

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

5/95 – PRESENT

Freelance Writer, Published in *About.com*, *Border Beat*, *Britannica.com*, *Café Latino Lifestyle Magazine*, *ChicagoMusic.org*, *Chicago Reader*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Common Review*, *ContraTiempo*, *Desert Post Weekly*, *HOY*, *Illinois Entertainer*, *In These Times*, *Laboratory Medicine*, *La Raza*, *LiP Magazine*, *Mesquite Review*, *Neighborhood Works*, *NewCity*, *OpenDemocracy*, *Punk Planet*, *San Antonio Current*, *Word: Monthly Guide to Dallas Arts*

- 11/2007 to Present: **Frequent contributor to the Chicago Tribune A&E/On the Town pages.**
- **Specialist in arts, culture, and humanities journalism; focus on magazine-style feature-writing.**

1/00 – 10/00

Contributing Editor, *Mesquite Review* international arts journal, McAllen, Texas

- Wrote a column on literary events and solicited/edited poetry for publication.
- Consulted with publisher on editorial, graphic, and business development.

4/98 – 4/00

Arts Editor, *San Antonio Current* alternative weekly newspaper, San Antonio, Texas

- Supervised, developed, and produced the Arts Section.
- Hired, assigned, managed, and mentored more than 20 new freelance writers.
- Copyedited, proofed, and wrote feature articles plus regular small copy.
- Assigned photos and illustrations while assisting in overall design layout.

3/96 – 4/98

Editorial Assistant, *Chicago Reader* alternative weekly newspaper, Chicago, Illinois

- Facilitated editorial administration in a fast-paced, demanding environment.
- Communicated story ideas and art assignments with writers, editors, and artists.

4/95 – 3/96

Editorial Staff Member, *NewCity* alternative weekly newspaper, Chicago, Illinois

- Compiled and proofed arts/events calendar for publication.
- Assisted with research.

8/94 – 4/95

Editorial Assistant, The American Society for Clinical Pathology, Chicago, Illinois

- Coordinated manuscript traffic with authors, reviewers, and staff of the Journals Division.
- Wrote news briefs and assisted with research for *Laboratory Medicine* magazine.

MARKETING, PUBLIC RELATIONS, AND SALES EXPERIENCE

11/01 – 12/03

Communications Director, Investigator Support Services, Chicago, Illinois

- Formulated communications strategies, conducted research, and served as chief copywriter.
- Wrote promotional brochures, web content, sales letters, and various corporate communications.
- Reviewed industry sources for leads, pursued sales, and managed accounts for research services.

12/01 – 5/02

Publicist, Marc Smith Performance Poetry & the Uptown Poetry Slam, Chicago, Illinois

- Managed media relations, wrote press releases, and produced promotional materials.

4/99 – 12/00

Curator and Executive Director, San Antonio Poetry Slam, San Antonio, Texas

- Created, organized, and hosted a popular performance-poetry show.
- Directed all business endeavors, artistic programming, and media relations.

4/96 – 4/98

Freelance Cultural Events Organizer and Poetry Performer, Chicago, Illinois

- Promoted poetry, music, and film events.
- Performed at schools, professional venues, and on radio/television broadcast.
- Wrote and self-published a chapbook of poetry.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

8/07 – PRESENT

Assistant Professor: Journalism, Literature & Writing, Communications Dept., Harry S Truman College

1/04 – 7/07

Instructor: Journalism, Literature & Writing, Communications Department, Harry S Truman College

9/93 – 6/94

Instructor of Freshman Composition, Writing & Critical Thinking, Stanford University, Stanford, California

3/93 – 6/93

Teaching Assistant, Chicano Studies 101, English Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, California

M.A. in English (American literature and cultural studies focus), June 1994

Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

B.A. Honors in English and Philosophy, Summa Cum Laude (3.953/4.00 GPA), May 1992

SKILLS

- Mac/PC experience: Access, Acrobat, ACT, Excel, Explorer, FileMaker Pro, Outlook, Quark, Word/Perfect.
- Superior typing speed and accuracy (85 words per minute).
- Spanish language proficiency.

HONORS

- 2010 Academic Fellow, the Dart Center for Trauma and Journalism, Columbia University, NYC.
- Feature poet at the 1997 Chicago Printer's Row and San Antonio Inter-American Book Fairs.
- Member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Honor Society of Jesuit Colleges and Universities.
- 1st Place Interscholastic Debate Champion of Texas 3A-Division High Schools, 1988.
- Valedictorian of La Feria, Texas, Junior High Class of 1984 and Senior High School Class of 1988.