

Leila Touati

Storyteller, developer, editor
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Professional Experience

San Luis Obispo Tribune

Oct. 2024 - Present

Business Intern

- Cover business openings and closings, particularly restaurants, breweries and high-interest retail stores.
- Monitors and mines various news sources for pitches and story ideas.
- ★ **Skills: Business Reporting, Sourcing, News Judgement, Collaboration**

Embarcadero Media Group

June 2021 - Aug. 2021

Editorial Intern

- Researched, interviewed and reported on news published in local publications of Pleasanton Weekly and DanvilleSanRamon.com.
- Pitched strong features on new businesses and startups with end-of-day deadlines.
- Final enterprise story chosen as front page cover in August edition
- ★ **Skills: Hard News Reporting, Newswriting, Pitching, Interviewing, Online News, Newspaper**

San Jose Mercury News

June 2024 - Sept. 2024

Shadow

- Shadowed enterprise reporter Julia Sulek and assisted with data collection and court documents.
- Collected data and fact-checked for a crime investigation piece.
- Live-blogged presidential election debate in a San Jose household.
- ★ **Skills: Data Investigation, Detail Oriented, Fact Checking**

Berkeleyside

June 2024 - Sept. 2024

Freelance Reporter

- Pitched and wrote enterprise articles for Pamela Turntine in Berkeley.
- Interviewed and researched community members, programs and businesses.
- Covered a volunteer program taking care of cats in an abandoned racetrack.
- ★ **Skills: Pitching, Feature Writing, Enterprise Reporting, Communication with Editor**

Mustang Media Group

Sept. 2022 - Present

Digital Manager

- Consistently updates and manages mustangnews.net and kcpr.org websites using HTML and Wordpress.
- Manages team of developers to lead planning and coverage of multimedia events.
- Tailors stories to the web with SEO-oriented headlines, interactivity and new digital tools.
- ★ **Skills: Search Engine Optimization, Digital Marketing Media, Project Management, Web Development, Coding**

Assistant News Editor

- Assigned and edited breaking news, spot stories and enterprises for news team.
- Lead coverage of campus and greater San Luis Obispo area.
- ★ **Skills: Editing, Online Journalism, Headline Writing, Leadership, Content Editing, Wordpress**

News Reporter

- Reporting the happenings of the university campus, writing primarily about science innovation and environment, club organizations and projects.
- Pitched weekly articles with quick turnaround, covered breaking news and longform stories.
- ★ **Skills: Investigative Reporting, Interviewing, Science Journalism, Breaking News Reporting**

Awards and Recognition

- Reynolds Journalism Institute Student Innovation Competition — Finalist 2024
- National Scholastic Press Association — Editorial Leadership 2022
- Best of Student Newspapers Online (SNO) — May 18, 2022

Education

California Polytechnic State University: Journalism B.S. and Computer Science minor — Graduation 2026