



# Fund for Investigative Journalism

April News

Support Investigative Journalists in the U.S.

## Updates and Deadlines

Read FIJ Board President Mark Greenblatt's letter on what you can do to support investigative journalists in the U.S. right now.

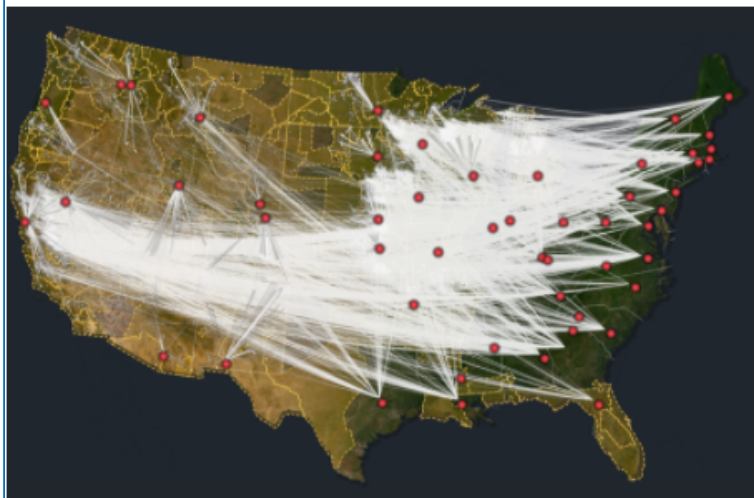


[Read here!](#)

The deadline to apply for our regular grant period is May 4th.

## Our Grantees' Most Recent Work

### Unique Reporting Project Untangles Myths Behind the Land Grant University System



Nearly 11 million acres of indigenous land. Approximately 250 tribes, bands and communities. Over 160 violence-

Apply now!

Do you have a story idea related to coronavirus and need funding? You can apply for our coronavirus emergency rolling grants.

Apply now!

You can watch a full recording of our webinar with the Economic Hardship Reporting Project, PEN America and the National Association of Black Journalists in which we answer your questions about our coronavirus grants.

Watch here!

backed treaties and land seizures. Fifty-two universities. From [High Country News' Indigenous Affairs desk](#) comes "Land-Grab Universities," a unique reporting project funded in part by FIJ that untangles the powerful and painful strains of myth and money behind the land-grant university system, largely credited with broadening access to higher education in the United States.

It was all part of President Abraham Lincoln's creed: "The right to rise." And though generations of land-grant graduates have exercised that right, reporters Robert Lee and Tristan Ahtone say few have thought to ask who actually paid for the opportunity, and how it was done. According to their reporting, it came through the transfer or violent seizure of indigenous land. But to this day, indigenous people remain largely absent from student populations, staff, faculty and curriculum.

In 1862, Lincoln signed the Morrill Act, which distributed public domain lands to raise funds for fledgling colleges across the nation. The act turned land taken from tribal nations into seed money for higher education.

You can read the full story here

## FIJ News

### Texas Observer Names FIJ Grantee Editor-in-Chief

The Texas Observer, an Austin-based nonprofit news organization, has selected FIJ grantee Tristan Ahtone as its [new editor in chief](#). We want to congratulate Tristan on his new role.

### FIJ Grantee Publishes Book on a Toxic Spill in Montana

Author and FIJ grantee RL Scholl has recently published his book detailing a 1996 chlorine spill in the mountains of Montana. Scholl documents the ensuing panic and the struggle to patch the largest ever breach of a

liquid chlorine tank. You can buy his book, "Alberton, Montana: Anatomy of a Toxic Train Wreck," [here](#).

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## All of Our Coronavirus Webinars in One Place

We have uploaded full recordings of our recent webinars regarding our coronavirus emergency grants to our website. These webinars feature panelists from FIJ and various other nonprofit organizations offering funds to journalists working on coronavirus-related stories. If you have questions about our emergency grants or need help finding resources, these webinars are a great place to start. Thanks to the Economic Hardship Reporting Project, PEN America, the National Association of Black Journalists and the Chicago COVID-19 Journalism Fund for participating as panelists!

[Watch now!](#)

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Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay up-to-date on grant deadlines, news and our grantees' work!



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