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McKenzie Eve Prillaman

Science Journalist

EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Cruz, 2022
M.S. in science communication

University of Virginia, 2017
B.A. in neuroscience, minor in bioethics

SKILLS

Science Writing

News, Front-of-Book, Features,
Fact-Checking

Design

Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign

Video

Adobe Premiere Pro, After Effects, CapCut
Interviews, Explainers, TikTok

Audio

Adobe Audition
Podcasts, Radio

Social Media

TweetDeck, Facelift Cloud, Later

Content Management

WordPress, Drupal, CoreMedia

AWARDS

2023 NASW Conference Fellow
UCSC PBSci Dean's Video Fellowship
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative Scholar
ARCS Foundation Scholar Award
Phi Beta Kappa
UVA Distinguished Major
UVA College Council Minerva Award

WRITING EXPERIENCE

Freelance, Science Journalist & Fact-Checker (June 2023 - Present)

- Report and fact-check news, features and explainers for Nature, Science News, Grow, AARP and other publications

Science News, Writing Intern (Jan - May 2023)

- Reported nearly 25 news stories on emerging research, public health policy and breaking news
- Wrote for Science News Explores' tween audience, produced a TikTok video explaining new research and fact-checked stories

Nature, News Intern (July - Dec 2022)

- Reported nearly 20 news stories on emerging research, issues affecting the scientific community and science policy
- Wrote one feature, one profile and 10 research paper summaries; scripted and read research highlights for the podcast

KSQD Community Radio, Intern (March - June 2022)

- Pitched, scripted and produced five science-themed radio stories that appealed to local Santa Cruz listeners

Stanford News Service, Intern & Freelancer (Sept 2021 - April 2022)

- Wrote eight news stories about scientific research, professors, events and classes at the university

The Monterey Herald, Intern (Jan - March 2022)

- Reported 10 news stories covering local astronomy, marine science, ecology and more for a daily newspaper; most appeared on A1, and many were republished in the San Jose Mercury News
- Reported stories from the field and took photographs for publication

Art the Science, Volunteer Magazine Editor & Communications Officer (Dec 2019 - Aug 2021)

- Wrote stories featuring science-artists and their latest works
- Managed a team of writers by editing pieces, maintaining publishing schedule and training new writers

American Association for the Advancement of Science,

Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion, Program Assistant (Sept 2019 - Aug 2021)

- Wrote and edited content about program projects for web articles, informational booklets, newsletters, reports and flyers
- Maintained three websites and Twitter and Facebook presence