

## *Presentation-Video/Videographer*

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*Casey Capachi, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism*

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Casey Capachi published her first words in a national magazine at the age of ten for *AMERICAN GIRL* next to a feature of the season's hottest trends in colonial doll fashion. Today Casey is a recent graduate from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism where she focused in Television in Multimedia.

Casey's reporting has taken her to Occupy Oakland, the Jackson family estate in Encino, Native Hawaiian homesteads, and the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to interview actor Channing Tatum. In high school,

she wrote a column for her high school's newspaper where she was Editor-in-Chief called, "In Case You Were Wondering," which she misses dearly.

As an undergraduate at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Casey worked at the campus radio station and wrote for the school's daily County section. She also completed credits for her degree in Communication and Global Studies abroad at the University of Cambridge and at the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics.

She is a 2012-2013 Kaiser Permanente Health Policy Journalism Fellow and is especially drawn to reporting on health care and health disparities. During the summer of 2012, Casey was a Kaiser Family Foundation Media Intern and Health reporter at *THE PLAIN DEALER* in Cleveland, Ohio. She covered the Supreme Court ruling on the Affordable Care Act, President Barack Obama's campaign stops in Northeast Ohio, and reported from Washington, D.C. for the International AIDS Conference.

Casey enjoys working behind the camera and in front of it. She has held internships at NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams and the *TODAY SHOW*, *ABC'S 7 ON YOUR SIDE* in San Francisco, and KTVU *CHANNEL 4 NEWS* in Oakland.

Casey gets easily excited when talking about the intersection of technology and journalism. She is a contributor the Mobile Reporting Field Guide, which is available to download for free in the iTunes store.

She is a member of the Online News Association (ONA), Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA), and the Association of Health Care Journalists (AHCJ). Casey is the recipient of the 2012 Stan Gilliam Scholarship from the Sacramento Press Club and the 2012 Pete Wilson Graduate Scholarship from the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA).

Casey is looking forward to joining the Video team at *THE WASHINGTON POST* this summer and tweeting up a storm.

## *Local – Reporter*

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*Nicole Chavez, The University of Texas at El Paso*

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I'm Nicole Chavez, a border girl coming back to D.C. for a second reporting round. I'm a senior multimedia journalism major at The University of Texas at El Paso and a board member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

I define myself as bicultural, bilingual and a person that easily adapts. I enjoy covering breaking news and doing real-time reporting. I also enjoy working across platforms (audio, video, photo, print, web) and discussing new ways to cover a story.

Always curious and if something catches my journalism eye, I will try to sneak in your desk/beat, willing to learn more, and why not? contribute!

I love working with databases, spreadsheets and writing threatening FOIA requests. I have a background on covering immigration, the Hispanic community and a strong interest for Latin American issues. In the future I would like to merge these two passions and do investigative work challenging government transparency in Latin American countries.

Last year, I interned at The Atlanta Journal-Constitution focusing producing enterprise stories for A1 and received an Online Journalism Award for the investigative project Mexodus. Previously, I interned and freelanced for multiple publications like The Brownsville Herald, the NPR's Fronteras Desk, El Tiempo Latino and El Diario de El Paso.

I've been part of different student programs such as Chips Quinn Scholars, the New York Times Student Journalism Institute, ONA Student Newsroom, IRE's Campus Coverage Project and NAHJ Student Projects.

Finally, I would like to share that most days I'm a pescetarian, I drink a lot of tea and have sort of an obsession for cute notebooks.

## *Audience Development & Engagement/Interactivity Producer*

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*Lindsey Cook, University of Georgia*

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Although she didn't know it, Lindsey began her journey with online journalism in high school when her mother, who also studied computer science in college, started an online decorating store and taught Lindsey web design. Two years later, Lindsey entered The University of Georgia, intent on pursuing a dream of becoming a lawyer in DC but also continued web design work.

Dreams changed when Lindsey began writing for The Red & Black news staff and fell in love with journalism. As she continued her education, Lindsey

realized she could unite her two passions—journalism and technology. In her second year, Lindsey concentrated on investigative reporting, writing a series that uncovered problems with UGA's study abroad system and included multimedia elements. That summer, she interned at Voice of America, TV to Africa in DC.

