

Areena Arora

areena.arora@columbia.edu

+1-646-991-9185 (Available on WhatsApp)

EXPERIENCE

Data and Investigative Reporter | September 2022 - Present
Knox News, Knoxville, Tennessee (local daily newspaper)

- Watchdog public education-beat reporter. Covered special education, elections and private fundraising.
- Generated an average of 100,000+ monthly page views.
- Created and managed databases on property sales, crime and government budgets. Conducted newsroom data trainings.

Senior Sub-Editor | December 2019 - July 2021
InMobi Glance, Bengaluru, India (Curated feed for mobile lock screens)

- Co-led a team of six editors curating news feed for millions of users in India, Singapore, and U.S.
- Wrote and edited breaking news, worked closely with designers to optimize content for 100 million+ users.

News Publishing Specialist | July 2018 - December 2019
Reuters, Bengaluru, India

- Redesigned bond market and forex market newsletters to make them clearer. Also streamlined workflow for newsletter creation.
- Trained in company news reporting.
- Curated and published financial and political news for Reuters wire service.

Reporter | June 2017 - April 2018
Idaho Press, Nampa, Idaho (local daily newspaper)

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Graduate School of Journalism
M.S. Data Journalism, August 2022

- Honors in Media Ethics

Ohio Wesleyan University
B.A. Journalism and Economics, May 2017

SKILLS

- **Reporting and editing:** Copy editing
- **Data analysis:** Python (Pandas, BeautifulSoup, Selenium), SQL and R
- **Data visualization and mapping:** Adobe Illustrator, QGIS, Mapbox, D3.js and Python libraries
- **Web development:** HTML, CSS, JavaScript

areenaarora.com

X: [@AreenaArora](https://twitter.com/AreenaArora)

GitHub: [areenaarora](https://github.com/areenaarora)

SELECT PROJECTS

- Investigated [the effect of private fundraising on public schools](#) using nonprofit data.
- Built a database disproving government's claim about [police chief searches](#).
- Built a searchable dataset of five newsrooms' style guides.

TALK

[Lightning talk at NICAR 2022 in Atlanta](#)

AWARDS

Tennessee Press Association
July 2024

Three first place awards: Best Education reporting in the state, single feature and digital presentation

Golden Press Card, East Tennessee Society of Professional Journalists
May 2024

First place for continuing coverage on special ed

May 2023

Two first and one second place

OpenNews Scholarships+
February 2022

OpenNews funding to attend NICAR

Shobhana Bhartia Fellowship
August 2020

Idaho Press Club
May 2019

Third place in business reporting

Chicago Tribune Foundation fellowship
February 2018

Attended NICAR 2018 in Chicago

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Hindi and Punjabi
Beginner level in Odia

AVAILABLE FROM

Available starting March 15, 2025