Jana Simović

Bilingual Multimedia Data Journalist

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Work Experience:

City Bureau Documenter

(04.2023 - Present)

- Cover and take notes at various in-person and remote public meetings and publish them in a timely manner, for free public consumption from all around the city.
- Research community issues and topics regarding civic engagement, when needed to apply them to particular reports.

14 East Magazine Managing Editor

(06.2024 - 06.2025)

- Created weekly story line-ups; assigning roles to respective editors, multimedia team members and illustrators by coordinating editorial activities and enforcing deadlines.
- Edited all articles to fit the publications style and voice.
- Worked closely with the EIC to foster a sense of community while also working towards building a strong and inclusive newsroom.
- Assisted with the weekly final read-throughs to make sure pieces were polished, accurate and ready for publishing.

Assistant Multimedia Editor (06.2023 - 06.2024)

Contributing Writer (01.2023 - 06.2023)

Illinois Answers Project - Better Government Association Investigative Reporting Intern (05.2024 - 09.2024)

• Filed FOIA's to numerous Illinois and out of state

- counties, departments and jurisdictions.
- Assisted investigative reporters with research, data configuration and organization in solutions-based reporting.
- Conducted extensive background research on topics pertaining to government accountability and public safety.

Radio DePaul Website News Director (06.2023 - 06.2024)

- Created a new publishing cycle that highlighted the intersection of college radio and live music in Chicago.
- Wrote and edited relevant news on the Radio DePaul website, which included bi-weekly articles that were posted to the RDP newsletter.
- Followed and researched past and current music trends to use as background prior to interviewing creatives within the industry.

College Radio DJ (01.2022 - 01.2025)

 Live recorded a weekly hour-long music and talk radio show.

The DePaulia

Contributing Writer (02.2023 - 01.2024)

 Wrote compelling stories for DePaul University's student newspaper.

Belgrade Center for Human Rights

Research and Writing Intern (06.2019 - 08.2019)

- Interned at a non-profit organization in Belgrade, Serbia which at the time was focused on providing aid to migrants in surrounding areas.
- Learned how to conduct effective and detailed research in a professional environment.
- Read/analyzed numerous cases and wrote and edited reports based on my discoveries.

 Supported and learned from skilled professionals when approaching broad issues in an objective and sensitive manner

Skills:

- Extensive writing and editing knowledge, including AP style.
- Comprehensive experience in fact checking and editorial development.
- Native/Bilingual Proficiency in Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian.
- Substantial knowledge of the use of various cameras and audio equipment, including digital and film formats and professional grade audio recorders.
- Proficient knowledge in filing public records requests, including FOIA's.
- Experience using data softwares and GIS tools to create relevant maps and data visuals.
- Knowledge in using Python and R languages for data analysis along with SPSS software.
- Detail-oriented research and data analysis.
- Community building and organizational skills.
- Proficient in using various Adobe editing softwares including Photoshop, Indesign and Audition
- Microsoft Office and Google suite proficiency
- Limited working knowledge in French
- Highly observational and detail-oriented

Education:

Master of Arts in Journalism - Concentration in Data Journalism DePaul University (2024-2025)

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism - Minor in Documentary Studies

DePaul University (2020-2024)

Projects: Censorship Now

 Show on Radio DePaul, airing weekly since January 2022 alongside an independent Substack publication; interview various artists and photographers about their work documenting cultures and music scenes, both in the past and present.

Production Assistant

 Assisted a reporting team headed by Carol Marin and Don Moseley in creating two stories that aired on WTTW's Chicago Tonight.