In 2012, Lindsey added computer science to her degree program and began researching the intersections between technology and journalism, particularly social media's ability to connect with a newspaper's audience. She was the first multimedia editor for The Red & Black, managing the social media accounts and video department. She also helped the editorial staff's walkout of the newsroom because of prior restraint go viral on social media under the name Red and Dead. She participated in SPJ's Will Write For Food, worked in the ONA Google Student Newsroom and programed a mobile app through the UGA New Media Institute to decrease drowsy driving. She is the assistant director for region three for the Society of Professional Journalists and the president and founder of the ONA at UGA student group.

Lindsey's looking forward to continued treatment for her Potomac Fever as an intern for The Washington Post this summer.



## *Local – Reporter*

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*Stefanie Dazio, American University*

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Stefanie Dazio has been working in the newspaper industry since the fifth grade. Her biggest accomplishment as an 11-year-old editor-in-chief was a scathing column that decried the school's cafeteria fare. These days, Stefanie can be found in Washington, D.C., as a recent graduate of American University (the food stinks at AU, too). Her accolades not listed on an official resume include ambulance chasing, senator stakeouts and baboon tracking (more on the monkey later). She is a proud Jersey girl, and regularly makes pilgrimages home to see the Boss play in the Garden State.

Stefanie just finished up a stint of political reporting for The Durango Herald and The Cortez Journal, two newspapers in Southwest Colorado. She spent her days in D.C. trying to wrangle quotes from the Colorado delegation, but often found herself getting completely lost in the Capitol's maze instead. She was, to her horror, accidentally labeled as a Senate staffer in multiple photos of Prince Harry during his visit to Washington, when she covered the May event. She has also previously worked at The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger — where she pursued a baboon escaped from the zoo across a county — the Student Press Law Center and The (Manasquan, N.J.) Coast Star.

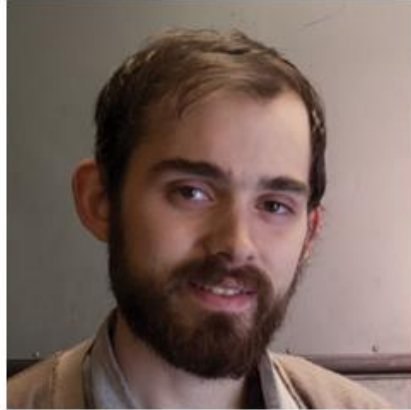
She will be returning this summer to The Washington Post's Metro desk for the third time, and looks forward to an internship where she's not leaving the newsroom at night to go finish last-minute homework. She urges her fellow interns to pace themselves on the Farragut Square food trucks — they'll be there for the whole summer (although keep an eye on Mayor Gray's proposed regulations).

## *Presentation – News Designer*

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*Kevin Golden, Indiana University*

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Hello, my name is Kevin Golden and I go to Indiana University.

Oddly enough, I went to Indiana University because of the music school. I come from a musical family and as a young boy in a musical environment, I quickly picked up the trumpet. I couldn't be separated from it then or even now. But at some point in the second half of my freshman year, I began to question my role in society as a professional musician. I did not want to perform only for the social elite. I wanted to make something beautiful that has a broad

audience and has the potential to inspire more people.

So I jumped at the opportunity to be a page designer at the Indiana Daily Student in the first semester of my sophomore year. Visual art was always a pastime of mine, so it just made sense to start at the Indiana Daily Student where they were pushing visual boundaries much farther than the average college newspaper. After a semester of hard work, I quickly showed promise. In my second semester, I became a design chief — a position I held into the first semester of my junior year, under a different staff. Just a short while later, I'm working at The Boston Globe as an editorial design co-op intern and I'm looking to make a career out of purpose driven design.

Through these experiences, I've come to realize that I believe in the visual and aural arts as vehicles for change. By using my creative skills for storytelling, I hope to educate and inspire audiences to live responsibly in our global society.

