James Benedict

jamesbenedict0@gmail.com
jamesbenedict.github.io
317-544-8031

Experience

Reuters News Agency- Washington D.C. (remote)

News Apprentice, March - July 2017
  Reported for an investigative series about Taser usage with the national desk. Helped populate a database with original reporting and cowrote a story. Conducted interviews, gathered primary documents and researched using media/legal databases.

Daily Monitor - Kampala, Uganda

HIV Reporting Intern, May - June 2016
  Reported on HIV medication shortages and issues with patient records for East Africa's largest independent newspaper. Spoke with sources ranging from the president's personal doctor and senior advisor to the fisherfolk. Studied at African Centre for Media Excellence.

Indiana Daily Student - Bloomington, IN

Digital Redesign Manager, January - April 2017
  Worked with the editorial, advertising and a contracted CMS provider to redesign the website. Focused on improving UI and mobile retention. Created multiple mockups and written technical guide for submission.

Investigations Reporter, January - December 2016
  Analyzed and visualized data. Created maps, charts, and custom websites. Stories on campaign finance, health care, campus crime and general news.

Digital Director, August - December 2015
  Managed editors producing interactive and social content. Developed in-house software and wrote detailed documentation. Managed homepage during breaking news. Oversaw and produced multiple longform digital projects.

Digital Editor, January - May 2015
  Produced interactive graphics, websites and videos. Created content specifically for social media and introduced analytics into editorial meetings. Developed a digital style guide.

Photographer, Jan 2014 - Dec 2016
  Made news photos and photo illustrations. Made feature photo essays and breaking news photos. Had beats including men's basketball during NCAA tournament. Toned and selected own photos.

Society for News Design - Bloomington, IN

Designer, June 2015 - June 2017
  Designed pages for the 36th-38th "Best of News Design Book". Wrote software to aide organizing the 38th book.

President and Treasurer, October 2016 - May 2017
  Managed the club and organized designers for the SND38 Book. Responsible for managing a $10 thousand budget.

Facilitator, January 2016 - January 2017
  Facilitated the SND37 and 38 contests by helping select individual pages from the winning entries to appear in the book.

Education

Indiana University, May 2017
  Bachelor of Arts in Journalism
  Certificate in Informatics (28 credits)
  GPA 3.59

Awards

Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Circle
  1st Photo Illustration, 2015
  1st News Feature - Digital, 2014

Society for Professional Journalists
  National Finalist Online News Reporting, 2016

Indiana Collegiate Press Association
  2nd Animation / Interactive Graphic, 2017
  2nd Informational Graphic, 2016
  1st News Feature Reporting Online, 2016
  1st Feature and Sports Photo Yearbook, 2016
  1st News Photo, 2016
  2nd Photo Essay, 2015

Skills

Web Development
  HTML, CSS/SASS, Javascript/JQuery, D3, Highcharts, Tableau, Leaflet, Mapbox, CartoDB, handlebars, tabletop, Git, PHP, CGI, Linux server, Responsive and templated design.

Data analysis
  Python, MySQL, Excel, Web scraping, Regex, Relational database design, Pandas/numpy/matplot, Jupyter notebook, Data cleaning, Linear regression, Discrete math, Statistics.

Additional
  DSLR Photography, Videography, AP Style, FOIA Requests, Nexis, Westlaw, QGIS, Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Audition, InVision.

References

Jason Szep, Reuters National Affairs Editor
  jason.szep@thomsonreuters.com

Ron Johnson, IDS Publisher
  ronejohn@indiana.edu

Steve Layton, SND Book Editor
  stlayton@indiana.edu