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Subject: Times Insider: Highlights From the Week

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Saturday, February 25, 2017

 The New York

 The New York Times

 Ryuichi Kanari, in the newsroom of The Asahi Shimbun's New York bureau (located on the 18th floor of the Times building), spent more than a year traveling through the Rust Belt working on his new book, "Trump Kingdom: The Trip to See the Other America."

Ryuichi Kanari, in the newsroom of The Asahi Shimbun's New York bureau (located on the 18th floor of the Times building), spent more than a year traveling through the Rust Belt working on his new book, "Trump Kingdom: The Trip to See the Other America." Stephen Hiltner/The New York Times

Hello Insiders,

Political drama? Yes, and lots of it.

On Friday, reporters from The New York Times and some other media outlets were [not allowed to enter the office of President Trump's press secretary](#), Sean M. Spicer, in an unusual breach of protocol.

"Nothing like this has ever happened at the White House in our long history of covering multiple administrations of different parties," said Dean Baquet, the

executive editor of The Times.

Shall we expect the Academy Awards this Sunday to be equally dramatic? Very possibly, if the year's previous awards ceremonies are anything to go by, writes Cara Buckley. [Read!](#)

This brings me to a question we polled you on a few weeks back: [Should celebrities use their platforms to express political opinions?](#) A full 83 percent of you said yes. "Why not?" one of you wrote in the comments. "It depends," said another. And "free speech is free speech," wrote a third.

One last recommendation: Do listen to our new audio report, The Daily, hosted by the Times reporter Michael Barbaro. You'll get succinct and deep analysis of the most important news of the day. [Listen!](#)

Until next week,

Francesca Donner
Times Insider

What to Read Now

 [Julia Louis-Dreyfus speaking out at the Screen Actors Guild Awards on Jan. 29.](#) Mike Blake/Reuters

Julia Louis-Dreyfus speaking out at the Screen Actors Guild Awards on Jan. 29. Mike Blake/Reuters

By CARA BUCKLEY

The Carpetbagger columnist, Cara Buckley, describes the controversy likely to roil this

Political Drama at This Year's Oscars? Yes, Very Likely

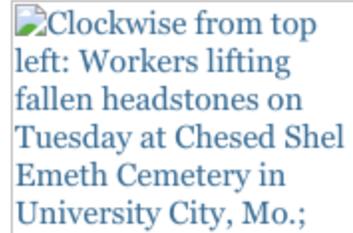
year's Academy Awards season.

INSIDER PODCASTS

Good, Bad and Mad: Andrew Rosenthal on the News

By SUSAN LEHMAN

The opinion columnist Andrew Rosenthal on President Trump's "crumbs of condescension" for Jews, deportation plans, John McCain's resistance and other news.

Clockwise from top left: Workers lifting fallen headstones on Tuesday at Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery in University City, Mo.;

TALK TO THE TIMES

Cara Buckley: Gearing Up for the 2017 Academy Awards

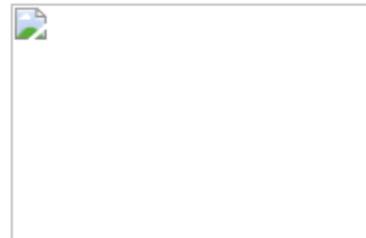
On Wednesday, Feb. 22, Cara Buckley, a culture reporter at The Times, was on hand for a live chat in advance of the Oscars.



What We're Reading

Compiled by ANDREA KANNAPELL

Great reads around the web, from Steven Erlanger, Erin McCann and others.

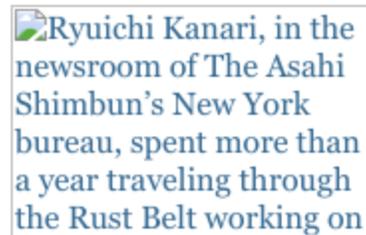


LOOKING BACK

1928 | ニューヨーク・タイムス, a Home 6,700 Miles Away From Home

By DAVID W. DUNLAP

For 89 years — with one significant interruption during the 1940s — The Asahi Shimbun has had its own space in the headquarters of The New York Times.

Ryuichi Kanari, in the newsroom of The Asahi Shimbun's New York bureau, spent more than a year traveling through the Rust Belt working on

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