

LILY ALTAVENA

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@lilyalta

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Educational equity reporter
The Detroit Free Press
March 2021 - Present

- Building a statewide beat around disparities in education across Michigan, uncovering problems that disproportionately affect marginalized students and exploring the solutions to those problems.
- Produce daily, enterprise and investigative stories.
- Published an investigative series about restraint and seclusion practices in schools that led Michigan's governor to call for reform.

Faculty Associate
Arizona State University
Online
June 2018 - Present

- Teach multiple courses in ASU's Digital Audiences program, a program with ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Communication.
- Courses revolve around audience research strategy, analytics, SEO and understanding a brand's identity.

Education reporter
The Arizona Republic
June 2017 - March 2021

- Cover education statewide, delving into how policy, funding and more impacts 1.1 million K-12 students in more than 200 school districts and 500 charters.
- Published an in-depth project on teacher sexual misconduct in August 2019.
- In previous roles, spearheaded a project on a record year for heat-related deaths and covered city politics in Mesa, Arizona's third-largest city.

Investigative reporter
Cronkite News
Aug 2016 - May 2017

- Senior producer and a lead reporter on "HookedRx: From Prescription to Addiction," a 30-minute documentary on prescription opioid abuse in Arizona.
- Led several in-depth projects including an involved analysis of education finance data.

Ethics and Excellence Fellow
News21
January 2016 - Aug 2016

- Individual story on state takeovers of school districts was a national finalist and regional winner in the SPJ Mark of Excellence awards.

Teaching Assistant
Arizona State University
Aug 2015 - 2017

- Assisted at the National Center on Disability and Journalism.
- Modified a Wordpress theme to redesign ncdj.org into a mobile-first responsive site.

Producer
Tribune Broadcasting
March 2014 - May 2015

- Line produced a nationally syndicated morning news show 5 days a week (airing in Dallas, Houston, Philadelphia, D.C., and Portland).
- Organized and wrote a two-hour long show.
- During broadcast, maintained order, cued anchors and kept time.

Undergraduate internships: The New York Times, NBC News, Village Voice

SKILLS

Adobe Premiere, Photoshop and Audition
SEO and audience research
Data journalism including basic SQL
DSLR photography and video
WordPress, HTML, CSS
Audience engagement tactics

EDUCATION

M.A., Journalism

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Arizona State University
GPA: 4.0, Outstanding graduate student

B.A., Journalism and metropolitan studies

New York University