

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Columbia College Chicago

December 2022 Graduate
Bachelor of Arts Degree

- Major: Journalism
- Minor: Social Media Digital Strategy
- GPA: 3.9

SKILLS

- Community Relations
- MMJ Reporting
- Content/Story Production
- Camera Operation
- Story Narration/Voiceover
- Interview Execution
- SEO Strategies
- AP Style
- Video Post-Production
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- PSA Production
- Social Media Management
- Fact-checking
- Story Pitching
- Working on Deadline
- Collaboration
- Problem Solving
- Communication

AWARDS

Illinois College Press
Association First Place -
Editorial

Gary Marx Journalism
Scholarship 2021-2022

John Fischetti Journalism
Scholarship 2020-2022

President's Club Endowed
Scholarship 2022

Dean's Scholarship 2019-
2022

Columbia Scholar Award
2019-2022

KAMY STARR SMELSER

WORK EXPERIENCE

FOX 2 / KPLR 11 ST. LOUIS (KTVI/KPLR)

Community Affairs Coordinator/Receptionist Jul. 2023 - Present
Community Affairs Assistant/Receptionist Mar. 2023 - Jul. 2023

- Independently report, shoot, voiceover and edit compelling web video stories promoting community partners and sponsored events
- Coordinate station involvement with over 30 community partners and events through news coverage, talent engagement, social media and PSA event promotion
- Collaborate with news, sales, promotions and creative services departments to effectively promote community partners and station-sponsored events
- Post social media content across station Instagram and X platforms promoting station sponsorships
- Write scripts and gather visuals for community partner/event PSA production
- Review/respond to PSA requests received by various public media organizations. Collaborate with promotions department to add PSA to KTVI/KPLR rotations.
- Coordinate student shadowing program in news, engineering, promotions and creative services departments.
- Manage station front desk answering/reviewing viewer phone calls and requests. Usher guests into station for various meetings/interviews.
- Log music used in all weekday and weekend newscasts for monthly station music report
- Daily log stories from KTVI and KPLR for FCC quarterly report
- Coordinate talent participation in community award ceremonies and events.

NBC 5 CHICAGO (WMAQ-TV)

Consumer Responds/Investigates Intern Sept. 2022 - Dec. 2022

- Research and pursue story tips submitted by concerned consumers/viewers.
- Organize interviews and integrate soundbites into web copy and story script.
- Gather data sets obtained through FOIA submissions and analyze for story use.

MODERN LUXURY MEDIA

May 2022 - Dec. 2022

Editorial Intern

- Produced content integrating SEO strategies across Modern Luxury's Angeleno, Scottsdale, Hawai'i and Chicago Social magazines and CMS.
- Researched, interviewed and wrote stories covering luxury real estate opportunities, celebrity profiles, lifestyle, entertainment and restaurants.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

News Editor
Staff Reporter

May 2022 - Dec. 2022

Jan. 2022 - May 2022

- Edited stories submitted by staff and strengthened story conciseness, clarity, grammar and use of AP style.
- Pitch, report and write stories covering campus, metro, arts and culture and opinion beats that are timely and angled toward target audience.

ECHO MAGAZINE

Jan. 2022 - May 2022

Managing Editor

- Lead a team of over 30 writers, editors, photographers and graphic designers to produce an award-winning, student-run magazine.
- Acted as a liaison between desks while incorporating strong communication and team work to complete Echo Magazine's 2022 Issue in less than 15 weeks.

GATEWAY JOURNALISM REVIEW

Intern

Jan. 2020 - May 2020

- Interned with former Middle East bureau chief for the Washington Post.
- Researched, reported and wrote articles about current events in journalism and media.