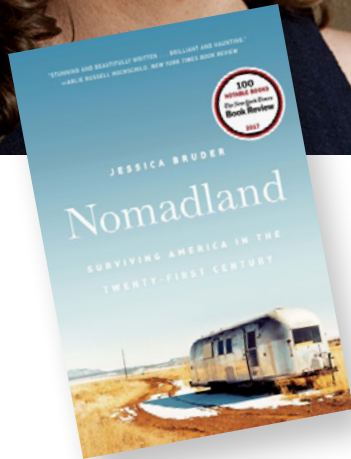




United to End Homelessness
Ventura County

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

Friday, Feb. 4, 2022
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER JESSICA BRUDER

Author of “Nomadland: Surviving America In The Twenty-First Century”

Hailed by *The New Yorker* as “an acute and compassionate observer,” *Nomadland* author Jessica Bruder reports on social injustice, subcultures, and the dark underbelly of American capitalism.

Bruder’s *Nomadland* — the basis of the Oscar-winning film of the same name — documents the lives of itinerant Americans who travel from job to job out of economic necessity. Employers from big-box retailers to commercial farmers have found a new source of cheap labor: transient older Americans. When Social Security comes up short and their mortgages sink underwater, these overlooked casualties of the Great Recession take to the road in old RVs, trailers, and camper vans, forming a migrant community of self-identified “workampers.” *Nomadland* follows Bruder’s unforgettable subjects as they clean campground toilets, scan products in warehouses, and harvest beets in a scramble to survive, often long past the age at which they expected to retire.

With our nation’s economic future seemingly more unequal and unstable every year, *Nomadland* presents a “wonderfully humane and deeply troubling” (*The Nation*) look at how the American dream has failed some of our most vulnerable citizens. A *New York Times* Notable Book and an Editors’ Choice selection, it won the Discover Award and was a finalist for the J. Anthony Lukas Prize and the Helen Bernstein

Book Award. *Library Journal* and *Kirkus Reviews* both listed *Nomadland* among their top 10 titles of 2017.

Bruder has taught narrative storytelling at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism for more than a decade. A longtime contributor to *The New York Times*, she was the founding columnist behind Start, a blog profiling socially innovative startups. Her work has appeared in *New York Magazine*, *WIRED*, *Harper’s*, *The Washington Post*, *The International Herald Tribune*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *The Washington Post*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Inc. Magazine*, *O: The Oprah Magazine*, Reuters, the AP, and CNNMoney.com. She is a former staff writer at *The Oregonian* and *The New York Observer*, as well as a former senior editor of *Fortune Small Business*.

For her longform magazine stories, Bruder has earned a James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism and a Deadline Club Award. She has also received support from the Economic Hardship Reporting Project and fellowships from Yaddo, The MacDowell Colony, the New America Foundation, and the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center. She speaks on income inequality, labor, the gig economy, social justice, subcultures, surveillance, the housing crisis, immersion journalism and other related issues.

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Friday, Feb. 4, 2022
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Keynote Speaker, Jessica Bruder

2022 Sponsorship Opportunities

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- 5 autographed copies of Jessica Bruder’s book, *Nomadland*

Champion Sponsor – \$1,000

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- Verbal recognition during virtual program
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- Recognition in pre- and post-event publicity
- Recognition in monthly newsletter to 15,000 constituents, social media, and website
- 2 autographed copies of Jessica Bruder’s book, *Nomadland*

United to End Homelessness Ventura County

The mission of the United Way of Ventura County is “To Mobilize and Inspire the Caring Power and Resources of our Community.” In keeping with this charge and in response to the shelter crisis in Ventura County, the United Way launched a Homelessness Initiative to include a Landlord Engagement Program (LEP) to increase housing stock and utilize existing housing vouchers and housing subsidies provided by local jurisdictions and community partners in preventing and ending homelessness. Everyone needs a safe place to call home, yet that basic need is increasingly out of reach for many people in Ventura County. Limited affordable housing supply, extremely low vacancy rates, and prohibitive and rising rents, make home access for those with housing barriers exceedingly challenging. Advocating for these individuals and families includes recruiting, cultivating, retaining and growing the number of landlords willing to help prevent and end homelessness.

Staff

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United Way of Ventura County 2022 Sponsorship Commitment Form



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EMAIL your completed Commitment Form to:

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MAIL your completed Commitment Form to:

UNITED WAY OF VENTURA COUNTY

ATTN: Mitchel Sloan

702 County Square Drive, Suite 100

Ventura, California 93003

(Please reference **Symposium 2022** on memo)

For more information contact:

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