# **KATIE SHEPHERD**

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#### FIND ME ON THE WEB

@katemshepherd



github.com/ksheps



katiemshepherd.com

linkedin.com/in/katiemshepherd

# **SKILLS & MEMBERSHIPS**



HTML | CSS | Javascript | WordPress CMS | Audition | Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and Vine



DSLR | VSCO | Lightroom

## **NETWORKS**

IRE/NICAR | SPJ | Virginia Press Communicators

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

2015 Pacemaker - Reporter of the Year First Place, Associated College Press 2015 SPJ National Mark of Excellence First Place, In-Depth Reporting 2015 Best Data Journalism First Place, Virginia Press Association 2015 Best News Series First Place, California College Media Association

2015 Best Magazine Story First Place, California College Media Association

2015 Brown Institute Scholar

2015 Carl Greenberg Memorial Scholarship

2015 Donaldson D. Frizzell Scholarship

2015 Agnes Cooke Scholarship

2014 Bridget O'Brien Scholarship

#### REFERENCES

Michael Shapiro | (212) 854-3851 Professor | Columbia Journalism School ms106@columbia.edu

Steve Padilla | (323) 206-8619 Editor | Los Angeles Times steven.padilla@latimes.com

Phil Jenkins | (540) 374-5422 Editor The Free Lance-Star pienkins@freelancestar.com

Abigail Goldman | (310) 962-7559 Daily Bruin Advisor/Professor | UCLA agoldman@media.ucla.edu

### **EDUCATION**

# COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Master of Science expected May 2016

Focus on data and investigative reporting around politics, government and policy. Covered local stories in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, Highlights include stories about the disparity between student grades and test scores, Super PAC contributions from New York City's biggest political donors, and the struggle of refugees resettling in New York. Selected as a 2015-2016 Brown Institute Scholar. Working on a long-form investigation on the implications of false positives in police drug tests.

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. LOS ANGELES

Bachelors of Arts | English | June 2015

Graduated Cum Laude and with College Honors

Earned Highest Departmental Honors for senior thesis researching the influence of journalists' accounts of Margaret Garner's infanticide on Toni Morrison's novel "Beloved."

## JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

# INTERN | LOS ANGELES TIMES

May 2015 to July 2015

Reported for the national and metro desks, learning the fast pace of a large newsroom in a major city. Contributed to coverage of the 2015 South Carolina church shooting and the aftermath. Covered <u>national</u> and <u>state</u> level political issues and LA county government. Wrote more than 30 stories, three centerpieces in the California section and two A-1 cobylines. Reporting included breaking news stories on campus carry policies in Texas, the battle to allow Uber to pick up passengers at LAX, and the minimum wage debate in Los Angeles county, as well as features on efforts to bring produce from small, local farms to low-income urban communities in Historic Filipinotown.

## EDITOR AND REPORTER | DAILY BRUIN

October 2012 to May 2015

Led a team of 15 writers to produce two stories daily with a focus on student government and administrative bodies within the university. Wrote enterprise stories and investigative pieces on mental health policies within the University of California, student politics, LGBT issues and more. One story on UCLA housing's involuntary withdrawal policy resulted in campus-wide policy changes and sparked discussion about administrative responses to students' mental health struggles. Another standout piece exposed malfeasance on the part of student government candidates who sold drugs and alcohol to fund their campaigns and compelled student groups to support their slate financially.

## REPORTER | BRIDGET O'BRIEN REPORTING PROJECT

Septemer to October 2014

Planned and executed a 19-day reporting trip to the Philippines to <u>cover</u> the ongoing recovery efforts one year after Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda devastated the islands. Stories touched on the successes, shortcomings and continued efforts of nonprofits doing relief work in the cities most impacted by the storm. The project earned several awards including the Society of Professional Journalists National Mark of Excellence for In-Depth Reporting

### INTERN | FREE LANCE-STAR

June 2014 to August 2014

Reported on courts, cops and breaking news with a focus on using data and crime statistics to tell stories for this midsize regional paper serving six counties in northern Virginia. One story on crime statistics won the Virginia Press Association award for data journalism. Led coverage on several local news stories, including the death of a local Marine, which devastated the community. Wrapped up the summer with 16 A-1 stories.