

Stephanie Vatz
stephvatz@gmail.com | (916) 759-4317
stephanievatz.com
@stephvatz

Education

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism; New York, New York Aug. 2011 - May 2012

M.S. Magazine Journalism

Coursework included data journalism, investigative reporting, computer-assisted reporting and data visualization. Reported on Brooklyn during the first semester. Thesis was a 5,000-word narrative about a young physician assistant in Queens which told the larger story of the profession's expanding role in the medical system.

University of California, Irvine; Irvine, California

Sept. 2008 - Jun. 2011

B.A. in French, B.A. in Literary Journalism

Graduated with Honors, Dean's Honors List, member of the Golden Key International Honour Society. Coursework consisted of multiple long-form journalism projects including an immersion piece on a religious pregnancy clinic in Santa Monica and an article on the socio-economic diversity in Downtown L.A.'s Toy District.

Work Experience

Digital Content Manager, Bonten California, Redding, California

Aug. 2012 - present

Managed all online content for krctv.com, edited all online content, built interactives including slideshows, javascript sliders, timelines, intensity maps and more. Assisted with online sales information and analytics. Headed all digital projects including our *Guns in America* project and weekly 'fact-checks'. Launched station's Twitter campaign. Managed social media for both ABC and Fox affiliates.

Freelance Journalist/Researcher, Visual.ly; San Francisco, California

Jul. 2012 - present

Researched and composed text for infographics and interactives such as the evolution of HTML, global innovations and the health benefits of Greek yogurt. Gave design input. Wrote for the Visual.ly blog.

Researcher, SecondAct, Entrepreneur Media; Irvine, California

Aug. 2010 - Jun. 2011

Wrote and reported feature/personal finance stories. Best work included "Portrait of a Serial Cruiser," about the trend of seniors living on cruise ships in lieu of nursing homes. Blogged a column called, "Eco-Saturday," on environmental home topics. Copy-edited stories and promoted the blog with social media. Several of my stories were picked up by Reuters.

Freelance Data Journalist, KQED; San Francisco, California

Apr. 2013 - present

Works for The Lowdown, the NPR affiliate's blog targeted toward high school teachers to help educate students. Researches and designs data visualization projects including a timeline on immigration legislation and density maps to compare whether counties with high levels of immigrants without citizenship have a correlation with counties with high rates of violent crime.

Skills

Language Skills: French, fluent

Multimedia Skills: Video (familiar with Final Cut Pro and Edius), basic radio skills, basic photography skills

Web Skills: HTML, Javascript, JSON, XML, CSS, some Python, Google Analytics

Financial Data Skills: Experienced with using Excel, Google Refine, Google Fusion Tables, QGIS and mapping programs including: TileMill, MapBox, CartoDB

Social Media: Our company's Facebook and Twitter pages more than tripled in followers after I started work.

References

Susan McGregor; Wall St. Journal, Columbia University | sem2196@columbia.edu

Donna Wares; NBC, SecondAct Magazine | dwares@ocregister.com

Tami Luhby; CNN Money, Columbia University | tl24@columbia.edu