

Jelinda Montes

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RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Salon

New York City, NY

National Affairs Fellow

January 2026 - Present

- Produce multiple aggregate briefs per day covering political, international and cultural news.
- Contribute to breaking news with original reporting and expanding conversations around emerging topics.
- Write features digging deeper on national headlines and highlighting undercovered news.

Uncloseted Media

New York City, NY

Freelance Reporter

September 2025 - Present

- Engages in rigorous reporting on emerging topics in politics and culture from an LGBTQ angle.
- Reports magazine stories in partnership with Gay Times.
- Collaborate with other reporters to produce joint byline projects and assist in reporting.

The Eagle

Washington, D.C.

Managing Opinion Editor

January 2022 - May 2024

- Led a 15+ person editorial team, assigning, editing, and fact-checking columns across politics, culture, and identity.
- Expanded editorial reach by launching “Advice” and “Identities” sections to spotlight diverse perspectives.
- Authored staff editorials and developed topical commentary under fast deadlines.

The American Prospect

Washington, D.C.

Editorial Intern

September 2023 - January 2024

- Reported original economic and political features with a focus on policy impact and human perspective.
- Fact-checked long-form stories (3,000–7,000 words) on major lawsuits, policy, and government reform.
- Wrote social copy for articles and podcasts, tailoring posts for X, Facebook, and Instagram.

National Education Association - NEA Today

Washington, D.C.

Editorial Intern

June 2023 - August 2023

- Reported stories on public education, labor activism, and policy advocacy across three publications.
- Produced data visualizations using Datawrapper to support stories with strong narrative arcs.
- Interviewed union leaders and educators to develop human-centered features.

FREELANCE PROJECTS

Gay Times — “The social psychology behind the trans terrorism panic” (*Nov 2025*)

Whitehot Magazine — “Brooklyn artist Sumin Hwang pulls theory off the page and onto the body” (*Feb 2025*)

The Nation — “How High School Voters Can Impact the 2024 Election” (*Oct 2024*)

NEA Today — “Six Aspiring Educators Win Jack Kinnaman Scholarships” (*Sept 2024*)

Washington City Paper — “Shakespeare Theatre Company Wants to Make Theater a Place for Everyone” (*Jul 2023*)

EDUCATION

New York University

New York City, NY

Master of Arts in Journalism: Magazine & Digital Storytelling

September 2024 - December 2025

American University

Washington, D.C.

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

August 2021 - May 2024

Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies: Communications, Legal Institutions, Economics, and Government

SKILLS

- WordPress CMS
- MS Office & Google Workspace
- AP Style Editing
- Reaper Audio Editing
- IBM SPSS Statistics
- Datawrapper

AWARDS

- 3rd Place, Best Editorial – *College Media Association Apple Awards*, Nov 2024
- Finalist, Best General Column Writing – *SPJ Region 2 Mark of Excellence*, Apr 2023
- Honorable Mention, Best Editorial – *College Media Association Apple Awards*, Mar 2023