# ROBERT SCHORK

Westchester County, NY • 914.709.0444 • linkedin.com/in/rschork • robertschork.com • rschork@gmail.com

### EDITORIAL DIRECTOR | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Innovative and creative editor with exceptional ability to understand general consumer and niche audiences across a broad range of topics and areas of interest. Maintain a strong focus on maximizing readership of both print and digital magazines by delivering relevant and timely content in an engaging manner. Excel at managing fast-paced environments with multiple publications running simultaneously on varying schedules, along with their round-the-clock digital counterparts, skillfully balancing competing deadlines and priorities to remain on schedule and on budget. Talent for identifying, recruiting, and developing high-potential staff across all business areas, including editorial, art design, production, and digital. Adept at conceiving and developing dynamic story ideas that resonate with targeted audiences across platforms. **Areas of expertise:** 

- New Publication Launches
- Glossy Consumer Magazines
- Niche & Enthusiast Publications
- Web Publications & Digital Content
- Custom Publishing

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Greystone Communications Consulting

#### Editor and Principal, 12/2017 - Present

Provide consulting (operational, strategic, and content) and outsourced editorial and communications services (content strategy and development, project management, editing, writing, marketing collateral, internal communications) to a diverse range of B2C and B2B clients in healthcare, luxury goods, regional lifestyle, digital intelligence, real estate, home finance, and other fields.

#### Today Media, Rye, NY

#### Editorial Director / Editor-in-Chief / Executive Editor / Senior Editor, 3/2008 - 12/2017

## Westchester Magazine, Hudson Valley Magazine, Westchester Home, 914INC., Westchester/Hudson Valley Weddings, Ultimate Guide to Westchester, and Ultimate Guide to Hudson Valley

Oversaw print and digital operations for seven glossy consumer titles (two monthlies, two quarterlies, and three annuals), as well as all New York-based custom publishing projects. Managed \$1M+ annual budget and staff of ~30 across editorial, photo, art, production, and digital departments in Rye and Poughkeepsie. Developed and finalized annual editorial calendars and issue lineups; reviewed and top-edited copy for content quality and brand integrity. Directed print/digital advertorial operations for sales team. Worked closely with sales, circulation, marketing, and other colleagues, including partnering with marketing director on development of magazine-branded events; edited and refined promotional copy produced by marketing department. Represented company and publications in the community and media appearances.

#### Key Achievements:

- Recognized for outstanding performance with multiple promotions in six years, serving as Editorial Director (6/14-12/17), Editor-in-Chief (6/13-6/14), Executive Editor (11/12-6/13), and Senior Editor (3/08-11/12).
- Drove consistent YOY newsstand sales growth (30% in 2017), as well as high/top-of-range subscription renewal rates.
- Established distinct editorial voices and tones for each publication and website; conceptualized covers, features, and story packages; worked with creative directors on cover design; performed top-level editing and approved final proofs.
- Developed concept for quarterly business magazine (914INC.); launched in 2010, yielding 15% growth in total revenue.

- Content & Story Development
- Consistent Editorial Voice & Tone
- Target Audience Identification
- Year-over-Year Revenue Growth
- Sponsored Content & Advertorials
- Budget Planning/Administration
- Staff Recruitment & Leadership
- Schedule/Deadline Management
- Website & Print Redesigns
- Branded & Hosted Events

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- Achieved profitability for digital operations in 2014 with complete redesign of magazine group's websites and blog & newsletter system, which increased unique page views by 39%, boosted average newsletter open rate to 28% (vs. industry standard of 18%), and improved click-through rate to 30% (vs. industry standard of 12%).
- Generated ~\$170K in savings by driving reorganization of entire New York operation in 2014.
- Won City & Regional Magazine Association (CRMA) Award for 2013 Best Ancillary Publication in the country for 914INC. (company's first CRMA award in an overall magazine category) and received second nomination in 2016.
- Nominated for 2012 & 2014 CRMA Award for Best Home/Shelter Publication for Westchester Home.
- Achieved top reader satisfaction scores (>90% rated pubs "Excellent" or "Very Good") in multiple subscriber surveys.

#### Primedia, New York, NY

#### Managing Editor (Acting) / Assistant Managing Editor, 4/1998 - 3/2008

#### Soap Opera Weekly

Led day-to-day print and online operations of national weekly consumer entertainment publication with 5M+ readership. Oversaw copy/story trafficking, deadline compliance, issue planning, story scheduling, pagination, production schedule adherence, line editing, and proofing/approval of final drafts. Prepared annual editorial and freelance budgets. Managed staffing, new hire and intern orientation, scheduling, and performance matters. Facilitated cross-functional collaboration among editorial, art, photo, copy, ad sales, and production departments. Attended Emmy Awards and other industry events.

#### Key Achievements:

- Spearheaded the magazine's early online efforts, managing chat rooms, message boards, and web-exclusive content.
- Wrote and edited features, critical reviews, and news stories; conducted celebrity interviews; provided expert commentary and industry analysis for other print, radio, and television outlets, including CNN, ABC, and SOAPnet.
- Orchestrated efforts to broaden magazine's appeal and grow readership by successfully launching and directing primetime/non-soap opera television coverage, establishing vital relationships with key television industry stakeholders.
- Created and served as Editor-in-Chief of *Reality Check*, a SIP on reality television shows.

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Additional experience as Senior Editor for Soap Opera Magazine (American Media, Inc.) and Contributing Writer and Research Consultant for General Hospital: The Complete Scrapbook (ABC Daytime Television).

#### **EDUCATION / CREDENTIALS**

#### **Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences**

Bard College at Simon's Rock, Great Barrington, MA (entered college two years early at age 16)

- Senior Thesis: A Macroeconomic Reappraisal of U.S. Healthcare Reform: Toward a Viable Strategy
- Semester Abroad: Bogazici Universitesi, Istanbul, Turkey

#### Advanced Management Course; Basic Management Course; Basic Training Course for Auxiliary Officers New York City Police Academy, New York, NY

Technical Skills: Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook), CS6 (InCopy), WordPress, CMS (Rivista)

#### **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

Auxiliary Lieutenant / Sergeant / Police Officer, New York City Police Department, New York, NY (1999 - Present)

**President,** Riverview Club Condominium Association Board of Directors, Yonkers, NY (2014 – Present) Oversee management, staffing, communications, and finances of 262-unit condominium with seven-figure operating and capital budgets.