

Bio & Policy Statement from A Nominee for Correspondent Member Governor Board of Governors 2023-2024

Kristie LU STOUT Affiliation: CNN International



POLICY STATEMENT

I am honored to be nominated again as a Correspondent Governor of the Foreign Correspondents' Club - a world-renowned press club, thriving social center, and hub for elevated conversations on news and current affairs.

Over the last few years, I have served as a co-convener of the Wall Committee, a dedicated team of professional photographers and enthusiasts of photojournalism, helping to bring a series of powerful and timely photographic exhibits to the Club's Van Es Wall including "Russia's Invasion of Ukraine," "Burning Planet," and a retrospective to remember the life and work of Queen Elizabeth II.

Additional highlights include a series of colorful Wall exhibits from "Meme the News" and "Formula One - the Speed of Light," to Basil Pao's captivating "Carnival of Dreams."

In 2022, our student photographic exhibition attracted a record number of participants from across Hong Kong, and we look forward to welcoming a new group of aspiring photojournalists for this year's show.

As always, all our shows are exhibited for Club members as well as members of the general public to view and enjoy.

As a Correspondent Governor, I have also served as an active member of the Professional Committee, helping to organize a number of speaking events including discussions on the conflict in Ukraine, the rise of human trafficking during the pandemic, and life under the Taliban with a stirring talk by Afghan women's rights activist and 2023 Nobel Peace Prize nominee Mahbouba Seraj.

I also look back fondly to the Club's dinner screening of "Roadrunner" -- a poignant documentary about the life of the late cultural explorer, writer, and chef Anthony Bourdain -- and the post-screening conversation I hosted with veteran journalist and educator Matt Walsh, who produced Bourdain's programs across Greater China & Southeast Asia.

If elected to the board, I would continue to contribute to the already powerful line-up of exhibits and events that inform journalists and educate the greater community.

With pandemic restrictions relaxed, I would also help organize and plan the Club's excellent Journalism Day conference. We should continue to highlight the work and achievements of younger journalists as well as our media colleagues who work behind the scenes. Practical workshops on new media tools and storytelling techniques can also be on offer for mid-career and veteran media professionals to refresh and reboot our skills.

All in all, it would be a privilege to continue to serve the FCC as a Correspondent Governor. I would strive to maintain the Club as a center of intelligent conversation for the media, business, and diplomatic communities.

It would be an honor to serve on your board.

BIO

Kristie Lu Stout is an award-winning anchor and correspondent for CNN, based in Hong Kong.

She reports from the newsroom and in the field on major breaking news stories including US-China relations, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the aftermath of extreme climate events in the region.

She also hosts feature programs for CNN including Tech For Good, a television and digital series on the transformative power of technology. Lu Stout is also a host for Marketplace Asia, a monthly program targeting CNN's global audience of business leaders.

For CNN Digital and TV, she also researches and hosts in-depth reports on tech titans in Asia and conducts interviews with some of the world's most innovative thinkers including Jane Goodall, Elon Musk, and Maria Ressa.

Based in China for two decades, Lu Stout maintains a focus on how developments in China are dramatically changing the world for all of us. From anchoring CNN's groundbreaking Eye on China series in 2004 to covering the Trump-Xi Summit in Beijing to reporting on fresh tensions with a new U.S. administration, Lu Stout has remained committed to reporting on the country. She was also instrumental in launching On China, CNN's first-ever regular series focused on the country -- a first by any international TV news network.

Over the years, her work has been nominated for multiple categories at the News and Documentary Emmy Awards including the CNN Special Report, Witness to the Pandemic, in 2021. Lu Stout's program Inventing Tomorrow: Tech in a Time of Pandemic was awarded Best Covid-19 Factual Feature at the 2020 Content Asia Awards. In 2020, she and her CNN Hong Kong colleagues were awarded Best Continuing News Reporting for TV and Video by the Association for International Broadcasting for team coverage of the 2019 Hong Kong Protests. In 2018, Lu Stout was awarded Best News or Current Affairs Presenter at the Asian Academy Creative Awards, while the news program she conceived and launched in 2010 -- News Stream -- was awarded Best News Program. Other accolades include multiple honors from the Asia Television Awards and Best News Coverage from the Royal Television Society in 2013 for coverage of Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

With over 900,000 fans and followers on social media, Lu Stout believes in engaging with her viewers and makes social media an integral part of her reporting. She also believes in contributing to the debate with viewers off-camera with regular speaking and moderating appearances and is well known for her style in stimulating frank and lively conversations.

Lu Stout also plays an active role in promoting the CNN Freedom Project, the network's award-winning initiative focused on reporting stories of modern-day slavery, including student outreach in Hong Kong and across Asia as part of #MyFreedomDay. She is also proud to be part of CNN's Call to Earth Day -- a new global initiative to engage students on the need for urgent action against climate change and pollution.

Lu Stout started her career in journalism in San Francisco at WIRED magazine's online division. She has written on technology for various media publications including the South China Morning Post, where she founded and wrote the Beijing Byte column. Before her career in journalism, she was an early employee at Beijing-based Internet company Sohu.com and worked for Reuters' new media team in China.

A proud Asian American, Lu Stout is an Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) lifetime member and mentor. She is also a Correspondent Member and Correspondent Board Governor at the Foreign Correspondents' Club, Hong Kong. Lu Stout regularly leads conversations about current events with students off-camera with speaking engagements at universities across the world and volunteers as an undergraduate admission interviewer for her alma mater.

She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Stanford University and studied advanced Mandarin Chinese at Beijing's Tsinghua University.