



## JOIN US IN ORGANIZING FOR A BETTER WORLD.

*Authentic journalism isn't the  
easiest path to follow, but it's the  
only path that leads forward.*

### **The Salon of Authentic Journalism will be how we fight back**

There is a Rebel Alliance fighting back against the Death Star of authoritarianism. One of its training grounds is a planned authentic media and social-movement workshop, called the Salon of Authentic Journalism.

It's a small endeavor by comparison to the Empire's Death Star and its jackboot, but the Salon literally could play a crucial role in vanquishing the Empire, much like underdogs have always changed history. It needs your support, however, if we have a shot at turning that jackboot into work boots for democracy.

**Contribute to the Salon for Authentic Journalism by [contributing here](#).**

Everywhere we look today, we see reason, freedom and justice under attack by forces bent on dividing us by nationality, race, gender and religion. The media has been declared a public enemy, while immigrants and people of color are under siege by white supremacists who now hold some of the highest offices in the land.

Yes, it seems like the sky is falling. There is a world of work to be done to achieve the full promise of democracy we all deserve — as do our children and grandchildren. With each passing day, the insanity of watching large swaths of a democratic nation turn slowly toward authoritarianism, into some distorted version of the Star Wars Empire .... well, it's enough to induce a paralyzing depression.

Adding to the crushing weight of the dark force aligned against us is the fact that we all know, based on history, that the mainstream media can't be counted on to withstand the Empire's assault. That's been proven in battle after battle for decades. The pattern we have seen in the past is objectification, eventual capitulation and then normalization of the jackboots in the name of increasing clicks, cash flow and return on investment.

Our media institutions have been morally bankrupt for a while, which is why they are so easily attacked now, with no mass rallies staged in their defense. There are exceptions to the rule, of course, but the fact that they are described as exceptions defines the problem.

Still, there is a sense all around us that millions of people are looking for a way to fight back, to put the nation and the world back on a track toward a more civil society guided by social justice.

Well, all journeys toward victory start with the first step.

A nation's media institutions are not the same as its people, but they are ultimately shaped by the people. Social movements can force governments to act in the interest of the people if organized around clear goals, guided by smart strategy and practiced in applying creative tactics. Likewise, authentic journalism can operate outside the constraints of profit-driven media companies to tell the truths that would otherwise be censored by the profit motive. We, the people, do have the power to win here.

The Salon of Authentic Journalism is about accomplishing just that. This April, with your help, we plan to bring together dozens of social-movement leaders, organizers and authentic journalists from around the globe to collaborate, examine victories and defeats, to learn from each other — with the goal of taking those lessons back home and teaching a younger generation the art and science of organizing and committing journalism in the service of the people. It's an uplifting experience for all, but more importantly, the Salon can one day train hundreds of authentic journalists and community organizers, many who are already in the field working relentlessly in the service of human rights.

The Salon will teach theory, but it also is heavily focused on practice. From there, Salon participants can take those tools back into the world, into their communities, and day by day help to build effective social movements that press back against corrupt power and ultimately empower the oppressed and the democracy.

But first, we have to gather together a group of experienced media, social movement leaders and organizers across a range of struggles and with a range of experiences and talents. The first Salon, then, will include a list of already proven superstars in their respective talents and local struggles for freedom and justice.

That is where we need your help. None of this is even remotely possible absent your support. So, please, donate what you can to the Fund for Authentic Journalism, the 501c3 nonprofit that

is supporting the launch of the Salon for Authentic Journalism. [Please, make a tax-deductible donation here.](#)

Yes, that's how it starts. One person at a time. One step at a time. One heartbeat at a time. All moving in the same direction, all acting with discipline, all equipped with a few powerful tools, all united around a few powerful and achievable goals that define the vision of the social movement.

If we want to help propel a pro-democracy social movement that can stand up to and ultimately roll back the anti-democracy movement now sweeping the globe, then we must take that first step toward that freedom.

The Salon of Authentic Journalism is one path that can help lead us to that victory. Help make it so by donating what you can, so that there will be a 2025 Salon of Authentic Journalism.

Please give from your heart, no matter the amount. The Salon participants will give from theirs. [Donate here.](#)

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