

Ronni Butts

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EDUCATION

North Carolina Central University, Expected Graduation May 2027 - 4.0 GPA
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Civic Engagement and Public Policy Concentration
Minor in Mass Communication

EXPERIENCE

The Raleigh News & Observer

Politics Intern – McClatchy HBCU Development Program

May 2026 – Aug. 2026

- Covered NC [executive](#) and [legislative branches](#), [campaigns](#), [immigration](#), [party divisions](#) and [Medicaid](#)
- Shared my reporting three times on the Under the Dome [podcast](#) and filmed [vertical video](#)
- Wrote enterprise story about impacts of budget shortfalls on NC's federal wildlife conservation efforts
- Selected to discuss my wildlife story on ABC11, The N&O's partner station
- Wrote exclusive stories about [Medicaid](#) and immigration in North Carolina

Politics and Metro Intern – McClatchy HBCU Development Program

May 2025 – July 2025

- Covered NC [legislature](#), [No Kings protests](#), higher education and transportation
- Appeared on Under the Dome [podcast](#) twice to discuss my state politics reporting
- Frequently wrote the newsroom's politics newsletter, Under the Dome

Campus Echo (NCCU's student newspaper)

Oct. 2023 – May 2026

Co-Editor-in-Chief

May 2025 – May 2026

- Led weekly professional development sessions about writing mechanics, sourcing and reporting
- Copyedited daily for structure, clarity and AP Style
- Professionalized newsroom by creating policy handbook and social media kit
- Established and improved relationships with university administrators
- Created social media posts and managed social media accounts

Politics Staff Writer

Oct. 2023 – May 2025

- Contributed weekly articles on local and on-campus news and elections
- Experience in press pool for Harris-Walz presidential campaign

The New York Times Corps

Sept. 2025 to present

- 2025 cohort member and mentee of NYT White House Correspondent Zolan Kanno-Youngs
- Attends professional development seminars and meets with mentor monthly

POLITICO Journalism Institute

May – June 2025

- Worked with Deputy Head of News David Kihara to quantify ICE raids throughout the U.S. since the beginning of the Trump administration
- Attended seminars targeted to improve understanding of politics and policy reporting
- Moderated panel of editors discussing newsroom leadership

EXTRACURRICULAR

- **Moderator** - Durham's only mayoral [debate](#) in 2025 campaign
- **National Association of Black Journalists** – Student member
- **NC Local News and Information Summit** –Panelist

Oct. 2025

Fall 2024 – present

March 2026

AWARDS

- Campus Echo Outstanding Achievement Award – Mass Communication Dept.
- Best News Site (*Campus Echo*) – Southern Regional Press Institute
- Steve Schewel Campus Echo Award

April 2025

April 2026

April 2025

SKILLS SUMMARY

Collaborative Leadership • AP Style • Writing and Reporting • SEO • Public Speaking • Canva • Copy Editing • Social Media Engagement • Creating Multimedia Content • Editing on CapCut