

TY TAGAMI

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COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL

Identify and Target Audiences | Write Engaging Stories | Persuade Readers

Engaging storyteller who simplifies complex topics. Strategic thinker who understands diverse audiences. Meticulous editor, careful listener, friendly collaborator, and team leader. Innovator who analyzes data.

- **Audience Engagement Strategy**
- **Clear and Concise Writing**
- **Strong Editing**
- **Collaboration and Coaching**
- **Interviewing and Researching**
- **Project Management**

SELECT CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Audience Engagement Strategy

- Enhanced reach to target audiences with simple explanations of complex topics, such as a series about literacy directed at parents and lawmakers, who then added \$8M to the state budget for personnel and testing.
- Monitored government and scientific reports, set up search alerts, and used other reporting methods to deliver stories to engage core audience of parents, including dangers of 3D printer exhaust, performance of private school vouchers, accelerated school hiring, test cheating, guns in schools, and vaping risks.
- Engaged teacher audience by identifying relevant stories, delivering articles about how they were deprioritized for pandemic vaccine access and how they then left state for vaccination.
- Promoted company brand, credibility, and reach by hosting live events, moderating televised candidate debates, and appearing on TV and radio news programs to provide subject matter expertise.

Writing and Editing

- Wrote award-winning stories about an Atlanta mayor's homeless father, undocumented child laborers in a poultry-processing plant, and the murder of a local prosecutor; coverage of school censorship conflict was finalist for an Atlanta Press Club award in 2023.
- Wrote articles with impact, causing donations to offset school lunch debt and influencing lawmakers to amend a dangerous school bus stop law.
- Reduced workload for editors by editing colleagues' work upon request, and leading the reporting, writing, and editing on co-bylined pieces.

Collaboration and Coaching

- Guided photographers, videographers, and an archivist, enhancing delivery of content for the 70th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision.
- Cultivated new reporters and interns, helping them to become more effective producers.
- Collaborated across teams, working with political reporters to break legislative news.
- Expanded sourcing and story count by implementing an email tip line that delivered contacts and leads to the education team during the pandemic.

Interviewing and Researching

- Maintained relationships with lawmakers, mayors, superintendents, parents, students, teachers, and many others who delivered facts and voices for thousands of articles.

INTERVIEWING AND RESEARCHING (Continued)

- Produced clear, compelling, and relevant reports for readers by deciphering laws, legislation, policies, academic papers, and other technical documents.
- Learned R Programming Language, reducing demand on data team and unearthing stories no one else was telling, such as a sharp rise in student homelessness and a surge in teacher hiring.

Project Management

- Designed system to manage daily news while also reporting long-term enterprise and investigative stories, enhancing quantity and quality of story mix while meeting strict deadlines.
- Built contact lists with over 3K experts, officials, and other sources to produce articles with diverse viewpoints and voices, sharing numbers with colleagues who needed help on deadline.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION**, Atlanta, GA**State Education Reporter** 2015 - 2024

Spearheaded coverage of K-12 policies and trends. Tracked 1000s of bills in Georgia General Assembly and deciphered relevant legislation for education audience.

Local Education Reporter 2010 - 2015

Led coverage of schools in Cobb and DeKalb counties, 2 of the state's largest systems, and chronicled Atlanta schools test-cheating trial, a RICO case that sent teachers to prison.

Local Government Reporter 2002 - 2010

Researched technical details to explain Atlanta's more than \$3B sewer system retrofit required to comply with federal court order to reduce pollution of local waterways. Prompted 64 emotional emails from readers by persuading mayor to allow access to her mother to report story about mayor's deceased father, a homeless alcoholic who became a judge. Also covered governments in 2 of the state's largest counties, DeKalb and Fulton.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

R Programming Language | MS Excel | Power BI | ARC CMS | Zettelkasten

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Architecture (BArch), College of Architecture, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

VOLUNTEERING

Coached high school mountain biking and elementary school robotics teams.
Lead cycling team that raises money for the Grant Park Conservancy and builds free bikes for kids.