

Linda Boonyuen Owens

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EXPERIENCE

- Communications Consultant**, United Nations ESCAP Bangkok, Thailand 2012- present
Lead multimedia strategy for Asia-Pacific regional events including technical direction, website content and press kits.
Produce videos on social development challenges such as gender equality, disabilities, and population issues.
- Media Trainer**, Communications & Outreach Workshop, UN Women Bangkok, Thailand 2012
Designed and led a media workshop entitled, "How to Think Like a Journalist."
Trained eleven country managers and their communications staff how to live pitch their stories to the media.
- Lecturer**, Faculty of Communication Arts, Chulalongkorn University Bangkok, Thailand 2011-2012
Served on selection committee and interviewed 26 prospective students for the upcoming academic year.
Teach radio and television news production to third year communications students.
- Producer**, "Good Morning America," ABC News New York, NY 2005-2010
Produced and wrote breaking news stories for anchors and correspondents.
Gathered visual elements, coordinated satellite feeds, field produced shoots and supervised edits.
- Producer/Director**, "Exonerated: David Wong," Independent Documentary New York, NY 2002-2005
Produced, directed and shot a documentary about an inmate wrongly convicted of murder 19 years ago.
Investigated and developed the story through interviews with eyewitnesses, inmate and defense team.
- Field Producer/Cameraperson**, "Moving Up," TLC New York, NY 2003-2004
Developed reality show pilots about the domino-effect of homeownership in the Tri-State area.
Produced, directed and shot screen tests of properties and their owners. Edited rough cuts of segments.
- AP/Cameraperson**, "Plastic Surgery: NY Style," Discovery Health Garden City, NY 2003
Field produced and shot a documentary series about plastic surgeons and their patients.
Developed character-driven stories about patients before and after their reconstructive surgery.
- Segment Producer**, "TV 411," PBS New York, NY 2002-2003
Produced documentary segments for an adult literacy series distributed nationwide on PBS.
Researched stories, interviewed and shot screen tests of candidates, scenes and b-roll.
- Associate Producer**, "NYPD Close-up," Bravo/Irish Public Television (RTE) New York, NY 2002
Managed the production office for a documentary series about Irish American cops in the NYPD.
Scheduled shoots, interviewed potential characters, hired and supervised production staff.
- Associate Producer & Assistant Editor**, "Maternity Ward," TLC New York, NY 2001
Managed on-site production office, screened 500 hours of raw tape and selected primary footage.
Assembled acts, digitized video and managed media on Avid Mediacomposer.
- Associate Producer**, "Life in Progress," Oxygen Media New York, NY 2000-2001
Produced taped stories for a half-hour show about the real life issues young people face.
Developed stories, scouted and interviewed characters, booked experts for studio segments.
- Writer**, Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund New York, NY 2000-2001
Researched archival stills and footage spanning 300 years of history; dealt with rights and clearances.
Wrote and edited newsletters covering cases on hate crimes, workers' rights and immigration.
- Associate Producer**, Welfare Reform Documentary Video Series Paterson, NJ 2000
Field researched a three-part racially diverse series on the working poor.
Scouted over 30 African American families in low income urban neighborhoods.
- Associate Producer**, News 12 - Westchester Yonkers, NY 1999-2000
Wrote and edited anchor intros and tags, VO/SOTs and teases for the 6, 7, 8 and 9 AM newscasts.
Off-air reported breaking stories overnight, cut tape and monitored newswires and feeds.
- Associate Producer**, "A Higher Education," KCSM-TV, PBS affiliate San Mateo, CA 1998
Produced a public affairs talk show focusing on California educational issues.
Pitched story ideas and pre-interviewed guests for the show's weekly panel discussions.

Instructor, Nagasaki Hokuyodai High School

Nagasaki, JAPAN

1994-1997

Team-taught English composition and conversation with a Japanese Teacher of English.
Designed course curriculum, interactive communication activities, and aural English tests.

