SAHANA JAYARAMAN

503-360-2948 | sahanasjayaraman@gmail.com | data portfolio | personal website

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

Data Intern, September 2021 – present

- Analyzed court data for a Pulitzer prize-winning entry on the people charged with taking part in the Jan. 6 Capitol Riot
- Wrangle, analyze and map data in R, interpreting findings for projects of local and national significance, like <u>this one</u> on the toll of traffic deaths in D.C. and <u>this one</u> on the impacts of the Buffalo massacre
- Scrape data and interact with PostgreSQL databases using Python and shell scripts; regularly use JSON-endpoint APIs to access data
- Collaborate with teams across the newsroom, producing multifaceted, impactful coverage
- Conduct on-the-ground reporting and empathetic source interviews
- Manage communications with public information officers and experts to acquire data from more than 20 jurisdictions across California
- Acquire, research, wrangle and join state education data to create a national database
- Analyze geospatial data, converting map projections and creating choropleths to display findings to reporters

Howard Center for Investigative Journalism, College Park, Maryland

Data Reporter, January 2021 – August 2021

- Scraped, wrangled and analyzed data in R and Python for long-term investigative projects, like this one on worker safety during the pandemic and this one on the role white-owned newspapers played in inciting and supporting racial terror
- Authored memos and managed delicate communications between government PIOs and journalists to obtain data and answer queries
- Used Python to build and run a Selenium web scraper
- Optimized code with parallelization, for-loops and custom functions in R

The Diamondback, The University of Maryland's independent student newspaper

Data Editor, January 2022 – April 2022

- Pitched and worked on data-driven stories, added data elements to collaborative projects
- Created a <u>food service inspections bot</u> to tackle repetitive reporting tasks, delivering data to reporters to kickstart coverage.

Deputy Managing Editor, April 2021 – July 2021

- Made final decisions on factual, grammatical and style changes in news, opinion, sports and entertainment stories
- Sat on the editorial board, contributed to high-level decisions on anonymity and publication

EDUCATION AWARDS SKILLS

University of Maryland, College Park

B.A., Journalism & B.A., Criminology & criminal justice

Graduated: May 2022, Magna Cum Laude

GPA: 3.98

Bylined contributor to a 2022 Public Service Pulitzer-winning entry

Bylined contributor to a 2022 IRE medal-winning project

Bylined contributor to a 2022 Punch Sulzberger award-winning project R, Python, Excel, SQL
Narrative storytelling
Explanatory writing
Collaboration & communication

Fluent Tamil
Proficient French