But I am still growing, and I do not intend to stop any time soon. I can't wait to add to my short story with all of you at The Post!

## *Editorial*

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*Susannah Jacob, University of Texas at Austin*

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Susannah Jacob studied history at The University of Texas at Austin. She served as Editor-in-chief of The Daily Texan. She has also worked as an intern at the New York Public Library's Manuscripts and Archives Division, Vanity Fair and The Texas Tribune. Her writing has appeared in The New York Times. She grew up in Dallas and loves Texas, especially from far away.

## *Sports – Reporter*

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*Chelsea Janes, Stanford University*

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I think the most telling way to describe myself is that I grew up in Massachusetts -in the heart of Red Sox nation -as an unabashed, die-hard, and obnoxiously outspoken Yankees fan. Needless to say my friend count wasn't too high early on, but I did develop a love for baseball, a reluctant appreciation for Sweet Caroline, and some pretty thick skin.

I played softball at Yale, where my most treasured dream was just once hearing our (four) fans drown me in the M-I-P chant (Most. Im. Proved!).

That never happened, but I have no regrets -the game that gave me so much through the years. I like to think I gave something back to the game, too, though that contribution has to be measured qualitatively more than quantitatively, if my career stats are any indication...

Yale athletics will always have a place in my heart, and my experiences at the Yale Daily News will always be the time when I realized most clearly that my two greatest passions (sports and writing) could be combined into something (sportswriting) that should definitely be a part of my life from then on.

And so it was, beginning with a summer spent with USA Today's sports section on the Olympics and soccer desk. Considering I would go on to write a senior thesis about the Olympics (no, really...) that was a perfect fit for my first foray into the world of professional sports journalism.

From that summer on, I was hooked on sportswriting and extremely fortunate in the opportunities that came my way. Last summer, I was lucky enough to work for MLB.com covering the Padres in San Diego. I fell in love with California, learned a great deal about National League West baseball (that it existed), and learned to write copious amounts of copy at high speeds (often to keep up with the rapidity an frequency with which the 2012 Padres blew seemingly stable leads).

While leaving sunny San Diego was heartbreaking, I next jumped up the California coast to Stanford where I've spent the past year getting a Master's in Communication, catching the highly contagious Silicon Valley spirit, and learning more about coding than I'd ever imagined (I can now spell HTML and CSS).

I also got great journalism training and exposure to highly intelligent people working to maintain and pass on the values of old journalism while ensuring it will not only be viable, but flourish, in the future.

Stanford's provided me with crucial journalism lessons, a solid base of tech knowledge, and even a little business and law thrown in. It's fresh off that experience (an invaluable one I call "adaptability training") that I now head to the Post, which I know to be similarly innovative and energetic.

I'll be spending my summer on the sports desk, and I'm hoping I can contribute even half of all I'll gain from the people, tradition, and city around me at the Post.

## *National Health – Reporter*

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*Meeri Kim, Kaiser Foundation*

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Hello! I'm a freelance journalist/graduate student interested in reporting about health and science, and am particularly fascinated by the personal stories behind the research. I am finishing up the final year of my Ph.D. in physics at the University of Pennsylvania. My writing has appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer, WHYY.org, American Physical Society News, and the American Physical Society Forum for Graduate Student Affairs Newsletter. I have also made videos for the Philadelphia Inquirer, WHYY-TV, and the Philadelphia Mayor's Office. I currently live in

Philadelphia, but grew up in the Chicago suburbs. Interests include exotic flavors of ice cream, karaoke, and hoppy beers.



## *Style – Reporter*

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*Jennifer Maas, New York University*

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Jenny grew up in a Northern Virginia suburb just a stone's throw away from the White House. This being the case her formative years were spent attending field trips to every Smithsonian museum, national landmark, and monument in the district, while constantly being reminded how lucky she was to be raised in the nation's capital (something she would not truly appreciate until adulthood).

