

Kevin Solari

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Summary

Reporter with a talent for local reporting and covering government, schools, politics and feature writing. Prior to journalism I worked in publishing, then education, and in both fields I managed multiple projects in deadline oriented environments. While working for the *NewsTribune*, I've been able to pursue my long-held passion for writing and develop the skills required for today's journalism, including multimedia, alternate story forms and social media promotion.

Professional Experience

La Salle NewsTribune Newspaper, La Salle, IL

2015 - Present

Reporter

- Covered La Salle County government, elections, sheriff's office, various school boards and Illinois Valley Community College beats
- Generated web traffic using social media accounts including Twitter, SnapChat and Facebook
- Worked with media editor to create multimedia projects and stories
- Recorded video and audio for website to accompany online stories
- Pitched, outlined and coordinated with newsroom staff for the multimedia series "Caught in the Impasse," highlighting Illinois Valley residents who were impacted by budget cuts due to Illinois' budget stalemate
- Cultivated sources on beats and in community to regularly break stories ahead of competing outlets
- Assisted in copyediting and proofreading for daily deadline of News, Lifestyle and Business sections, adhering to The Associated Press and *NewsTribune* style
- Created pages in InDesign and Quark for Business section
- Wrote copy for advertising projects, including monthly magazines such as *IV Woman*, *Boomers* and *Community Review*

In These Times Magazine, Chicago, IL

2014 - 2015

Editorial Intern / Freelance Writer

- Copyedited stories for print and web publication, adhering to both Associate Press and *In These Times* style
- Pitched and wrote original pieces for web and print publication, including research, finding and interviewing sources and attending press conferences
- Published stories appearing in *In These Times* and Dissent Newswire, as well as being featured in Politico's Morning Shift
- Found source articles and supplemental materials for posts to Working in These Times blog
- Fact checked submitted articles prior to printing or posting to web
- Prepared stories for website, including photo research and html formatting
- Participated in pitch meetings and slush pile readings

Huntington Learning Center, Orland Park, IL

2014 - 2015

Part-Time Teacher

- Tutored high school juniors and seniors in a one-on-one situation for their Reading, English and Writing portions of the ACT exam, averaging 4 points of growth per student as a center
- Worked one-on-one with students from all grade levels, as well as subject tutoring for specific students based on center's needs

English / Language Arts Teacher

- Planned and facilitated workshops for professional development in Mastery Manager, a computer program for grading assessments and compiling the resulting data
- Collaborated with team lead to make Writing for College course in line with Joliet Junior College standards with the goal of students receiving college credit
- Wrote assessments and curriculum materials for middle school and high school students
- Used written and verbal communication to inform parents of students' success or areas needing improvement
- Coached academic teams, including Scholastic Bowl, Math Team, Science Bowl
- Organized and proctored school Spelling Bee

Education

- English Teaching Certification, **North Park University**, Chicago, IL **2011**
- B.A., English Literature with Writing emphasis, **Augustana College**, Rock Island, IL **2005**

Writing Experience / Technical Expertise

- Proficient in Office Suite, Quark, Falcon, In Design, social media and online tools such as Wordpress and Zyzyva
- Published in *In These Times* and *Dissent Newswire* as a freelancer. Fiction published in *Filler Literary Magazine*
- Naeseth Writing Award