We will illuminate dark places and,
with a deep sense of responsibility,
interpret these troubled times.

Joseph Pulitzer III (1913-1993)
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In three short years the Center has already produced some 70 reporting projects focusing on stories that would have otherwise gone untold. In 2008 Pulitzer journalists reported from Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Vietnam, Carteret Islands, China, Burma, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey, Russia, Georgia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Guyana, Guatemala, and Jamaica. Quite a list—and with an equally extensive range of pressing global issues.

INNOVATION AND EDUCATION
The dynamic online educational portal we developed for our Global Gateway on Water Wars launched just in time for fall school visits. We met with some 2,000 students in St. Louis, Seattle, New York, and Nairobi, and they contributed more than 1,300 online responses, questions and video commentaries on global water issues.

Explore Global Gateway yourself and our other educational outreach activities in the pages ahead. You’ll learn more about our events and the growing network of university liaisons based on campuses from Lewis and Clark College in Oregon and Stanford University in California to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Columbia University in New York.

CREATIVITY AND COLLABORATION
Project: Report was one of our most extensive collaborations in 2008. It built on our initial ties with YouTube, which early on recognized the quality documentaries on our YouTube Channel. The joint Pulitzer Center/YouTube Project: Report gave aspiring journalists the chance to compete for a Pulitzer Center fellowship. Our 10 semi-finalists represented all walks of life—from a stay-at-home Missouri mom to a former combat medic—and their videos received some one million views!

In 2008 we deepened our collaboration with the public television program *Foreign Exchange*. We experimented with the program’s format, dedicating an entire episode to global water issues and incorporating the Pulitzer Gateway’s interactive features. We also embarked on new collaborations with Reuters AlertNet, The St. Louis Beacon, Worldfocus, Public Radio Exchange, Global News Enterprises, and the writers’ community Helium.

We were impressed again and again by the resourcefulness and insights of our journalists. Take a look at their blog posts on *Untold Stories*—Michael Kavanagh on the deepening humanitarian crises in the DRC, perhaps, or the Common Language Project journalists on the backbreaking daily search for water in East Africa.

RECOGNITION AND EXPERTISE
The Pulitzer Center itself received greater recognition this year for leading the way in building a sustainable nonprofit international reporting model. We received an honorable mention in the We Media Game Changers Competition. PBS NewsHour, American Journalism Review, *The New York Times*, and Harvard’s Nieman Reports all highlighted our innovative approach.

Our work on HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean exemplified the Center’s combination of in-depth reporting with compelling storytelling. Our documentary examining the overcrowded, disease-ridden National Penitentiary in Haiti screened at the 2008 SilverDocs Film Festival. The interactive narrative *HOPE: Living and Loving with HIV in Jamaica* won an honorable mention in the Knight-Batten Awards for Innovation in Journalism. It achieved what we always seek: to show the human face of under-reported systemic issues and get people engaged.

We share the Pulitzer Center’s dedication to coverage of under-reported stories. Its support for an award-winning production team covering the situation in Abkhazia led to us having one of the few on-scene reports from that part of the world when fighting erupted between Russia and the Republic of Georgia. We look forward to working with the Center on many more significant stories that might otherwise go uncovered.

Linda Winslow, Executive Producer, *NewsHour*

2009 AND BEYOND
When we created the Center in 2006 we expected to focus largely on support for print journalists with a passion for global reporting. The Center’s rapid evolution into a far bolder, more ambitious initiative reflects the needs of the journalism community and the demand for quality information on global affairs.

In the months to come we anticipate even greater engagement with schools and universities, and continued innovation in web portals that engage ever-broader audiences in the issues we cover. Our core commitment, however, will continue to be our investment in quality international reporting—a commitment not now met by corporate media or by foundations with an interest in journalism. We are determined to expand this vital work. We welcome all who would join the cause.

Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Trustee Chair
Jon Sawyer, Executive Director
2008 REPORTING PROJECTS

Pulitzer Center journalists reported from more than 20 countries in 2008, on issues ranging from East Africa's looming water crisis and the human face of HIV/AIDS to Bolivia's controversial policy on coca and the toll of wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Several projects represented repeat grants, reflecting the Center's commitment to developing a cadre of experienced journalists able to fill gaps quickly in coverage of emergent crises around the world. What follows is a summary of projects where most reporting took place in 2008.

