

Piper Hansen

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Experience

Lexington Herald-Leader | Lexington, Kentucky

Business Reporter | May 2025 - September 2026

- Consistent beat coverage worked to explain how and why business trends and economic development impacted Central Kentucky. Reporting connected economic activity to government, environment, etc.
- Frequently tapped to cover the Kentucky General Assembly and its public subsidy programs, especially tax breaks for data centers, car manufacturing operations, movie and TV productions and more.

Louisville Business First | Louisville, Kentucky

Reporter | March 2024 - April 2025

- Completed several daily and enterprise stories per week plus lengthy cover stories on the professional services (especially finance), residential real estate, and Southern Indiana economic development beats.

YMCA of Greater Louisville | Louisville, Kentucky

Teen Director | May 2023 - February 2024

- Coordinated and expanded programs rooted in positive youth development and community engagement including workforce development, civic education and volunteer service.

The State Press | Tempe, Arizona

Editor-in-Chief | January 2020 - May 2023

- Hired and directed staff of over 100 in producing daily online content, breaking news and investigative work across six different desks at Arizona State University's independent, student-run newspaper.
- Also worked as a full-time politics and senior reporter then weekend, politics and managing editor.
- Reporting led to an incoming dean's firing, ASU to be found in violation of the Clery Act and unveiled details about athletics, student housing, local politics and Covid-19-related controversies. Editing roles in part led the paper to be named best independent online student publication in 2021 by SPI.

Cronkite News/Arizona PBS | Phoenix, Arizona

Digital Reporter | January 2023 - May 2023

- Submitted and completed at least two pitches per week on politics and social justice beats.

The Arizona Capitol Times | Phoenix, Arizona

Reporting Intern | January 2022 - May 2022 & January 2020 - May 2020

- Completed daily and enterprise stories on legislative business, policy, campaigns and state agencies. Attended committee and other meetings to catalog debate and votes for a daily email newsletter.
- Developed deep source connections, gained intimate knowledge of the people who drive political agendas and refined the ability to contextualize local politics with national events, trends and issues.

The Arizona Republic | Phoenix, Arizona

State Issues and Government Desk Intern | January 2021 - May 2021

- Completed daily and enterprise stories on legislative business, policy, campaigns and state agencies.
- Assisted in reviewing state regulations for an investigation that found despite the governor's claims that he had cut regulatory red tape, his administration created two new rules for each one it erased.

Education

B.A., Journalism and Mass Communication

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University

B.S., Sociology

T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University