

Zoë Rebecca Kirsch

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EXPERIENCE

Freelance Investigative Reporter; New York, NY September 2018 present

Reporting a national story about the justice system failing to protect children from harm. Project funded by the Stabile Center at Columbia Journalism School.

Teaching Assistant, Columbia Journalism School; New York, NY October 2018 January 2019

Assisted Kristen Lombardi, director of the school's investigative postgrad fellowships, with investigative techniques class for Masters of Science students. Led demonstrations and workshops on public records (including FOIA requests), data journalism, scholarly research, backgrounding individuals, companies and nonprofits, and investigative interviewing.

Investigative Reporter, The Teacher Project; New York, NY 2016 2018

Reported stories on equity and access in American education. Bylines in ProPublica, Slate, BuzzFeed, the Atlantic, the Hechinger Report, and more. Pieces include data, photo and audio elements. Served as a spokesperson for team on EWA Radio, and for a panel at EWA's 2018 National Seminar in Los Angeles.

Research Editor, Philadelphia Magazine; Philadelphia, PA 2015 2016

Ensured the clarity, accuracy, and legal integrity of all print material; managed four fact-checking interns. Reported policy-driven stories for the magazine's politics and ideas channel.

Staff Writer, Houston Press; Houston, TX Summer 2015

Reported and wrote posts, news stories, and a long-form narrative cover story for this Voice Media Group-owned alternative weekly.

AWARDS

Nellie Bly Cub Reporter Award 2018

Distributed by the New York Press Club. Awarded annually to the best journalistic effort by an individual new to the profession.

EWA Award, Best Investigative Reporting 2018

Distributed by the Education Writers Association. Awarded to Teacher Project and ProPublica for an investigation of for-profit alternative education.

Front Page Award, Best Online In-Depth Reporting 2017

Distributed by the Newswomen's Club of New York. Awarded to Teacher Project for an investigation of for-profit alternative education.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY M.S. in Investigative Journalism, 2015

Stabile Investigative Fellow. Covered courts and NY's mental health system. Coursework in photography, data journalism, investigating health care, and investigating businesses. Achieved honors for master's project on the hazards of the poorly regulated lawn mower industry.

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA B.A. in English and Creative Writing

Wrote honors thesis about the Boston Globe's coverage of the Boston Marathon bombings. Inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the English Honors Society.

SKILLS & ORGANIZATIONS

Research and reporting; writing (news and long-form); editing; audio editing and storytelling; DSLR shooting; web production; Microsoft Office applications; social media, CMS, Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, and Audition; FOIA, PACER, LexisNexis, Excel and Tableau. Investigative Reporters and Editors, Education Writers Association.