AFRICA

The Roots of Ethnic Conflict in Eastern Congo (DRC)
Michael Kavanagh explores the roots of ethnic conflict in Africa's Great Lakes region and the enduring price paid by the people of Eastern Congo.

Stalking a Wheat Killer
Sharon Schmickle accompanies scientists and farmers in Kenya and Uganda on the trail of a deadly wheat fungus that threatens the world's second largest crop.

Sudan: The Forgotten North
Heba Aly reports on the realities of life for the mostly Muslim, mostly Arab people of northern Sudan, a region in many ways as marginalized as Darfur and southern Sudan.

Water Wars: Ethiopia and Kenya
The Common Language Project team of journalists reports from Ethiopia and Kenya on the economic, health, environmental, and political repercussions of a water crisis with global consequences.

Sudan: War Child
Karim Chrobog tells the story of Emmanuel Jal, a former Sudanese child soldier and emerging hip-hop star with a message of peace.

ASIA

India: Conflicts Within
Jason Motlagh reports on the religious, ethnic and economic conflicts that challenge the world's most populous democracy.

A Journey Home: Afghanistan Disabled
Dost Mohammad left Afghanistan in 2001 as a disabled refugee. Jessica Wanke, Don Duncan and Peter van Agtmael report on his return, seven years later, and the challenges he found.

China: Unrest in the Uyghur Homeland
While the world celebrated the Beijing Olympics, photojournalist Ryan Anson explored another facet of China's life, in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that is home to China's largest Muslim group.

Burma: Terror in the Golden Land
The Burmese Junta survives the country's largest demonstrations in decades. Jacob Baynham reports on the desperation that lingers, in a country where the majority lives on less than a dollar a day.

Cambodia and Thailand: Unfinished Business
Joel Brinkley reports on the culture of government corruption and impunity that mar Cambodia three decades after the fall of the Khmer Rouge and Thailand's continuing struggle with sexual trafficking.

The Next Wave: Climate Refugees in the South Pacific
The Carteret Islanders of the South Pacific will be among the world's first to lose their land to climate change. Jennifer Redfearn reports on how they're adapting to a loss now seen as inevitable.

A Turkish Dilemma
Iason Athanasiadis reports on the cultural, religious and political tensions of a country that is emerging as a robust global power even as it struggles still to define itself.

Slate is very grateful for the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, which has allowed many talented and committed journalists to do reporting in parts of the world that they would not be able to visit without the Center's support.

June Thomas, Foreign Editor, Slate
Nepal: The Road to Peace
Jason Motlagh reports on the biggest challenge facing Nepal as it transitions from monarchy to uneasy democracy—the integration of former Maoist rebels into a unified national army.

CARIBBEAN
Hope: Living and Loving with HIV in Jamaica
Poet Kwame Dawes reports from Jamaica on the impact of HIV/AIDS, in a project that uses essays, poems, video, music, and photographs to capture the epidemic’s human face.

CAUCASUS
Georgia and Beyond: Russia’s Response
Jason Maloney, Zygmunt Dzieciolowski and Kira Kay report from Georgia, from its breakaway regions and from Russia itself, on the Caucasus war and what it means for the region.

CENTRAL AMERICA
Guatemala: The Future of Petén
Kara Andrade, David Barreda, Michael Stoll, and Nadia Sussman report on the battle among environmentalists over how to preserve the rapidly shrinking Maya forest of northern Guatemala.

Sri Lanka: Endless War?
Jason Motlagh follows the government’s “final” showdown with the Tamil rebels and what success might mean, especially for tens of thousands of Tamils already displaced.

Vietnam: The Price of Rice
The Outer Voices team of journalists reports on the difficult adjustment to a doubling in the price of rice, even in a country that consistently rates as the world’s second largest rice exporter.

MIDDLE EAST
Yemen: In a Fragile State
Reporter Ginny Hill travels to Arabia’s first democracy as the country...
confronts food price hikes, dwindling oil reserves, scarce water supplies, separatist tension, and terrorism.

**Iraq: Death of a Nation? (Revisited)**
A year after their first Pulitzer Center-sponsored trip, David Enders and Richard Rowley return to Iraq to examine how allies and foes of the U.S. occupation are likely to shape Iraq’s future.

