

DEBORAH M. PASTNER

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Experience

Incoming doctoral student, Journalism and Media

The University of Texas at Austin / 2025-2029

Visuals consultant

Center for Community News / 2024-2025

- Partnered with CCN at the University of Vermont on their Election and Democracy Program.
- Created a series of photo and video assignments for students, in addition to a Best Visual Practices handout.

Assistant Managing Editor, Photojournalism

The Minnesota Star Tribune / 2023

- Led award-winning department of 17 photographers, videographers and editors for the fifth-largest circulation daily newspaper in the United States.
- Oversaw planning, editing and strategy for visuals on-platform, off-platform, in the daily print newspaper and a quarterly magazine.
- Managed department budget and annual capital projects to maintain newsroom's photo and video equipment.
- Started mentor program with alternative-learning center Gordon Parks High School to inspire high school students to pursue a career in photojournalism.

Fellow, Nieman Foundation for Journalism

Harvard University / 2021-2022

- Member of the 84th Nieman Fellowship class; took courses at Harvard College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Kennedy School of Government.
- Spent year studying how the racial reckoning in the wake of George Floyd's murder altered the relationship between photojournalists and their subjects. Explored ways to reframe that association.

Director of Photo/Video

The Minnesota Star Tribune / 2013-2022

- Part of the *Star Tribune* team that won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize in Breaking News Reporting for coverage of the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis Police officer Derek Chauvin.
- During tenure, photo editing team recognized three times for the Angus McDougall Excellence in Editing award by Pictures of the Year (Finalists in 2021, 2020; Award of Excellence in 2022).

Photo editor

The Minnesota Star Tribune / 1999-2013

- Edited images for the news, sports and features departments and for special projects.
- Led coverage and onsite editing for several high-profile events, including the 2008 Republican National Convention, the 2007 35W bridge collapse and the 2002 Minnesota Twins playoff run.

Photographer

Bay City Times / 1998-1999

- Photographed news and sports assignments at central Michigan daily newspaper.

Lakewood Journal / 1994-1996

- Handled photo assignments at weekly newspaper in Washington State.

Nantucket Beacon / 1993-1994

- One of two photographers at weekly newspaper on Nantucket Island.

Education

Missouri School of Journalism/1996-1998, 2023-2024

- Master's degree in Journalism; graduated December 2024
- Recipient of O.O. McIntyre Scholarship (1996-1997) and Kappa Tau Alpha honors (2024)
- Co-coordinated Pictures of the Year competition, 1997

Wellesley College, BA, philosophy and studio art/1989-1993

- Graduated magna cum laude

Awards and special recognition

Minnesota Star Tribune staff awards

- 2021 Pulitzer Prize in Breaking News Reporting for coverage of killing of George Floyd
- Edward R. Murrow Award (2021, George Floyd coverage)
- Online News Association Award (2020, Breaking News, "The Killing of George Floyd")
- Angus McDougall Excellence in Editing, Pictures of the Year (Finalists in 2021, 2020; Award of Excellence in 2022)
- Best of Photojournalism Digital Picture Editing Team of the Year (Third place, 2022)
- Multiple Midwest Emmy awards

Individual awards

- Pictures of the Year Visual Editor of the Year finalist (2019, 2017, 2016)
- Best of Photojournalism Picture Editor of Year finalist (2018)

Served as Pulitzer Prize juror (2017 and 2018), Pictures of the Year judge (2017 and 2024), Society of News Design judge (2018) and NPPA's Best of Photojournalism judge (2021).

Served as president of the Associated Press Photo Managers board (2020).