

# Joe Hong

Education reporter  
based in Southern  
California

## Contact

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(951) 587-1396

## Experience

**Education Reporter**, *The Desert Sun*; Feb. 2018 – Present [Palm Springs, CA]

- Watchdog and investigative reporting on three school districts and one community college, balancing daily stories and long-term projects
- Leveraged fluency in public records laws and statewide data to find stories
- Cultivated sources among parents, teachers and students

**Reporting Fellow → Staff Reporter**, *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*; Aug. 2017 – Feb. 2018 [Fairfax, VA/Washington D.C.]

- Covering race and equity issues, federal policy and local politics through the prism of higher education
- Cultivating sources across the country within university administrations and at higher education nonprofits
- Filing public records requests and mining Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

**Reporter/Researcher**, Global Shipping Project, Columbia Journalism School; Aug. 2016 – May 2017 [New York, NY]

- Investigated global shipping networks, specifically the open ship registry in Cambodia
- Trained in data visualization tool Neo4J to track the relationships between shipping companies and their personnel
- Reported in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and Busan, South Korea; interviewed government officials and shipping experts

## Education

**Columbia Journalism School**, Toni Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism; M.S. in Journalism, 2017 [New York, NY]

- Masters project traces how shell companies evade shipping sanctions against North Korea

**Rutgers University**; M.A. in Comparative Literature, 2016 [New Brunswick, NJ]

- Former doctoral student focusing on 16th century literature in English, French and Latin

**University of California, Irvine**; B.A. in Comparative Literature, 2012 [Irvine, CA]

## Fellowships/Training

**The Data Institute**, ProPublica: Attended two-week program in July 2019; trained in data analysis, data visualization and web design

**EWA Reporting Fellowship**: Awarded in Oct. 2018; reported on a project at the intersection of criminal justice, education and school discipline

## Misc.

**Languages**: French (advanced literacy) and Korean (conversational)

**Affiliations**: Education Writers Assoc., Asian American Journalists Assoc., IRE

**Hobbies**: Vintage timepieces, fermentation, wine tasting, etymology