

RUTH SERVEN SMITH

Writer and Journalist

PERSONAL PROFILE

I am passionate about local journalism that holds institutions accountable and helps readers and residents become better citizens. Ask me about Oklahoma and Bulgaria.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

University of Missouri

Bachelor's of Journalism | 2013 - 2017

- Graduated magna cum laude
- Focused on print journalism
- Student leader at Mizzou's Religion Newswriters Association
- Interned in Indianapolis, Kansas City and Sofia, Bulgaria

OTHER WORK AND AWARDS

- 2018 Education Writers Association Fellow
- 2017 Virginia Press Association, First Place Educational Writing
- 2017 PEN America Best Emerging Writers
- "A Message" (Epiphany Literary Magazine)

CAREER HISTORY

Higher Education Reporter

The Daily Progress, Charlottesville, Virginia

- Write daily, feature and investigative stories on the impact of the University of Virginia, its Medical Center and Piedmont Virginia Community College
- Use infographics and data analysis to support my stories
- Launched an email newsletter to distribute stories to a broader audience

Pulliam Fellow

The Indianapolis Star, Indianapolis

- Covered hyperlocal and breaking news
- Used video projects and infographics to support my stories

Education Reporter, Copy Editor, Graphics Editor

The Columbia Missourian, Columbia, Missouri

- Wrote higher education and breaking news stories as the University of Missouri was in the midst of anti-racist protests and administrative turnover
- Worked on the graphics and copy desks to make my and other reporters' stories accurate, clear and engaging.

SKILLS

- Adobe Illustrator and Tableau
- Microsoft Excel, Python and SQLite
- Basic Spanish, Bulgarian and Latin

(434) 409-2908 | ruthserven@gmail.com | servenitup.com | @ruthserven