

# Cristopher Ruiz

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I am a journalism and audiovisual communication student at the University of Central Florida (UCF). My experience includes documentary production, photography, digital content creation, and customer service, which has given me a strong combination of creativity, technical skills, and a people-centered work ethic.

I also gained valuable professional skills working as a server and staff member in various restaurants. Working in a fast-paced environment strengthened my communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and customer-service mindset. I learned to handle pressure, manage diverse interactions, and create positive experiences for customers, skills that translate directly into teamwork.

Beyond my customer service experience I have produced documentaries and visual stories. As a photography assistant and analog photography enthusiast, I have developed solid skills in lighting, composition, film development, and darkroom processes, as well as digital editing using Adobe Premiere Pro and Lightroom, with my artistic work being showcased in art galleries in Florida. audiences with narratives that matter.

## Accomplishments

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- Honoree of Outstanding GPA (Broward College)
- Awarded in the 45th Annual Student Art Exhibition at Broward College for the photograph called "Shouganai".
- The documentary called "I.C.B.H.W.M.T.F." was shown at the "Spring student film showcase" at Broward College.

## Skills

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- Computer skills
- Money handling
- Heavy lifting
- Clear communication
- Order preparation
- Flexible schedule
- Verbal and written communication
- Workflow optimization
- Chemical handling
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Product knowledge
- Bilingual
- Problem-solving
- Sales support

## Professional Experience

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### Chocolatier

*Ghirardelli, Orlando, FL*

*February 2026 - Current*

- Packaged chocolate items for delivery or pickup.
- Brought new variations of chocolate to candy bar.
- Cleaned and sterilized factory processing containers and work areas to keep foods safe.
- Adjusted equipment during runs to maintain optimal settings and achieve high-quality products.
- Tested raw materials and products to determine moisture, acidity and other levels.

- Cultivated positive work setting for all employees by actively listening and communicating with team members focused on common goals.
- Prepared and served ice cream, shakes, and specialty desserts while maintaining high quality and presentation standards
- Delivered friendly and efficient customer service in a fast-paced retail environment
- Handled transactions accurately and assisted customers with product selection
- Maintained cleanliness and organization of the workspace, ensuring compliance with health and safety standards
- Worked collaboratively with team members to manage busy shifts and meet customer demand

### **Journalist**

*The Charge - University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*

*September 2025 - Current*

- I wrote and published a total of five articles for the student publication The Charge.
- I researched relevant and timely topics, ensuring accurate and engaging content.
- I applied journalistic writing principles, including clarity, objectivity, and proper structure.
- I met deadlines in a fast-paced college media environment.

### **Photographer**

*Fashion Society Club - University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*

*January 2025 - March 2026*

- Digitally edited photos to enhance appearance.
- Took photos from different angles and perspectives to capture perfect images.
- Utilized natural and artificial lighting to capture desired images and maintain quality.
- Shot photographs in controlled lab, field, and remote environments.
- Captured high-quality images at fashion shows, campus events, and creative shoots, highlighting both design and atmosphere
- Collaborated with event organizers, models, and creative teams to ensure cohesive visual storytelling
- Edited and curated photos for social media and promotional use, contributing to the club's visual identity and engagement
- Adapted to fast-paced, live event environments while maintaining attention to detail and composition
- Managed and delivered content under tight deadlines

### **Server**

*The Namu, Coral Springs, FL*

*January 2023 - August 2024*

- Resolved customer complaints promptly and professionally to maintain positive reputation.
- Maintained order efficiency and accuracy through clear communication with kitchen staff, earning numerous recommendations from satisfied customers.
- Displayed enthusiasm and promoted excellent service to customers, successfully increasing referrals, and walk-in business.
- Cultivated warm relationships with regular customers.
- Explained menu items and suggested appropriate options for food allergy concerns.
- Used slow periods to restock supplies, ice, trays, and delivery bags.
- Followed health and safety protocols crucial for maintaining safe and sanitary environments for customers and staff.

### **Documentary Filmmaker**

*Independant, Broward College, Davie, FL*

*January 2024 - May 2024*

- Directed actors and crews to create vision for films and bring scripts to life.
- Handle professional editing skills in programs such as adobe premier pro.
- Develop script writing skills to create my own documentary and capture it visually.
- Have a broad creative vision for the construction of all audiovisual material.
- Basic knowledge in lights, cameras and sound.

### **Photography Assistant**

*Independant, Pompano Beach, FL*

*August 2023 - December 2023*

- Selected and set up appropriate props, backdrops, and lighting.
- High knowledge in analog photography.
- Knowledge of the chemicals used for the process of developing rolls.
- Experiences in dark rooms and their use for printing and photo development.

### **Director of Photography**

*Broward College, Davie, FL*

*August 2022 - December 2022*

- Help to set up the camera and configure it for the recording of the short film "Loop Enterprises"
- Participated in studio intake sessions to maximize success of shoots and sets.
- Collaborated with producers, identified external talent and grew network of local and global photographers for photographic initiatives.
- Developed artistic visual products while working within defined technical constraints.
- I was involved in the realization of the storyboards.
- Collaborated with production team, consulted on set design, layout and lighting for optimal effect.

## **EDUC**

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University of Central Florida at Orlando, FL

**Bachelor of Science in Journalism** Expected in May 2027

- 3.8 GPA
- NAHJ (National Association of Hispanic Journalists) Member
- SPJ (Society of Professional journalists)

Broward College at Fort Lauderdale, FL

**Associate of Arts** May 2024

- Honoree of Outstanding GPA
- 3.7 GPA
- Awarded with participation of art gallery in photography section

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School at Parkland, FL

**High School Diploma** June 2022

- Honoree of outstanding GPA
- 3.57 GPA
- Outsanding GPA in AP classes: AP Spanish speakers, AP Spanish literature

## **Languages**

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English



Spanish



## **References**

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Nathalie Alfonso: Broward College teacher, Artist\_nathaliealfonso@gmail.com