**Syria and Jordan: The Iraqi Exodus**
Matthew Hay Brown reports on the greatest refugee exodus in the Middle East since the Palestinian flight of 1948.

**Refuge in Ruin: Returning to Nahr al-Bared**
A battle between the Lebanese army and radical Palestinians left a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon in ruins. Journalists William Wheeler and Don Duncan cover the refugees’ displacement.

**Iraq: The Promise of Freedom**
Beth Murphy’s Principle Pictures exposes the long-term human consequences of war and raises questions about America’s responsibility to those Iraqis who joined the U.S. cause.

**UNTOLD STORIES: DISPATCHES FROM THE FIELD**
Our blog Untold Stories has become an increasingly important part of our work, drawing traffic to our website and promoting the original journalism we produce. Dispatches showcase our journalists’ most up-to-the-minute reporting. When war erupted between Russia and Georgia in early August, Pulitzer grantees Zygmunt Dzieciolowski and Jason Maloney were already in the region. Their posts included an exclusive interview with President Mikhail Saakashvili the night before the war began. The Georgia posts drew on average 600 views a day.

For the year as a whole Untold Stories attracted over 60,000 visits, making it an important new platform for personal, directly engaging essays, photographs and videos. These “dispatches from the field” offered rich perspectives on an extraordinary range of topics, from the rhythms of Ramadan in Yemen to a Uyghur wedding in western China.

**SOUTH AMERICA**
**Ecuador: Jungle Tensions**
Kelly Hearn reports from the Ecuador-Colombia border on the social, environmental and political implications of a cross-border raid by the Colombian military.

**Guyana: Caribbean Terror**
Tristram Korten investigates the Guyana government’s alleged role in using vigilante assassins, known as “phantom death squads,” to battle crime.

**Bolivia: Coca Si, Cocaina No**
Ruxandra Guidi, Roberto Guerra and Gabrielle Weiss report on Bolivia’s controversial coca policies and the consequences for the country’s farming communities and drug eradication efforts.
GLOBAL GATEWAY: BRINGING THE WORLD INTO THE CLASSROOM

The Pulitzer Gateway is our boldest creative use of technology—a revolving globe and 3D geo-browser, user-generated stories and videos, links among students across borders. Aesthetically pleasing and easy to navigate, it is the prototype for future Pulitzer educational programs aimed at bringing the world into the classroom.


We reached 2,000 students at some three dozen schools in St. Louis, Seattle and New York City through on-site journalist visits. Even more students from the U.S. and Kenya participated online once we launched our Water Wars Pulitzer Gateway. The Gateway generated over 1,300 responses, questions and video commentaries.

For the Water Wars Gateway (www.waterwars.pulitzergateway.org), Pulitzer-funded journalists reported on water scarcity and access issues direct from east Africa. Their blog posts from the field brought home the reality of walking hours each day to fetch water or going without basic sanitation. Photographs, audio slideshows and videos present vivid windows on other countries and their peoples. Nearly two dozen original Pulitzer reports on print and broadcast platforms provide depth and additional context.

A key Gateway component is the opportunity for students to engage directly with the reporters and the issues through the interactive platform and, when possible, in person. The site’s participatory nature means that learning extends far beyond the reporting itself, helping students “see” their connections to global issues and shape a public conversation.

The Gateway also testifies to the Pulitzer Center’s collaborative approach. Civitas Associates in St. Louis continued as a vital partner, arranging school visits, training teachers and tracking feedback. The Choices for the 21st Century Education Program at Brown University’s Watson Institute for International Studies helped us create lesson plans and is working to bring our journalism to their network of 5,000 schools. St. Louis teachers Elizabeth Morrison, Dawn McClain and Kelly Moore wrote the lesson plans for the HIV/AIDS and Liberia Global Gateways.

The Water Wars Gateway remains live. Its reach continues to grow as we inform educators about this extraordinary resource. Gateway gives students and teachers access to a rich array of first-hand information and a global network of engaged individuals. It is a dynamic learning experience and resource, as easily used by one or two schools as it is for a thousand.

Our goal is to expand the Gateway to focus on many more global issues. On the horizon for 2009: examinations of climate change, India as a rising power, global food security, and oil in the Amazon.

