

Skylar Laird

Reporter, editor

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skylarlaird.wordpress.com

EXPERIENCE

Assistant city editor, state and local government reporter **Columbia Missourian, Columbia, MO**

January 2020 - PRESENT

- Worked on copy editing, infographic and community outreach desks, writing social posts, making infographics and editing stories for web and print.
- Covered breaking news, features, event coverage and enterprise stories about state and local government, elections, COVID-19 and general assignments.
- Assigned stories and managed teams of reporters covering breaking news, general assignments and local government.

Freelance researcher **Alison Young Reports, LLC, Remote**

January 2022 - PRESENT

- Researched and wrote memos on biolaboratory safety for a book.
- Read and synthesized information from research papers, backgrounded sources, searched social media and news articles for information.

Business reporting intern **Kansas City Star, Kansas City, MO**

June 2021 – August 2021

- Covered local business and localized national trends.
- Pitched, reported and wrote breaking news, features and enterprise stories.

Intern **St. Louis Magazine, St. Louis, MO**

May 2020 - August 2020

- Pitched, reported and wrote features, breaking news and issue stories about culture, health, education, news, food and property.

EDUCATION

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO *Journalism*

Print and digital news reporting emphasis

Expected graduation: May 2022

3.9 GPA. Honors college member and Walter Williams Scholar. Learned journalism skills including multimedia, news writing and data reporting. Worked on long-term projects, in teams and individually. Learned media ethics, law and history.

SKILLS

Writing: Grammar and AP style.
Fast, descriptive and scrupulous.

Reporting: Data journalism basics, including SQL, DB Browser and Excel. Local, political, business, magazine and investigative reporting. Prioritizes accuracy, speed and fairness.

Editing: Coaching teams of reporters. Assigning and editing stories for clarity and accuracy.

Multimedia: Photography, audio and video production and editing. Adobe and Microsoft applications. Tableau and Flourish. Social media engagement and analytics.

Personal: Empathetic.
Enthusiastic. Strong leader. Eager to learn. Self-motivated.

AWARDS & CERTIFICATES

Missouri Press Association
William A. Bray Scholarship
(2021)

Bloomberg Market Concepts
certificate (2021)

Charles Thompson Business to
Business Scholarship (2021)

Jerry Heaster Scholarship in
Business Journalism (2021)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch and
Press Club David Lipman
Journalism Scholarship (2020)