

Henrietta Wildsmith

PHOTO-VIDEO-SOCIAL MEDIA-REPORTER



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts
Photography
University of North Texas
December 2004

SKILLS

Photographer
Videographer
Social media strategist
Adobe Premiere
Photoshop
Feature reporter
Time management
Goal driven
Story teller
Team oriented
Community connected

REFERENCES

Jeff Gauger
former editor of The Times
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Scott Ferrel
former editor of The Times
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ABOUT

When I got my first photography job at a small local paper, I thought all my hard work at the University of North Texas had paid off, and I had finally reached my dream. I wanted to move from paper to paper until I reached my goal of working at a large daily.

The plan was going smoothly as I went from a weekly community paper in Dallas to The Hattiesburg American in Mississippi, and then to the Shreveport Times in Louisiana, a nice mid-sized paper. There I embraced video journalism and was named the video lead of the newsroom as well as starting our Instagram account. What was supposed to be a five-year stop grew longer as layoffs became a common occurrence in the newsroom and the meaning of 'career growth' changed to 'still having your job.' The positive aspect of this was discovering my versatility. I did my best to fill the gaps left by each layoff.

I saw myself grow into a social media manager, a photo editor and a feature reporter. I no longer considered myself a photographer, I was a storyteller. The 'big city' job grew less attractive as I discovered that community was the most important part of my job.

In my recent evaluation my editor, Misty Castile, wrote, "Henrietta is a valuable member of this team. She frequently goes above and beyond what is asked of her, splitting her time between news, sports, and writing features. She works well with others and often has valuable advice and opinions." I believe in the power of a team. I know I am much stronger together than alone.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Shreveport Times

Photographer | April 2008 — present

I photograph for all sections of the paper, produce videos, photo galleries and create social media content.

- I shoot video with a Nikon and edit with Adobe Premiere Pro.
- I initiated and have grown the Shreveport Times Instagram page to almost 20k followers. I also add photos and video content to all of our Facebook pages.
- I started and manage the annual Shreveport Times Photo Contest. This produces several stories and photo galleries with strong community outreach for our site.
- I assign and manage our freelancers, staying within a monthly budget.
- I am out in the community growing important relationships that create stories and connections.
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- I pay close attention to our daily data to determine what our audience is responding to.
- I have won numerous state and regional awards for my work. Including the Louisiana-Mississippi AP Editors Contest where I received first place in general news photography for the Women's March in Shreveport and was part of the team that won first place in the multimedia package category for the presentation of the multi-day series about the internet and digital media's impact on crimes against children.

Hattiesburg American

Photographer | Mar 2006 — Apr 2008