

BILL MCGARVEY

MCG Media LLC

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- ❖ Best-selling [author](#), editor, [musician](#), [producer](#) and entrepreneur, Bill McGarvey has had extensive experience in all facets of media helping clients articulate their brand, communicate their voice and expand their audience.
- ❖ Bill McGarvey has worked with numerous for-profit and non-profit organizations and individuals to discern and clarify their goals, brand identity, content and communications strategy.
- ❖ Whether working with corporate CEOs, non-profit directors, managers, activists, movement leaders etc., Bill identifies and adapts to a client's or organization's voice. Working as a thought partner and communicator, through his writing/ghostwriting he is able to imbue a client's talking points with a dynamism that is rarely found among the personnel in the client's existing organization.
- ❖ Bill excels in the art of helping mission-driven leaders build teams as well as the creative and organizational structures necessary to execute a creative media strategy and achieve the organization's goals.
- ❖ Bill is actively engaged in creating, consulting and designing across all media platforms both on the web and traditional media.
- ❖ His expertise is in linking creative vision and mission effectiveness across wide-ranging business, non-profit and social-change endeavors.

[Author, Commentator, Editor](#)

Best-selling author, award-winning columnist and editor, Bill McGarvey understands the power of the written word and its importance to organizational excellence. A partial listing of Bill's experience as a writer and commentator includes:

Author: *The Freshman Survival Guide*

Co-authored *The Freshman Survival Guide* published by the Hachette Book Group USA that has book has **sold over 180,000 copies to date**. The book has become a required text in first-year experience programs at universities across North America. Each spring the book spends numerous weeks as Amazon's #1 book in both the student life and college guide categories. It was also featured on *The Late Show with David Letterman*.

Columnist/Commentator

A commentator on art, culture, politics and religion and has been featured in/written for ***The Washington Post*, *NPR*, *BBC*, *the New York Times*, *Time Out New York*, *The Tablet* (London), *Commonweal*, *Factual* (Spain), *Book and Mars Hill Review*.**

America Magazine

Two-time CPA award winner for a regular column on the intersection of culture and religion.

Barnes & Noble

Reviewer for the company's Discover Great New Writers program.

Organization Building, Branding, Strategy & Platform Development

From Internet start-ups and web magazines to conventional media organizations and ancient religious traditions, as an entrepreneur and consultant, Bill McGarvey has helped companies and organizations achieve enormous growth and enhanced their effectiveness. Representative engagements include:

Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR-USA), Content, Media & Strategy Consultant

McG Media was first enlisted by FOR in September 2019 to do a "Discovery and Recommendations Report." The report was an in-depth analysis that included extensive interviews with employees, past directors, current stakeholders and organizational allies. It also included independent research of other organizations in a similar peace and social justice space and their branding and media. The report detailed FOR's current status in terms of the organization, programming, brand and messaging. In addition to the assessment, the report offered recommendations for how to identify and achieve organizational goals, particularly in the area of brand and messaging.

Following the release of the report, FOR asked McG Media to remain on board in an ongoing consulting role in the area of strategic planning and communications. Since, McG Media has:

- ❖ Worked with executive director and senior staff on strategic planning and programming.
- ❖ Wrote and directed an award-winning short documentary "**Occupy@10: An Oral History**" that has been selected by film festivals around the world.
- ❖ Assisted in developing a new Wordpress site for the organization.
- ❖ Created an interfaith Coronavirus prayer petition on social media that brought together voices of leaders from across the spectrum of religious belief, practice, race and gender in the United States and around the world. The series drew tens of thousands of views.
- ❖ Created, recorded and edited several different video series, featuring activists and faith leaders on matters of peace and justice.

MoneyLanguages.com, Co-Founder

Developed a proprietary, scientifically validated tool with partners at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Georgia that enables financial planners to understand the way their clients think and feel about money.

- ❖ Designed and created a web platform with functionality that enables large corporations, boutique practices and solo practitioners to set up private, branded accounts to use with financial clients.
- ❖ Created animated product/brand marketing/explainer videos.
- ❖ Developed a pilot program and training materials for Jackson National Life to train financial professionals in the use of the tool.