The Pulitzer Center and Foreign Exchange used the Water Wars Gateway to frame a special edition of Foreign Exchange devoted entirely to water issues. Host Daljit Dhalalwai interviewed Pulitzer grantee Alex Stonehill and drew on the web portal for video documentaries from the project and questions posed by students. The special also featured an audio slideshow produced by Kenyan students with the help of Kenyan journalist (and Pulitzer grantee) Ernest Waititu.

We’ve learned more in the past two days than in all the rest of high school.
Melanie Slates, student, Parkway West High School, St. Louis

Your work went a LONG way to educating and inspiring us to view the world differently. I love hearing my students wanting to try to find a way to act on this knowledge.
Karen Van Der Veer, teacher, Lake Washington High School, Kirkland, Washington
In September, the Pulitzer Center launched an exciting initiative aimed at finding a balance between traditional journalism and citizen-powered reporting. Project: Report is a partnership between YouTube and the Center, with commercial sponsorship from Sony and Intel. This contest gave aspiring, non-professional journalists the opportunity to “broadcast” untold stories to the world. The three-round contest videos generated over one million views and thousands of comments. Winners received laptops and video cameras and, for the grand-prize winner, a $10,000 journalism fellowship with the Pulitzer Center to report on a story abroad.

Videos produced by Pulitzer Center journalists, drawn from Foreign Exchange segments, were featured as “model videos” for each round. These were accompanied by how-to videos where the involved journalists shared their insights.

In the first round, contestants were asked to create a three-minute video that profiled an individual with something to say to the world. The nearly 100 submissions were a moving collection of profiles that honored individuals whose stories represented universal issues of courage, pain, humor, innovation, and passion. Their stories highlighted everything from the plight of undocumented workers and the tenacity of a soup kitchen manager to the strength of a former addict turned counselor and the wisdom of a Native American grandmother.

In Round Two the semi-finalists were tasked with telling a local story with global impact. The five finalist entries shared with the world the struggles of a small factory town, the human side of illegal immigration, the movement to ban plastic bags, the challenges faced by a couple working in the trucking industry, and the inspiring story of an Iraqi artist. The Round Three assignment was the most challenging and exciting of all. Contestants worked with an underrepresented community and produced a piece with them, thereby empowering the community to tell its own story.

In January 2009 the semifinalists will meet in Washington for a screening of their work, announcement of the final winner, and a workshop and panel organized by the Pulitzer Center and YouTube.

Thanks to the publicity provided by YouTube and Sony/Intel, the contest drew broad attention to the Center’s work as a whole. Banner ads featured on YouTube and in popular online news platforms during the contest brought the Pulitzer Center’s name to millions of readers and viewers. The contest also drew the attention of media outlets such as PBS’s MediaShift, journalism.co.uk and We Media.

The contest itself is an indication of the changing landscape of journalism.

Jane Hendrick, Finalist

Project: Report shone a bright light on under-reported stories, reaching a diverse and engaged online audience. It empowered aspiring journalists to find and tell untold stories, and provided a bridge between traditional television broadcasts and citizen-generated media. We view it as a terrific success and a model for initiatives to come.

Working with the Pulitzer Center on Project: Report has been both an honor and a pleasure. The Center is a unique organization in today’s media environment. It is committed to enabling the kind of journalism that is so often left on the cutting room floor of traditional news media platforms today—and it’s willing to take risks to do so.

At YouTube we’ve seen our site used by people around the world for the same purpose that drives the Pulitzer Center’s work: to tell stories that weren’t being told by the traditional media. And so as we considered how to create an opportunity to highlight and cultivate more of this type of work, turning to the Pulitzer Center for a partnership was a natural fit.

Steve Grove, Head of YouTube News and Politics
OUTREACH

At the Pulitzer Center, publication or broadcast is only the start of an aggressive program of “after-marketing” and outreach aimed at bringing our stories to diverse audiences online and in person. With each reporting project we support, we spread awareness throughout the blogosphere, within social news and networking sites and through our university liaison network. The idea is simple: Find people where they are and then give them multiple points of entry for engaging the global issues we cover.

In 2008, Pulitzer Center staff and journalists participated in nearly 30 events, many organized by us and most on college campuses. We aim for a multi-disciplinary approach, especially with universities, bringing together various departments to educate students, professors, faculty, and community members alike.

Our Water Wars outreach is a case in point. We featured this project in our Global Gateway high-school initiative and also presented it at eight universities, where we partnered with academic departments and student groups to build the audience. Several universities enlisted journalism students to cover the events, with webcasts and live-event blogging extending our reach.

