

Kathleen Davis

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Editorial Leader

Leader of editorial strategy, manager of remote and hybrid newsrooms, podcast and event creator and host, experienced writer and editor producing award nominated, traffic and subscription generating content.

EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer, Editor, Strategist

September 2025 – Present

Feature articles appearing in AARP, Fast Company, The Purse, and more. Ghost writing Op Eds for thought leadership on Substack and placement in Forbes, Writing and consulting White Papers for Non-Profit clients including OneNYC and Fair Food Network. Consulting for Public Relations professionals at Pace PR and others.

The Persistent

July 2025 - May 2026

Editor, Writer and Strategist (freelance contract)

- Guided editorial strategy for The Persistent, a start-up digital publication focused on women's narratives. Increased traffic and subscribers. Awarded two Webbys.
- Developed special projects, including a monthly live editor's chat and a weekly recommendation column.
- Wrote and edited a diverse range of articles, from news and opinion pieces to in-depth features.

Fast Company

2013-2025

Promoted three times from staff editor of leadership section to senior editor, then deputy editor. Created podcasting and events business lines, hired and managed staff, wrote and edited hundreds of packages and articles. Oversaw editorial traffic and subscription strategy.

Deputy Editor, July 2018 – June 2025

Editing highlights:

- Assigned and edited 2025's 3-part [Trader Joes investigative series](#).
- Created and edited the annual [Queer 50/Queer Changemakers](#) list (2020-2025),
- Implemented monthly feature packages for each section. Edited 2023's [CEO pay equity report](#).
- Recruited, assigned and edited hundreds new writers and industry voices across the topics of the future of work, news, social impact, tech and more, which were regular among the highest traffic (400k+ page views each)

Editorial Strategy:

- Conceived and implemented subscriber-exclusive monthly live virtual event series, "[FC Live](#)" which retained and attracted over 300 paid subscribers each month.
- Guided traffic and premium and newsletter subscription strategy resulting in regular monthly increases.
- Collaborated across business lines with sales, marketing, HR and developers to create products, improve processes, and regularly win sponsorships (each \$500k+). Led the 2019 and 2024 homepage redesign.

Writing highlights:

- Wrote weekly popular [Pressing Questions](#) advice column (FC's highest engaged content on LinkedIn, also turned into a video series), weekly [Work Smarter](#) newsletters (routinely high traffic posts), profiles, news, and feature articles.

Management

- Lead editorial direction, managed budgets and set traffic and subscription goals across all sections.
- Mentored career development of dozens of remote and hybrid employees. Hired dozens of staff writers and editors across all sections of the website. Managed the news and work life teams to produce the most highly traffic content on the site. Assigned and edited over 30 freelance and expert contributors writers across all sections.
- Created and developed a new performance review platform for human resources to be implemented across the company.

Multimedia and Events:

- Frequent speaker and moderator for both external events and Fast Company events including Fast Company Innovation Festival, WNorth, From Day One, ASNE conference, and more.
- Programed over 20 workshops annually for the Fast Company Innovation Festival.
- Represented Fast Company in frequent media appearances on podcasts and video including NPR, Cheddar TV, and various career podcasts.
- Wrote scripts and served as on-air talent for several Fast Company video series.

Host and Creator, [The New Way We Work podcast](#), 2018-2025

- Created, hosted, scripted and booked guests for Fast Company's flagship first podcast about the changing landscape of work (11,000+ downloads per episode at peak) for 13 seasons (over 270 episodes).
- The mini-series Ambition Diaries produced in collaboration with The Economic Hardship Reporting Project was [nominated for Best Business Podcast 2023](#).
- After launching podcasting at Fast Company with 2 shows in 2018, I took on an additional role growing the network conceptualizing and guiding the editorial direction of 4 shows: The New Way We Work, World Changing Ideas, Creative Control, and Most Innovative Companies. I also piloted audio narration on articles and a weekly short news podcast, FC Digest.

Senior Editor, 2015 – 2018

Staff Editor, 2013 – 2015

- Editor of leadership and work-life section. Assigned and edited around 10 stories a day and hired and managed dozens of staff and freelance writers as well as building a network of contributors including thought leaders like Melinda Gates, industry leaders like Ryan Holmes and Anil Dash and renowned academics.
- Pioneered Fast Company's industry-leading coverage of gender inequality, diversity and inclusion, and the future of work. Wrote viral articles on gender inequality at work
- Grew section visits by 72% in one year, expanded Twitter audience and Newsletter subscribers. Implemented several syndication partnerships.
- Frequently wrote news, reported articles and long form features for both print and online, including a 2017 cover story on [the ACLU's response to the Trump Presidency](#). Profiled [Anita Hill](#), [Ellen Pao](#), and many others.
- Created several top performing digital and print packages including "[Out at Work](#)" a digital cover package featuring Lena Waithe and surveying over 5,000 professionals about experiences of being LGBTQ in the workplace.

Entrepreneur.com

August 2012-November 2013

Associate Editor

- Hired and managing dozens of freelance writers and high-profile expert contributors. Assigned and edited hundreds of daily stories and several feature stories that consistently ranked in among the top 10 most popular stories on the site. Regularly wrote and reported feature articles and news stories. Built content partnerships with other media outlets.
- Managed important elements of site's social media strategy. Introduced multimedia elements to the website. Implemented systems to streamline processes and manage editorial workflow, and contracts and invoices.

Contributing Editor, 2009-2012 Assistant Editor, 2007-2009

- Wrote monthly “I, Photographer” column interviewing a professional photographer with a unique career. Wrote annual travel feature, and daily news posts.
- Wrote and edited monthly front-of-the-book new products section. Interviewed photographers for monthly features. Conceived and wrote two new monthly print columns. Line and copy-edited each story in the magazine prior to publication. Hired and managed interns and freelance writers
- Founded and managed PopPhoto.com: hired writers, edited posts, wrote daily original content, promoted content on social media and built relationships with industry sites and bloggers.

EDUCATION

B.S. Journalism, Eastern Michigan University

Magna cum Laude, Michigan Press Association Scholar. Columnist for weekly campus newspaper, Editor in Chief of literary magazine.

Certificate in Managing Teams, Cambridge University, UK

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Successfully petitioned Ann Arbor Public School system to add all non-gendered K-5 sports team in 2022 leading to the creation of new sports league for thousands of public school children.
- Organized several school-wide community building events with record attendance (over 200), created enrichment clubs for 2nd-5th grade children, organized 4-5 classroom events every year.
- Former Big Sister with Big Brothers/Big Sisters NYC (2008-2019), Volunteer team leader for New York Cares (2007-2017)
- Certified adult and children’s Vinyasa yoga instructor teaching publicly and privately and for NYC public schools (2011).