She enjoyed acting, gymnastics, and writing. And most people who knew her when she was young would have

thought she'd choose to turn one of those activities into a profession. But no one would have guessed she'd turn out to be a journalist. Because from the beginning Jenny hated the news, finding it boring at best and at its worst accused it of actively trying to destroy her happiness whenever her parents would choose to switch the channel and "see what was going on in the world" during the nail-biting conclusion to an episode of *Legends of the Hidden Temple*. And when that stupid "crawler" took up residency on the lower third of the TV set she decided that reading news while simultaneously trying to listen to other news was ridiculous and dug in her heels on her opinion of the entire industry.

But when she became weighed down with APs her sophomore year of high school, Jenny decided that taking journalism as an elective and suffering through a class that she knew she would hate was worth the easy A that upperclassmen had promised. And by making this decision she unknowingly started down the path to her future career.

But after trying to just do the bare minimum in that class for a few weeks, Jenny couldn't help but become interested and that is when her teacher saw something in her work that Jenny hadn't consciously intended to be seen. The teacher asked Jenny to start writing small pieces for the school's paper, a task that wasn't normally given to first year journalism students. After that things just kept snapping together in the right way to allow her to become more and more involved in the field of journalism. She left high school as an editor on staff and with the "Journalist of the Year" award, an award that didn't exist the year before.

She was accepted into New York University, where she is currently double majoring in journalism and food studies. She has interned at The New York Observer and Bloomberg BNA. And attended The Fund for American Studies program where she interned for The Washington Times, earning the program's "Excellence in Print Journalism" award for her front page piece about an African American WWII veteran who had never been recognized for his heroic accomplishments on the battlefield.

And though Jenny never intended to enjoy it, finding that she had a talent for reporting is the reason she is still doing it. She likens her relationship with journalism to that of the success story of an arranged marriage. They grew on each other.

## *Editorial*

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*James McAuley, Oxford University*

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James McAuley is a graduate student in modern European history at Oxford, focusing on Vichy France. He is looking forward to returning to the Post for another summer on the opinion page.

## *Presentation – Photographer*

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*Maddie Meyer, Ohio University*

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The Washington Post has always been a part of my morning routine. Growing up in Arlington, Virginia, my hometown paper always held a spot on the kitchen table. I used to read the Kids Post while eating cheerios and drinking orange juice, scanning to see if any of my friends showed up in the “Birthdays of the Week” section. A lot has changed since then, and now I read the “Top Stories” page of the Washington Post app on my phone while I rush to class in the morning.

I’m a rising senior at Ohio University where I study photojournalism. While

at school I’m most likely to be found in the football stadium or basketball arena shooting various sports for the Athletics Department. There my job ranges from traveling with the Football team, to styling the basketball team for their promotional photos. Every day is different, and I love the challenge of making a new image at each event. I have had two previous internships in Washington, one at the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire and one at The Hill. I was thrilled to accept an internship here at the Post and can’t get enough of DC.

I enjoy exploring new places with my camera, whether it’s a new country or a new neighborhood. I just returned from a semester in Barcelona where I got the chance to see Spain, Morocco and Italy. Watching my first bullfight in Seville, and learning about religion in Rabat are certainly things I’ll never forget.

In my free time I like biking through Rock Creek Park, going to Gospel Brunch at the Hamilton, and playing with my overweight pug James K. Polk (aka Polkie). I’m really excited to be here this summer, and can’t wait to meet everyone.

## *Local – Reporter*

*Trishula Patel, Columbia Graduate School of Journalism*



While moderating a student panel on Columbus Day for prospective students to the University of Pennsylvania, my alma mater, I was asked what classes had inspired me during my years at college to choose the academic or career path that I had chosen. I realized that I could not think of any specific courses that had initially inspired my love of journalism – I was one of those who had found their passion outside the classroom.

I was a History major – it's been my academic passion since I was a young girl. I was never entirely sure,

however, where that interest was going to take me. I was a writer for and then editor of my high school newspaper, but it had always been a something I just did after class. And then I arrived at Penn, and signed up to write for the Daily Pennsylvanian as a freshman. I started off writing very general pieces about once a week, but decided I liked it enough to apply to be a regular beat reporter. I was hooked.

