

JOSH AXELROD

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EDUCATION

Tulane University, School of Liberal Arts

Bachelor of Arts | Triple Major: English, Political Economy, Jewish Studies | GPA: 3.96

New Orleans, LA

2016-2020

EXPERIENCE

The American Independent | Faith & Politics Reporter

Digital Platform for Political News

Washington D.C.

June 2021 - Present

- Produce person-first original reporting on religion beat, shining a light on sensitive and often undercovered topics
- Cultivate and maintain source relationships for tips, exclusive stories and dynamic interviews
- Write daily quick hits and breaking news in minutes, breaking down complex policies and their effects on people

CNN | Associate Producer

Digital Destination for Worldwide Breaking News

Remote

June 2020 - June 2021

- Curate the homepage for the #1 most visited news site in the world for 11+ million daily unique visitors
- Program and package content using real-time Chartbeat data paired with editorial judgement
- Write subheds and A/B test headlines to craft most engaging story framing and increase click-through rate

NJ Advance Media | Reporter

Parent Company of Pulitzer-Winning Star-Ledger and NJ.com

Woodbridge, NJ

June 2020 - May 2021

- Cover all facets of the COVID-19 crisis, including elections, religious groups adapting rituals and vaccine distribution
- Report on mask compliance at Jersey Shore bars which informed Gov. Phil Murphy's reversal on reopening guidelines
- Man education beat, turning around weekslong enterprise reporting and updates on individual districts in minutes
- Conduct interviews and write scripts for #TogetherNJ podcast, featuring feel-good audio stories

The New Orleans Advocate/Times-Picayune | Digital Content Editor

Pulitzer-Winning Newspaper Serving the New Orleans Community

New Orleans, LA

August 2019 - April 2020

- Cover breaking news including Hard Rock construction site implosion, gubernatorial election and hurricane updates
- Optimize four homepages and three mobile apps with news content, based on Parse.ly analytics
- Post hourly on 10 social media accounts with more than a million collective followers and send out push notifications

NPR | Digital News Intern

National Non-Profit Radio Producer and #1 U.S. Podcast Publisher

Washington D.C.

Summer 2019

- Pitch and write digital-exclusive stories that topped the NPR.org homepage and earned over half a million page views
- Convert radio reporting for digital audiences by deconstructing audio scripts and augmenting with additional reporting
- Participate in interviews with Pete Buttigieg, Beto O'Rourke and Steve Bullock for series on presidential candidates

The Jerusalem Post | Newsroom Intern

English-Language Daily and Online Israeli Newspaper

Jerusalem, Israel

Fall 2018

- Report on Israeli politics and pitch story ideas during daily content meetings with Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

VOLUNTEER WORK

- Online News Association Student Newsroom Member
- Center for Public Service Peer Social Justice Facilitator
- WRBH Radio for the Blind Volunteer
- Orleans Public Defenders Research Intern

AWARDS

- Toner Prize for Excellence in Local Political Reporting
- Green Eyeshade Awards — 1st Place Disaster Reporting
- Keystone Press Awards — 2nd Place Enterprise Reporting
- 1st Place Enterprise/Investigative Story from LA-MS Associated Press Broadcasters and Media Editors
- Deans' Honor Scholarship

SKILLS

AP Style | Breaking News | Features | Live Blog |
Search Engine Optimization | A/B Headline Testing |
Content Management Systems | Competitor Audits |
Social Media | Photography | Records Requests |
Chartbeat | Google Analytics | WordPress | MailChimp