EDUCATION	Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism M.S. Journalism, 1999	New York, NY
	University of Florida B.A. Political Science & Japanese, 1994	Gainesville, FL
	Kansai University of Foreign Studies Asian Studies Program, 1992-1993	Osaka, JAPAN

EQUIPMENT Panasonic Lumix G4 camera; fluid head tripod; Macbook Pro with Final Cut Pro and Adobe Premiere.

AWARDS University of Florida Distinguished Alumni Award 2008
Good Morning America, Emmy Award Outstanding Morning Program 2008
Good Morning America, Emmy Award Outstanding Morning Program 2007
Good Morning America, Emmy Award Outstanding Morning Program 2006

AFFILIATIONS Asian American Journalists' Association, Society of Professional Journalists,
Japan Exchange Teaching Program Alumni Association, Sikh International Film Festival

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Biography

Linda Boonyuen Owens is a three-time Emmy Award winning journalist and multimedia expert with over 15 years of experience in television news, documentaries and communications.

As a consultant at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) since 2012, Linda leads communications strategy for Asia-Pacific regional events from video production, event management, websites, to press kits. Under the guidance of ESCAP and UN agencies, she produces videos on social development challenges including gender equality, disabilities, and global population issues. Linda has produced United Nations stories in Bangkok, Jakarta, Delhi, Kuala Lumpur, and Beijing.

Linda also directs audiovisual elements for the events where her stories are featured such as Ending Violence Against Women's Day 2012; International Women's Day 2013; UN ESCAP Goldman Sachs Women's Entrepreneurship Consultations 2013; Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference 2013; and also the UN ESCAP Sasakawa Disability-inclusive Business Award 2013.

In 2005, ABC News Good Morning America hired Linda as a one-woman band to shoot and produce post-Hurricane Katrina stories of recovery along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Armed with her DV camera, she covered residents relocating to a temporary "tent city" built by the Navy Seabees. After Katrina, she began crashing breaking news for correspondents and GMA anchors Diane Sawyer, Robin Roberts and Chris Cuomo. Among hundreds of stories, she's covered the Virginia Tech shootings, climate change in the Arctic, U.S. troops homecomings from Iraq, male breast cancer, and avalanche survivors. Linda was honored as part of the GMA team that won Emmy Awards for Outstanding Morning Program in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Before network news, Linda freelanced for seven years, producing and shooting for the BBC, TLC, Discovery and PBS. She worked on TLC's *"Maternity Ward,"* a series about the inner workings of a hospital's labor and delivery department. Staying on the medical beat, Linda followed and filmed patients who go under the knife for beauty in Discovery Health's *"Plastic Surgery: New York Style."* For *"TV 411"* on PBS, she produced a story on slam poets in the Broadway show, *"Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam,"* and another about a New York state inmate who entered prison as a high school drop-out and came out 13 years later with a master's degree.

An Air Force brat who grew up as the eldest and only sister of four younger brothers, she was raised on remote military bases in Okinawa, Japan; Anchorage, Alaska, and the Florida Panhandle.

Linda waited tables to pay her way through Okaloosa-Walton Community College in Niceville, FL before transferring to the University of Florida, earning two scholarships to double major in Political Science and Japanese. In 1994 she took her first job in Nagasaki, teaching for the Japanese Ministry of Education.

Using her job in Nagasaki to explore the Asia-Pacific region, she discovered the vibrancy of other countries, including India, Cambodia and Indonesia. She also spent two summers traveling by train through Eastern Europe, from the Czech Republic through Bulgaria.

In 1998, Linda moved to New York City to attend the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. She wrote her masters thesis on the passing of a hate crimes law in New York State.

To satisfy her need for adventure, Linda continues to travel the world. She is now on a southward journey toward Patagonia. So far she has danced her way through workshops at the International Salsa Convention in Puerto Rico, climbed the Mayan ruins in the Yucatan, and survived toxic fish poisoning in the Dominican Republic. In December 2008 Linda traveled to the Thai-Cambodian border, filming her mother's return to her homeland after an absence of nearly 40 years.

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