I've written for the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Philadelphia Weekly since then, covering health, science, arts and culture. After Penn, I ended up at the journalism school at Columbia, and living in New York for the past year has been an incredible experience.

I once thought I wanted to be the person that was written about in newspapers and history books. My love for writing, however, has helped me realize that I don't have to be the person being written about to make a difference. Writing about what I see in the world can touch either one or millions – either way, as long as someone pays attention to what I have to say as a reporter observing the world around me, I know I've done what I set out to do.

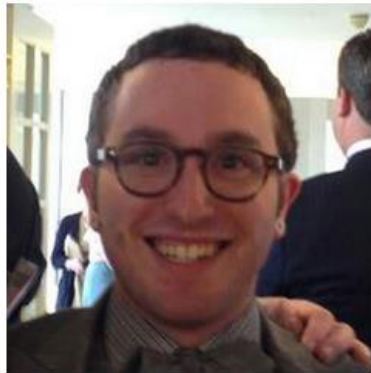
I like to think of myself as a global citizen – I'm of Indian origin, but I'm a third-generation Zimbabwean, born in the small African country in 1989. That's often prompted a lot of confusion when I tell people where I'm from – someone once responded "Oh, I didn't know Zimbabwe was a province of India – but I'm proud of where I'm from, and love telling people about my home. I'm thrilled to be able to live and work in Washington, D.C. this summer; it's always been one of my favorite cities.

I'm learning photography with my Canon t3i. I read a lot, go running about once a week, and can dance the cha cha, salsa, waltz, rumba, and jive. My current obsessions include Justin Timberlake, Game of Thrones and Boo the puppy. My dream is to become an international correspondent and go back and report on southern Africa. And become famous enough to be a voice on a Disney movie or a guest on Sesame Street. I'm only half joking about that last part.



## *Investigative – Reporter*

*Steven Rich, University of Missouri*



He once got into an event that Kevin Spacey was turned away from. He ran on the field during three Orange Bowls in front of national audiences. Michelle Obama gave him a hug and then Paul Rudd sought him out for a hug. He's not the most interesting man in the world but he is Steven Rich.

Steven is the Washington Post Investigations Unit's first reporting intern. He's been on the team since January where he's worked performing data and statistical analysis, shoe-leather reporting and

web scraping.

Steven has interned and worked in a variety of locations, including the New York Times investigative unit, USA Today's data team, the Columbia Missourian and DocumentCloud. He's also spending the summer on fellowship working for Len Downie and Jacquee Petchel on this year's News21 project, which is focused on post-9/11 veterans.

Steven graduated in May from the University of Missouri with his Master's degree in Journalism. In his last semester at Mizzou, Steven studied and worked out of Washington on a White House Correspondents Association scholarship. The scholarship allowed him to intern at the Post on the investigations unit.

Before that, he studied at Virginia Tech but couldn't make up his mind with majors like Aerospace Engineering, Film, Computer Science and Music. He eventually got his Bachelor's in Communication, with minors in Creative Writing and Popular Culture. On his way to graduate school, Steven got a letter of recommendation from civil rights poet Nikki Giovanni, who compared his writing style to that of Truman Capote. He's convinced that she may have confused him with someone else. While in Blacksburg, Steven was a tuba player in the Marching Virginians, where he constantly danced and played the "hokie pokie" with a tuba. He also spent two years as the executive officer of the band.

Steven grew up in Collegeville, Pa., a small suburb of Philadelphia where he used to be known for his incredible curly hair that added about a foot to his height. Winner of "Best Hair" in high school, Steven donated 20 inches of hair from his afro after graduation and now virtually no one in town recognizes him.

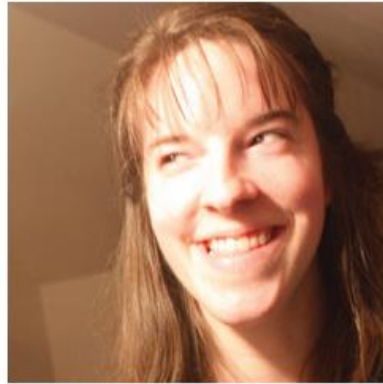
Follow Steven on Twitter at @thestevenrich or find him at his desk on the fifth floor. He's always willing to blabber about music from the 80s and 90s (especially Rush, Nirvana and of course Wang Chung), Hokie football, programming in Python or Ruby and just about everything in between. Just don't ask him about "that one time at band camp."