BustedHalo, Editor-in-Chief

Re-created, edited and published this award-winning online magazine for “spiritual seekers.”

- ❖ Rebranded it as a thought leader on how young people in the 21st century approach spiritual practice and belief.
- ❖ Expanded the pool and scope of site contributors, by recruiting and engaging a large roster of contributing editors and writers spread out around the globe.
- ❖ Wrote, filmed, art directed, marketed and published new content on a daily basis.
- ❖ Increased traffic seven-fold over the course of six years including a 40% increase over the final year and a 90% increase over the final two-years.
- ❖ McGarvey received a grant from the Carnegie Corporation while at BustedHalo to create a video series “Busted Borders” in which undocumented immigrants video blogged about their experiences.
- ❖ Vastly increased the outlet’s credibility by creating and assigning content that was picked up by/featured in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Atlantic*, *USA Today* and *The Houston Chronicle*.
- ❖ Increased public awareness of the site by featuring high-profile voices, Jimmy Carter, novelists Anne Rice and Richard Russo, actor Ryan Gosling, activist/author Rev. Jim Wallis.

Inner City Scholarship Fund

Created the branding, messaging and design for this 40-year-old organization’s first capital campaign that raised \$125 million. Developed ICSF’s promotional videos and wrote the organization’s annual reports.

Order of Carmelites

Led a process to re-imagine the web presence of this global 800-year-old Catholic religious order. Developed and implemented a comprehensive strategy to make the site the order’s flagship communications outlet the world over.

- ❖ Increased the organization’s web and social media presence more than tenfold resulting in a dramatic increase in their web and social media reach to 3.2 million people annually.
- ❖ Created and produced an award-winning daily podcast that accumulated over 750,000 downloads over four years and grew to level of 250,000 annual downloads.

Book Magazine, Managing Editor

Managed a twelve-person editorial department for a consumer entertainment print magazine devoted to books. Guided the magazine through a redesign and a jump in circulation from 20,000 to 1.5 million over a two-year period.

CIT

Drove the content and development of “Inside CIT” the in-house corporate newsletter for CIT, Inc, a Fortune 500 finance company.

Creative

As a musician, songwriter, producer and filmmaker, Bill's creative work has been recognized internationally across multiple media formats. Bill is adept at harnessing creativity and delivering final product that communicates a unique and compelling vision. A sampling of Bill's projects includes:

Producer, Songwriter, Musician

- ❖ Wrote and produced six albums of music featured internationally in films, network television and radio, as well as *The New York Times*, *Billboard*, *The New Yorker* magazine and *The Chicago Tribune* among others.
- ❖ Developed "Beautiful Mess" an autobiographical multi-media show (song, storytelling, video) dealing with the intersection of art and spirituality that has been performed at numerous colleges, high schools and conferences including Yale, Ohio State, Loyola (Chicago), Seton Hall, UCC Cleveland.
- ❖ Co-wrote and produced tracks for other artists. Toured extensively throughout the United States.

Film & Video

- ❖ **My Morning Coffee**: Selected out of four thousand entries for inclusion in the prestigious, Oscar-qualifying Cleveland International Film Festival, Bill McGarvey of McG Media wrote and directed this animated short that has gone on to be selected and win awards in 12 film festivals around the globe.
- ❖ **Occupy@10: An Oral History**: A short documentary (30 minutes) produced and directed by Bill McGarvey of McG Media for the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR-USA) that tells the story of Occupy through the eyes of seven interfaith leaders and activists who participated in Occupy Wall Street and Occupy Oakland. It has been selected for six film festivals around the world.
- ❖ **Broken Lullaby**: Produced, wrote, directed and performed this award-winning animated music video that was selected by over 30 film festivals around the world.
- ❖ **Because Jewish**: Produced an animated a short film for this Jewish cultural organization, "Kol Nidre #3," that had its world premiere at Lincoln Center's Jewish Film Festival.

Background

Bill is a native of Philadelphia and a longtime resident of the NYC metro area (Hoboken). He is a graduate of Georgetown University.