

Erika Owens \* Philadelphia, PA \* [hello@erikaowens.com](mailto:hello@erikaowens.com)

## Writing and web experience

### **Knight-Mozilla OpenNews-remote 7/12-present**

**Community Manager**-Support the various facets of Knight-Mozilla OpenNews, a project focused on strengthening and supporting collaboration between developers and journalists in order to create awesome projects on the open web. Provide logistical support to Knight-Mozilla Fellows, assist with hack day events and sponsorship, contribute to the Source website, and help with other OpenNews and Mozilla Foundation tasks.

### **Philadelphia Public School Notebook-Philadelphia, PA 9/07-7/12**

**Web editor** (2/09-7/12) Managed content and site administration for [www.thenotebook.org](http://www.thenotebook.org) using Drupal.

Coordinated with staff and volunteer bloggers to ensure site was updated every week day. Wrote daily local education news roundup post. Moderated comments and managed social media presence. Planned and coordinated site improvements. Tracked web metrics, which have shown more than 500% growth since launch of redesigned site. Assisted with other tech and organizational projects as needed including managing development of a CiviCRM database. *Site is Knight Community Information Challenge grantee.*

**Business/Operations Manager** (9/07-5/09) Solicited and managed ads for independent newspaper focused on education in Philadelphia. Tracked ad prospects and payments with FileMaker Pro and Excel. Increased ad sales by 30%. Helped proof print edition and managed city-wide distribution. Supervised and assisted Web site intern. Played lead role in planning of annual fund raising event. Wrote brief articles.

### **OneNeighborhood.org-Philadelphia, PA 8/07-12/07**

**Content Manager** (freelance) Oversaw content for Drupal site that is focused on community building to end homelessness in Philadelphia. With \$7,500 budget, recruited, hired, and coordinated writers for blog. Researched and wrote articles. Edited, updated, and reorganized site content. Engaged in outreach to community groups.

### **Solutions for Progress-Philadelphia, PA 6/05-5/07**

**Content/Usability editor for The Benefit Bank** (1/06-5/07) The Benefit Bank is a software that streamlines filing taxes and applying for benefits for low-income people. Edited software text to ensure user-friendliness and thoroughness through use of XML, HTML, and Adobe Acrobat. Coordinated with other teams to develop and maintain content for Federal Taxes.

**Systems analyst** (6/05-1/06) Compiled, analyzed, and synthesized research into detailed software requirements through use of Excel, Unix, XML. Managed development of 2005 Ohio State Taxes program.

### **Freelance writing focused on music and job advice targeted at a young audience 2003-2008**

**CampusPhilly.com**-Philadelphia, PA 2007-2008

**Skratch Magazine**-Orange, CA 2004-2008

**Wonka Vision Magazine**-Philadelphia, PA 2003-2005

### **WRGW George Washington University Radio-Washington, DC 2001- 2003**

**Editor** (2002-2003) Edited monthly newspaper, the *GW Underground*. Supervised writers, edited articles, and wrote and researched articles on national music, campus news, and local music.

## Political experience

### **Young Democrats of America-Philadelphia, PA 10/06-11/06**

**Regional Field Director**-Organized peer-to-peer voter outreach program in Northeast Philadelphia. Recruited, hired, trained, and supervised volunteer and paid canvassers. Cut turf and planned canvasses, non-traditional outreach, and phone banking. Tracked payroll, voter contact results, and precincts.

### **Allyson Schwartz for Congress-Philadelphia, PA 7/04-11/04**

**Canvasser**-Initiated direct voter contact through canvassing and writing. Recruited and organized volunteer trip.

### **College/Young Democrats 2001-2008**

**Volunteer**-Involvement in advocacy and campaigns on campus and at home through canvassing, phone banking, and research.

## Other experience

### **For Love of Children-Washington, DC 9/01-05/05**

**Site coordinator** (9/04-05/05) Recruited, led, trained, and advised tutors for a back to basics, one-on-one math tutoring program for middle school students in the D.C. Public Schools. Compiled and presented student progress in mid- and end-year reports detailing an average of 1.7 grade level improvement during six months of tutoring.

**Tutor and tester** (9/01-5/02, 9/02-5/03) Assisted middle and elementary students with reading and math.

### **AmeriCorps Keystone SMILES-Erie, PA 10/03-06/04**

**Job Coach**-Helped learning support and life skills students develop transferable work skills.

## Professional development

Co-organizer Hacks/Hackers Philadelphia chapter, presenter at 2011 Online News Association Conference, presenter Drupaladelphia 2011 and 2012, participant in Society of Professional Journalist's Reporters Institute.

## Education

### **George Washington University, Washington, DC 2001-2005**

Political Science, *cum laude* graduate. University Honors Program, Pi Sigma Alpha, Dean's List.