## *Presentation – Design/Graphics*

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*Rebecca Rolfe, Georgia Institute of Technology*

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Rebecca wrote her first article for *THE DAILY REFLECTOR* (Greenville, N.C.) while in high school. It was a story about a community play that involved aliens landing on stage in cardboard boxes spray-painted with metallic paint. She spent one Christmas vacation in front of a phone book calling every restaurant in town to get their holiday hours to print in Living's food column. She got lost out in the tobacco farmland trying to track down a NASCAR car mechanic for a "30 Under 30" profile. She had to drive into a field to get enough cell service to call her mom for directions.

Rebecca has since transitioned from beat reporting to the graphics desk, but she still remembers all of the lessons she learned in those days, even as each day brings new ones. Come tell her about your first pieces or the ones you're working on or the future ideas you have – she'd love to hear about them.

Rebecca worked on the graphics desk of the UNC-Chapel Hill campus paper *THE DAILY TAR HEEL*, was a design intern for *THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT*, spent three years as a production designer at *CNN.COM*, and recently graduated from Georgia Tech with a master's degree in digital media. Her grandmother doesn't know what digital media is, and Rebecca isn't sure she knows either. She does know that visualizing information and storytelling with computers is a lot of fun, and she can't wait to start doing that at the *POST*. And if her first assignment is about aliens in cardboard boxes, all the better.

## *Financial – Reporter*

*Katerina Sokou, Northwestern University*



I have spent the last nine months as a Knight-Bagehot fellow in Economics and Business Journalism, a transformational program for mid-career journalists that took me back to school. Columbia Business School, that is. There, I marveled at the depth of materials an Ivy League education has to offer and the sheer talent of my classmates. I learned to love accounting and to speak the language of finance, drew my own business plan and thrived in corporate strategy class. And that is not half of it: there were dinners with legendary journalists, bankers and politicians,

study tours to Greece and Turkey, visits to the Fed and the New York Stock Exchange, meetings with the top editors of the biggest news organizations, pitches to venture capitalists, endless conversations about the future of media and of course too many excel spreadsheets to analyze in too little time.

Before coming to the US, I was head of the International Financial News desk at Kathimerini, the leading daily newspaper in Greece and a partner of the International Herald Tribune for Greece and Cyprus, where I managed a team of five journalists. During the last four years, I have interviewed many top thinkers in the world of business like economists Joseph Stiglitz and Martin Feldstein, investor George Soros and policymakers like Dominique Strauss-Kahn and Jose Manuel Barroso. At the same time, I occasionally wrote opinion pieces for Kathimerini, provided comment on the Greek crisis for CNN, CNBC, BBC and The Times of London and was a stringer for Italian magazine L'Espresso and a source of information for many foreign journalists via Twitter.

I've come to specialize in economic crisis reporting: First I covered the international financial crisis, then the Greek debt crisis, then the Eurozone one (fiscal, political, existential – you name it). I am now intrigued by the crisis potential of Washington politics. I am no Cassandra, but having seen the boom and bust in Greece and much of the Eurozone, I am concerned about global imbalances and the lack of political leadership to tackle some difficult economic, social and environmental challenges.

I hold a MS in Journalism from Columbia Journalism School, a MA in International Studies from Warwick University, UK, and a first-class honors degree in History from the University of Ioannina, Greece. I am a member of the New York Financial Writers' Association, the Association of European Journalists and the Journalists' Union of the Athens Daily Newspapers. I am currently working on a book proposal on – what else? – the Greek crisis.

## *Universal News Desk – Copy Editor*

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*Caillin Steffen, University of Missouri*

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Hi, I'm Caitlin Steffen. I was born and raised in Kearney, Neb., a town of about 30,000. It's big enough that you don't know everyone, but small enough that you know everyone's business. I graduated in May from the University of Missouri with degrees in journalism and religious studies. After this summer, I plan on finding a full-time job at a newspaper.