We are constantly experimenting with ways to reach new audiences:

- dotSUB’s online subtitling service allows members of the public to translate our video documentaries, enabling us to reach more diverse audiences.
- OneWorld uses our reporting as resources in their Yahoo! News articles as well as spreading awareness of Pulitzer reporting projects through its network of non-profit organizations.
- Witness’ HUB and YouTube make video sharing easier than ever and requests for use of our footage in U.S. and foreign broadcasts have increased.

We look for ways to engage the broadest public as we seek to increase the demand for international news in the U.S. An important 2008 initiative was our Global Issues/Citizen Voices essay contest with the online writers’ site Helium.com. Five contest rounds generated more than 1,200 essays that drew on reporting from 25 of our Pulitzer-funded reporting projects. Our collaboration with Helium was featured on the news program BBC America.

Our NewsPoints blog is a platform for the Center’s staff and guests to discuss news of note, news on news, and the challenges and opportunities of bringing global news to the American public. NewsPoints also gives voice to our far-reaching network of college liaisons, allowing them to share their own perspectives from an academic environment on the supply of—and demand for—international news.

In 2008 we also began and nurtured a strong network of student liaisons at colleges and universities across the country. Liaisons collaborate with Pulitzer staff to maximize campus use of our reporting resources. Activities range from the airing of our documentaries on campus television and organizing events featuring our reporting to interviewing our journalists for campus publications and information campaigns. Liaisons have also publicized Pulitzer-funded projects through the distribution of coffee-cup sleeves and bookmarks and through creation of websites and Facebook pages.

The Pulitzer Center has also worked directly with professors, especially at Georgetown University, American University and Columbia University. Rachel Stohl’s Justice and Peace Studies class at Georgetown University worked in groups to build awareness campaigns based on 10 Pulitzer reporting projects. The goal was students “making connections” between a chosen audience and an under-reported global issue. In the “Wired World” course at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, Associate Director Nathalie Applewhite worked directly with students to produce multimedia reporting projects for our Untold Stories blog.

Each time I showed a colleague one of these documentaries they would leave a little less ‘unconscious’, a little more informed and aware of what it means to be universally human.

Eileen Park, Liaison at DePauw University, Spring 2008

The Pulitzer Center provided my Justice and Peace Studies class the opportunity to apply what is learned from theoretical lectures to real-world practice. I would recommend collaborating with the Center to any professor.

Rachel Stohl, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University

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Additional funding comes from:

MAC AIDS Fund in support of two projects: HOPE: Living and Loving with HIV in Jamaica and Heroes of HIV: HIV in the Caribbean. These projects portray the human face of the epidemic, incorporating interactive multimedia presentations of essays, articles, poetry, photography, video documentaries, and original music.

The Educational Foundation of America in support of Global Gateway educational programs. Through this education initiative the Pulitzer Center engages teens and young adults in class and online by supporting development of issue-specific lesson plans, bringing journalists from the field to classrooms, and promoting online dialogues about critical global affairs.

The Stanley Foundation in support of the Pulitzer Center’s Rising Powers reporting projects: Georgia and Beyond, A Turkish Dilemma, and India: Conflicts Within. The Foundation’s Rising Powers: The New Global Reality project is designed to raise awareness, motivate new thinking and ultimately improve U.S. foreign policy regarding the global transformation that is occurring as a new group of countries exhibit a growing influence over the world’s future.

HOW WE USED OUR RESOURCES

2008 Expenditures: $743,137

- Travel grants / Project expenditures: 36%
- Salary / benefits: 53%
- Project oversight / Administration: 11%
Pulitzer Center reporting projects and educational initiatives depend on the financial support of private foundations and individuals like you. The Pulitzer Center's fiscal sponsor is the World Security Institute, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Please send your tax-deductible contributions to:

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c/o World Security Institute  
1779 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
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Washington DC 20036-2109

Reporters interested in applying for a travel grant should see www.pulitzercenter.org/travelgrants for guidelines on submitting a proposal.

Teachers interested in our Global Gateway program should see www.pulitzercenter.org/globalgateway or contact us at globalgateway@pulitzercenter.org.

All general inquiries can be addressed to info@pulitzercenter.org.

www.pulitzercenter.org

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