



KIARA VELEZ

Multi-Media
Journalist



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PROFILE

Bilingual, passionate, and hardworking Journalism Broadcast Major at The University of Central Florida (Class of 2026). I seek to uncover the truth and drive positive change through in-depth interviews and fact-based reporting, I'm an advocate at heart. I am pursuing a degree in Journalism, complemented by a minor in Political Science/Pre-Law. This dual focus allows me to explore the powerful intersection of media, policy, and justice, equipping me to drive advocacy and meaningful change through journalism, broadcasting, and media relations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

WKMG News 6 | June 2025 - AUG 2025 News Intern

Shadowed reporters, assisted with news production, and contributed to daily content in a fast broadcast environment.

WUCF PBS TV | May 2025 - AUG 2025 TV Digital Communications Intern

Produced and scheduled social content to grow audience engagement. Designed graphic media outreach using programs like Canva. Assisted in crafting newsletters and developing digital strategies to elevate WUCF's storytelling and community engagement. Collaborated with PBS network TV and 89.9 WUCF Jazz Radio Station.

The Alzheimer's Association | FEB 2024 - JUNE 30 2025 Media Relations Intern

Work on press releases in AP Style, pitches, media alerts, secured event coverage (interviewed Orlando Magic's Basketball Athlete Jett Howard at Alzheimer's Walk), and published outreach blog articles for ALZMindFL.org. Recognized & Honored by the Region 16 Alzheimer's Association for Community Impact Success.

The Apopka Voice | OCT 2024 - APRIL 2025 Contributing Reporter and Correspondent

Produced 10+ articles in 3 months during Internship; invited back by Owners to lead and produce an in-depth investigative piece on FL immigration laws. Conducted interviews with city officials, police, and nonprofits, delivering AP Style news content under tight deadlines. Released two additional articles and one VO YouTube video read to enhance the message.

The Record Underground | FEB 2024 - JAN 2025 Staff Writer

Researched and authored bi-weekly 1,500-word features on Miami's music scene, driving record site traffic. Led press coverage for major events through artist interviews and multimedia content while building key industry relationships.

Miami Underground | SEPT 2023 - MARCH 2024 Interviewer & Journalist

Covered, interviewed, and published bi-weekly in-depth features (1,500+ words) on Miami's music culture for the online site, conducting artist interviews and providing multimedia press coverage (writing + videography) for major local Miami events.

EDUCATION & ORGANIZATIONS

The University of Central Florida, Bachelor's Degree in Broadcast Journalism, BA Minor in Political Science (Pre-Law), 2024-May 2026

GPA 3.5 / 4.0 Cumulative.

UCF 'Excellence in Action' Award Feb 2025

Broward College, Associate in Arts Degree, 2022-2023.

AICE Cambridge Scholarship Award Recipient

NAHJ Investigative & Data Task Force Student Fellow March 2025

NAHJ UCF Chapter Secretary and Social Media Coordinator May 2025

SKILLS

- English Fluency
- Spanish Proficiency
- ASL (American Sign Language) Finger Spelling
- Film Photography, Yashika Electro 35
- Canva Graphic Design for Social Media
- Videography Editing CapCut

FREELANCE WORK

The Charge 'Future Renovations by Rosen College's Library' by Kiara Velez NOV 2024

ALZ Mind FL 'Gaming for Grandpa: Shared love for games turns into fundraising for Hope' by Kiara Velez APRIL 2025

The Apopka Voice 'Fear and Resistance: Apopka immigrant communities navigate rising ICE activity, harsh laws, and economic fallout' by Kiara Velez APRIL 2025