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CORCORAN LAUNCHES MASTER OF ARTS IN NEW MEDIA PHOTOJOURNALISM

Fall 2011 at the Corcoran College of Art + Design

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This fall, the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design** will launch the Master of Arts in New Media Photojournalism, a pioneering academic program for visual journalists. Directed by Susan Sterner, assistant professor of photojournalism at the Corcoran College of Art + Design, the two-year degree program is the first of its kind in an art institution and emphasizes the individual as a visual reporter and encourages experimentation with new ways of storytelling, documentation, and editing. Classes begin on August 31 and are held in a newly renovated studio at the Corcoran’s Georgetown Campus located at 1801 Thirty Fifth Street NW Washington, D.C. To learn more, visit <http://www.corcoran.edu/degree-programs/graduate/ma-new-media-photojournalism>.

The Master of Arts in New Media Photojournalism explores the latest digital practices and trends as well as the fundamentals of visual reporting, editing, and ethics. The program focuses on engagement with media outlets and renowned photojournalists in the nation’s capital while also affording students the opportunity to produce stories collaboratively with communities not normally highlighted in traditional media. The curriculum draws on the College’s expert academic and fine-art resources and extends of the established strengths of the Corcoran’s renowned undergraduate Photojournalism program.

Susan Sterner said, “The Master of Arts in New Media Photojournalism prepares students to excel in a wide range of visual media careers, leading a new generation of 21st-century photojournalists. The best way to stay ahead of the always-changing trends in photojournalism is to capitalize on new technologies but also to think beyond technology, and we believe the key to that is collaboration.”

The Master of Arts in New Media Photojournalism is a 48-credit program that can be completed in three semesters of full-time traditional study and one semester of intensive project completion. Students develop proficiency in generating and editing compelling still photographs, audio, and video; multimedia production and post-production; basic web design; and best practices and ethical guidelines in photojournalism today.

“With her accomplishments in the field and her compelling views on the future of photojournalism, Susan Sterner is the ideal director for this new and forward-thinking academic program,” said Catherine Armour, provost and chief academic officer of the Corcoran College of Art + Design. “The Corcoran College of Art + Design is proud to lead the next generation of photojournalists as they prepare for careers in this fast-growing and exciting field.”

ABOUT SUSAN STERNER

Ms. Sterner is the Director of the MA in New Media Studies and an assistant professor of photojournalism. Ms. Sterner started her career as a photojournalist freelancing with national and international publications while based in New Orleans, La. She worked for the Associated Press as a staff photographer, based in Mississippi and California. With the AP she covered domestic issues such as immigration, child labor and families in poverty to international coverage of the violence in Haiti. A two-year fellowship with the Institute of Current World Affairs was awarded to Ms. Sterner to photograph and write about women’s lives in Brazil. After returning to the United States, she became a White House photographer, documenting the official and the behind-the-scenes life of the presidency. Since 2006 she has coordinated the undergraduate program in photojournalism, emphasizing a multimedia and multidisciplinary approach. She is currently at work on series of documentaries examining community-based health care. Ms Sterner is the 2010 recipient of the Betty Foster Creative Research Award for Faculty. Ms. Sterner holds a Masters of Arts, Latin American Studies from Vanderbilt University and a Bachelors of Arts from Emory University.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America’s first dedicated art museum and today is Washington’s largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington’s only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College’s Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.