My dream job is to be a pastry chef, but I'm pretty useless in the kitchen. I really just like to eat other people's food. I love the Mizzou Tigers, but I'm a Cornhuskers fan at heart. After

spending a summer in Belgium last year, I caught the travel bug, and my list of places to visit keeps getting longer and longer. I'm really passionate about promoting blood cancer awareness and getting people to sign up for the national bone marrow registries.



## *Universal News Desk – Homepage*

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*Ruth Tam, Tufts University*

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Ruth Tam is graduate of Tufts University where she studied English and Mass Communications & Media Studies. As a multimedia journalist and artist, she has integrated photography, video, and illustration to report on the seafood industry in Boston as well as domestic violence and higher education in San Francisco. While an undergrad, Ruth interned at the Institute of Economic Affairs in Ghana, the San Francisco Public Press, and PBS' Frontline. Most recently, she was a reporting fellow with the GlobalPost reporting on labor rights from Dhaka, Bangladesh.

## *Universal News Desk – Multiplatform Editor*

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*Alex Wolinsky, Dow Jones News Fund*

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I was never supposed to pursue journalism in any form after my graduation from high school.

Within my first week of arriving at UC Berkeley, however, I found myself irresistibly drawn to *The Daily Californian*, and since then, the organization's copy desk has essentially become my life.

A sportswriter once told me that "people don't get excited about commas." Perhaps he was right (I would be an exception), but copy editing is about more than that. Fixing

typos and punctuating sentences is simply the beginning — a skilled copy editor will ensure that an article's narrative is as cohesive as possible, that its headline captures the detail most relevant and interesting to the reader, that its photo caption provides the proper balance of description and summary. Every night, the copy editor endeavors to interpret the innumerable ambiguities omnipresent in English, to find the best solution to issues for which there is often no perfect answer — and for me, this renders the job as exhilarating as reporting or photography.

The internship at the Post will be my first copy editing job for a daily publication other than the Daily Cal, and I look forward to experiencing the production cycle as well as simply being a part of the larger newsroom.

My other interests include fencing, jazz piano and writing fiction. The former two appear wholly unrelated to copy editing, but I have every intention of finding a connection at some point in the future.

## *Local – Reporter*

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*Julie Lauzmer, Harvard College*

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Known outside the newsroom as Zippy the Clown, I will gladly make you a balloon animal whenever you'd like. If you give me a few hours, I'll make you a 60-balloon dragon, a four-foot-tall model of Big Ben, or a fully wearable dress.

When I'm not building sculptures with inflatable latex, I'm reporting, of course. At The Harvard Crimson, I covered everything from a murder trial to students who secretly kept forbidden pets in their dorm rooms. One of my stories, about a man who faked his way into Harvard, eventually

evolved into a book which was published by Lyons Press in September 2012. As the managing editor of The Crimson, I spent my days combatting every disaster that happens at each moment in a student newsroom, from the problems of journalistic ethics to the sewage raining from the ceiling. Perhaps my proudest moment was the headline that appeared after I wrote an open letter announcing that The Crimson would no longer let administrators vet their quotes prior to publication: Gawker declared, "Harvard Crimson Editors Have Bigger Balls Than Your Media Boss."

I chased Occupy protesters as a stringer for the Associated Press, and I ducked under police tape for the first (and so far only) time during a wonderful summer as a reporting intern at The Philadelphia Inquirer. Interning at the International Herald Tribune was a marvelous chance to see one of the world's coolest newspapers in action, yes, but also an excuse to indulge myself in the writer-in-café-in-Paris scene all summer. Ask me about the novel for middle schoolers that I wrote that summer if you want to hear me talk emphatically about why a 13-year-old girl who grows wings whenever she takes her shoes off would never have feathers.

I haven't learned to fly yet, shoes or no shoes, so I figure I'll have to be a superhero by way of journalism instead. I hope to cover local news for a long time to come; I'm especially interested in courts and schools. I can't wait to start reporting in DC!