

Ben Wasserstein

Writer, Photographer and Conservationist

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Sparkill, NY, 10976

Accomplished reporter with extensive experience in field reporting, investigative journalism, multimedia production and wildlife conservation.

Adept at delivering in-depth political coverage, conducting high-profile interviews and uncovering key stories in government and public affairs. Proven ability to write thought-provoking articles, produce broadcast content and manage editorial strategies for digital platforms. Expertise in media engagement and content marketing to expand audience reach, with keen eye for photography and video journalism. Recognized for building strong relationships with political figures, stakeholders and audiences, contributing to public's understanding of complex political landscapes.

Volunteered in Zimbabwe to support key conservation goals.

Areas of Expertise

- Investigative Journalism & Reporting
- Wildlife Conservation
- Political Reporting & Storytelling
- Multimedia Content Production
- Audience Engagement & Public Outreach
- Political Analysis & Audience Engagement
- Event Coverage & Crisis Reporting
- Public Speaking & Media Appearances
- Crisis Communication
- News Writing & Editing
- SEO & Headline Optimization
- Digital & Social Media Strategy

Professional Experience

Freelance Journalist

October 2024 - present

Pitched compelling story ideas related to Pennsylvania. Conducted in-depth research to meet tight deadlines. Attended events and demonstrations. Took photographs to accompany stories. Collaborated with fellow journalists to produce informative and thought-provoking articles.

- Covered each presidential campaign's ground game in southcentral Pennsylvania
- Covered Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional race
- Spoke with Jewish leaders following the arson at Gov. Josh Shapiro's house on the first night of Passover

WITF, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Capitol Bureau Chief

June 2023 – October 2024

Oversaw political coverage and reporting from the Pennsylvania Capitol. Interviewed elected officials at local, state and national levels, providing valuable perspectives on governance. Conducted listening sessions to gather audience insights to ensure appropriate addressing of community concerns. Produced informative articles and radio feeds for statewide and national distribution.

- Acted as pool reporter, contributing to collaborative media coverage of significant events
- Appeared on television to share investigative reports, increasing visibility and engagement with key topics
- Guest lectured on media literacy and civic engagement at colleges, fostering deeper understanding of media's role in society
- Led coverage planning for 2023 and 2024 elections to ensure comprehensive reporting on electoral processes
- Served as member of NPR's States Team and collaborated on regional reporting initiatives
- Uncovered critical evidence of sexual harassment in high-ranking official's office, holding politicians accountable

The Post and Courier, Charleston, South Carolina

Digital News Producer

August 2021 – May 2023

Oversaw design and layout of morning edition of website to ensure appealing presentation. Managed content creation for daily newsletter, curating essential news for readers. Produced weekly trivia to engage and entertain audience to promote interaction. Posted stories on Twitter and Facebook, expanding reach of published content. Sent push notifications to inform audience of breaking news and updates.

- Created engaging digital assets, including weekly trivia, to enrich website's content.
- Contributed to team awarded 2021 Website of the Year by South Carolina Press Association for excellence in digital journalism
- Designed morning edition of website to enhance user experience and engagement
- Developed promotional Instagram posts and stories to drive traffic to articles
- Edited headlines for SEO to improve visibility and search engine rankings

Capital News Service, Richmond, Virginia
Team Leader, Staff Writer and Photographer

January 2021 – May 2021

Led team of writers and photographers in producing impactful news coverage to enhance overall quality at Capital News Service. Wrote and edited news stories under tight deadlines, ensuring timely dissemination of important information. Photographed events, creating compelling visual narratives that complemented written stories.

- Attended Richmond Lobby Day demonstrations, documenting key moments to raise public awareness of civic engagement
- Conducted interviews with state senators and delegates from across Virginia, delivering in-depth insights into legislative issues
- Created story budgets to prioritize coverage and streamline editorial processes
- Strengthened connections with local leaders to facilitate access to crucial information for reporting

The Collegian, University of Richmond, Virginia
News Writer and Photographer | Visual Editor

October 2018 – March 2021

Compiled credible data by interviewing professors, deans, students and special speakers to create articles on current events at the University of Richmond and in the greater Richmond area. Took clear and professional photographs for articles and reports. Edited photographs using the latest software to ensure high-quality visual content. Photographed pivotal moments during public protests in Virginia.

- Achieved publication of a photograph in The Washington Post, showcasing professional quality work
- Engaged with editorial staff to pitch stories, collaborate on special projects and conduct revisions, fostering collaborative environment
- Led student photojournalists throughout pandemic, guiding them in effective reporting and photography practices

Additional Experience

City and State NY, New York, New York
Editorial Intern

Took photographs during moments of public unrest to capture critical moments. Maintained contact with Congressional offices to gather insights and information. Edited all photographs using Photoshop or Lightroom to ensure quality. Created databases containing information on finance, insurance and real estate industries for reporting purposes.

- Credited for photograph of Union Square riot on May 30, 2020, published in June 7, 2020, edition
- Documented significant events during 2020 civil unrest, providing visual account of protests and demonstrations

Richmond Magazine, Richmond, Virginia
Editorial Intern

Authored articles detailing current events in the greater Richmond area. Conducted exclusive interviews and gathered data from various sources for in-depth analysis. Used DSLRs and mirrorless cameras to take high-quality photographs.

- Earned front cover story for October 2019 edition, showcasing impactful reporting

Nakavango Conservation Programme, Victoria Falls, Matabeleland North Province, Zimbabwe
Volunteer

Supported core conservation activities including wildlife monitoring, habitat restoration, invasive species management and fence line assistance.

Education

B.A. in Journalism | University of Richmond, Richmond, VA | Graduated: May 2021

Honors & Awards

- Featured in prominent publications including City and State NY, Richmond Magazine, Pennsylvania Capital-Star, Politics PA, The Washington Post, The Post and Courier and LNP
- Broadcast on PCN, WITF, WESA, WPSU, WHYY, WSKG, WLVR and NPR
- 2021 Website of the Year – South Carolina Press Association
- Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology
- The Joseph E. Nettles Scholarship for Journalism
- Certificate of International Volunteer Service in Wildlife Conservation
- Dean's List