer based in Atlanta. She has written for *The Washington Post*, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and Atlanta’s WABE NPR station, as well as writing for a variety of aviation and hospitality trade magazines. She graduated from The University of Georgia in 2012 where she majored in journalism and minored in French, the latter of which enabled her to live and teach English in France for a time. Fun fact: Adina wants to invite Emory students to attend an upcoming job fair for those interested in freelance writing and editing. This event is being hosted on Saturday May 6th at WSB’s office in Midtown – ask her for details!

**Ernie Suggs** has been a Reporter at *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* since 1997 and now covers a variety of breaking news and investigative stories for page A1. Suggs has covered stories ranging from politics to civil rights to higher education as a 20-year veteran newspaper reporter – not only at the AJC, but at newspapers in New York City and Durham, NC. A 1990 graduate of North Carolina Central University with a degree in English literature, Suggs was also a Harvard University Nieman Fellow. He is currently on the Nieman Board of Trustees and is the former national Vice President of the National Association of Black Journalists. His appreciation for Prince and the New York Yankees is unmatched.

**Diana Tollison (09C)** is a Senior Producer for CNN Digital Video. She graduated from Emory University in 2009 with a degree in journalism and anthropology. Knowing that she enjoyed photography and video editing, Diana joined CNN through the video journalist program, and has since held positions as a media coordinator, an associate producer, and a producer with the digital team. At CNN, Diana has helped cover memorable stories such as the Boston bombing, the death of Osama bin Laden, and the 2016 election. She was first drawn to journalism in high school, where she was the editor of her high school newspaper. At Emory, Diana contributed to the campus TV news program *Eagle News Network*. She also worked on *The Emory Wheel*. While at Emory, she took on internships with CNN, *Businessweek*, and at a local PBS station in her hometown of Bloomington, Indiana.

**Sonam Vashi (15C)** is a Freelance Journalist, writing and editing around Atlanta. Recently, she’s reported on national projects related to sexual assault and the criminal justice system, as well as Obamacare and the impacts of its repeal. She has worn a few different hats at CNN – including investigative reporter, data cruncher, researcher, and fact-checker. Her writing has also appeared in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *Creative Loafing*. She is a 2015 graduate of Emory’s journalism program and a former executive editor of *The Emory Wheel*.

**Haisten Willis** is a Freelance Writer for print and digital and also brings extensive editing experience to his work with writers and guest columnists across a variety of platforms and projects. Since 2008, his byline has appeared in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *Marietta Daily Journal*, several sites in the SB Nation network, lifestyle magazines including *Living Northside, Living Intown* and *West Georgia*.
Living, and a number of trade publications. His writing has captured statewide awards on topics ranging from business to sports, religion and politics. Haisten holds a B.A. from Georgia Southern University and a Master’s in Mass Communication and Journalism from California State University, Fresno. He serves on the board of the Georgia Chapter for the Society of Professional Journalists and is a member of the Atlanta Press Club. Ask him about an upcoming job fair for aspiring freelance writers where Emory students are welcome!

**JENNIFER ZYMAN (97OX, 00B)** is a **Dining Writer** living in Atlanta. She is a 2000 graduate of Emory University with a degree in Marketing from Goizueta Business School and a degree in Hospitality Management from California Culinary Academy in San Francisco. After returning to Atlanta in 2005 from San Francisco, she launched *The Blissful Glutton*, one of Atlanta’s first food and restaurant blogs. Zyman parlayed this award-winning food blog into a freelance dining writing career with publications such as *Atlanta Intown Paper, Creative Loafing Atlanta, The Atlanta-Journal Constitution, Serious Eats, Eater Atlanta, Eater National,* and her current role as a dining writer and the restaurant critic for *Atlanta Magazine* (Jennifer is not pictured at the top of the page to protect her anonymity in this role, and she asks that you do the same by not posting photos of her to social media during or after this event). When she isn’t eating and writing, she likes traveling the world with her daughter Zoe who shares her mother’s affinity for noodles.