

# BENJAMIN RAPPAPORT

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## EDUCATION

**Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY**  
**Master of Arts in Journalism:** Specialization in Audio Journalism

New York, New York  
May 2027

**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**  
**Bachelor of Arts in Media and Journalism** [*Cum Laude*]  
Minors in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE), Urban Studies and Planning

Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Dec 2021

## EXPERIENCE

**Border Belt Independent**  
**Staff Reporter**

Columbus County, North Carolina  
June 2023 - July 2025

- Reported and produced weekly investigative and enterprise stories on education, the environment, elections and local government in rural southeastern North Carolina.
  - CLIPS: [The Abandoned Pools of Columbus County](#), [Development pits rural way of life against need for progress](#) and [The Closure of St. Andrews University](#)
- Managed social media newsroom presence, including creating Instagram posts about our reporting including carousels about [struggling farmers](#), [solar farms](#) and [local elections](#).

**Chatham News + Record**  
**Staff Reporter, Social Media Editor**

Chatham County, North Carolina  
April 2022 - June 2023

- Reported daily stories on local government, education, business and rural communities to serve Chatham County.
  - CLIPS: [The Fight for Merry Oaks Baptist Church](#), [VinFast's impact on Chatham County](#)
- Revamped Instagram and Facebook feeds and increased engagement across platforms by more than 20% through [carousel posts](#) and important Spanish-language content to our Latino readership on [La Voz De Chatham](#).

**Bush Radio**  
**Reporting Intern**

Cape Town, South Africa  
Jan 2022 - April 2022

- Researched and produced daily radio news packages about Cape Town, South Africa including stories on controversy over the Sea Point Promenade and political struggles between Cape Town Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis and President Cyril Ramaphosa.
- Hosted "The Moves," a weekly on-air show about transportation issues including the impact of new beachfront construction on pedestrian safety, and a lack of accessible entrances throughout the Western Cape.

**97.9 The Hill WCHL and Chapelboro.com**  
**Staff Reporter**

Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Aug 2019 - May 2022

- Produced local news coverage on municipal policy, development, and local governance issues in Chapel Hill/Carrboro
  - CLIPS: [A new housing development finally breaks ground after yearslong dispute](#), [Stormwater draws local ire](#)

**The Daily Tar Heel**  
**Assistant Opinion Editor, Editorial Board Member**

Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Jan 2021 - Jan 2022

- Authored, edited and curated daily editorials and columns for the opinion desk, and contributed weekly columns about issues affecting Chapel Hill and UNC.
  - CLIPS: [The Greene Tract Needs Sustainable Development](#), [The problem with Chapel Hill Alliance for a Livable Town \(CHALT\)](#)

**Carolina Connection**  
**Reporter and Producer**

Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Dec 2019 - Dec 2020

- Wrote, edited and produced daily web and radio stories on the Orange County community and local governments.
  - CLIPS: [Birdwatching during COVID-19](#), ["A Voteless People is a Hopeless People"](#)

## AWARDS

- ★ Second Place Election/Political Reporting — N.C. Press Association 2024
- ★ First Place General News Reporting — N.C. Press Association 2023
- ★ First Place Social Media Excellence — N.C. Press Association 2022
- ★ First Place Local Government Reporting, First Place Business Writing — N.C. Press Association 2022
- ★ First Place Excellence in Student Audio Newscast — Edward R. Murrow Awards 2020
- ★ Ken White Best Student Newscast Award, Best Student Feature Reporting — RTDNAC 2020

## SKILLS & PUBLICATIONS

**Work has also appeared in:** *Raleigh News & Observer*, *The Assembly*, *Hunterbrook Media*, *Rest of World*, *College Basketball Times*

**Technical:** Adobe Audition, Pro Tools, WordPress CMS management and SEO optimization, HTML and CSS

**Production:** Field Recording, On-Air Hosting, Audio Editing, Social Media Management

**Interests:** Storytelling, Dodger baseball, protected bike lanes, corny dad jokes