

Derek Minemyer

306 Walnut Unit B, Missoula, MT

406-471-2841

Experience

Co-Teach, Missoula, MT (August 2012 - May 2013)

Teacher

- Taught both disabled and non-disabled preschool children in one classroom setting
- Taught children to write and spell
- Worked in a functioning team-oriented environment to help children learn at the same pace
- Instilled senses of open-mindedness and acceptance in children at young ages

The Stone of Accord, Missoula, MT (April 2013 – December 2015)

Server

- Prepared restaurant for each evening of business
- Tended to all possible needs of customers

The Tandana Foundation, Otavalo, Ecuador (January - April 2015)

Volunteer

- Organized healthcare follow-up for rural patients seen by Tandana health brigades
- Lived with an indigenous family of 7
- Learned how to thrive outside of my comfort zone in a foreign environment
- Learned to work well in a team dynamic
- Improved Spanish language skills

KPAX-TV, Missoula, MT (January – December 2016)

Reporter

- Shot, edited and wrote news stories for the 5:30 and 10:00 shows
- Read stories on camera for live broadcasts
- Pitched my own stories consistently to improve the overall quality of the newscast

The Missoulian, Missoula, MT (June 2017 – Present)

Videographer

- Shot and edited professional-quality video stories for the newspaper's online presence
- Managed social media posts for video content
- Consistently pitched my own stories to help kick-start the Missoulian's video presence
- Collaborated as a team across multiple newsrooms
- Covered wide-ranging stories across western Montana

Education

2006 - 2010

Bigfork High School

High school diploma

2010 - 2014

University of Montana

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a Spanish Minor

Skills

I am a hard worker, and I am exceptional at meeting new people. I possess an extensive and versatile potential that will benefit any organization that trusts in my word enough to hire it. I also am a semi-fluent Spanish speaker.

My fear of failure coupled with my intense desire to produce quality work allow me to be a highly contributing asset to any team I am a part of. I know a good story when I see one, and I am not afraid to pursue a lead. I know how to make the social connections to make a lot of different kinds of stories happen.

I have an eye that sees scenes before they happen. This allows me to be prepared when that fleeting moment enters the viewfinder of my camera. I recognize a good shot in a split second. I have shot and edited countless video clips, and I continue to improve with each new story.

If hired, I would provide your organization with a talented, self-motivated and passionate, yet still developing, visual storyteller.

Accomplishments and Volunteer Work

My most outstanding accomplishment took place in sixth grade. I was part of a team that competed at a national level for Destination Imagination, a program that promotes creative problem solving, teamwork, and extreme improvisation among youths of the world. We were the youngest team of over sixty from around the globe, and I still have the gold medal that serves as proof of our first place award. Where this accomplishment may be somewhat dated, I can provide others:

1. My junior year of high school, I joined a community service group called Interact, where I went on to be nominated president. We did a number of projects around the community and even discussed global issues that we could possibly venture to solve.
2. The same year I volunteered as a Wyldlife leader, where I worked for 2 hours every Wednesday with a vast range of privileged and underprivileged children. Wyldlife is a church organization that offers kids an escape from everyday life.
3. I was nominated team captain for soccer and football my junior and senior years of high school.
4. I coached a Missoula Strikers U-6 soccer team my freshman year of college, which required at least 3 hour of volunteer work a week.
5. I helped coach a Little Griz football team the first semester of my junior year in college, which required at least four hours of volunteer work a week.
6. I mentioned earlier that I volunteered for a non-profit organization in Ecuador for 3 months. I filmed a short documentary – prior to any training in how to do so - that tells the story of how the Tandana Foundation came to be and what its goals are. In this case, the content is more valuable than the visual presentation. It's posted on Youtube at <https://youtu.be/kKSu-HiTjQ>.

7. I directed and narrated a documentary for Montana PBS over my last semester of journalism courses. I lead 10 students throughout a semester of production for the University of Montana's award-winning Student Documentary Unit. I flourished as a leader. We produced a quality film thanks in large part to my contribution of finding one of the main characters to best represent the topic of prescription drug abuse in Montana. I did my best to bring out the best attributes in each individual team member so they could contribute to the overall quality of the film. This film can be watched [here](#).

8. I was invited to participate as a visual journalist in the U of M School of Journalism's award-winning Native News Project the same semester that I directed the documentary. I took and excelled in two high-level Capstone courses producing professional-quality work in the same semester. I single-handedly found all but one source for our story documenting issues with diabetes and IHS on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. I made connections in a Native American community from over 400 miles away, and we were able to start the storytelling process right away when we arrived. My photo was the cover photo for the [2017 edition](#) of the project, and was recently featured on High Country News' [website](#). The story was the center-fold of the Native News 2017 issue.

Personal References

1. Kathy Best – the Missoulian

- 500 S Higgins Ave, Missoula, MT 59801
- (406) 523-5258

2. Kurt Wilson – the Missoulian

- 500 S Higgins Ave, Missoula, MT 59801
- (406) 544-9000

3. Jerry Geisler – KPAX-TV

- 2204 Regent St, Missoula, MT 59801
- (406) 370-4638

4. Anna Taft – The Tandana Foundation

- 2933 Lower Bellbrook Rd, Spring Valley, Ohio 45370
- (937) 848-2993 (Hope Taft)

5. Jeremy Lurgio – University of Montana

- 32 Campus Dr, Missoula, MT 59812
- (406) 546-9867

6. John Twiggs – Montana PBS

- 32 Campus Dr, Missoula, MT 59812
- (406) 243-4101

7. Denise Dowling – University of Montana

- 32 Campus Dr, Missoula, MT 59812
- (406) 240-4931