

Amy Mayer

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JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Agriculture reporter, Iowa Public Radio/Harvest Public Media (2012-present)

- Edited “Change At The Climate Divide,” a five-part series about climate change in the Great Plains funded by the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.
- Regularly seek out sources to share stories about life at the intersection of farming, conservation, climate change and food trends.
- Use FOIA requests, data analysis and other investigative tools to probe farm payments, worker safety and global movement of deadly hog viruses.
- Serve as the liaison between IPR and Harvest and mentor new reporters on both teams.

Freelance multimedia journalist (selected projects, 1997-2012)

- Transited the Panama Canal on a research vessel that pulls sediment cores from below the ocean for use in paleoclimate and marine ecology research. Wrote for *BioScience* and *The World*.
- Explored the contributions of citizen scientists to observations of changes in weather patterns that ultimately create climate trends. Wrote for *BioScience*, *Living On Earth*, *Prime Time Radio*.
- Followed researchers in interior Alaska looking at how warming trends cause permafrost to thaw and the likely impacts on vegetation. Wrote for *BioScience* and *The Environment Report*.
- Created “Peace Corps Voices,” a nationally-distributed documentary and multimedia project that included archive sounds recorded by volunteers from education, agriculture and business projects in every region and every decade of the Peace Corps. Produced to coincide with the Peace Corps’ 50th anniversary.
- Hiked with composer and environmentalist John Luther Adams, wrote about his music and later visited his permanent installation, “The Place Where You Go To Listen,” which creates real-time sound from the earth’s dynamic processes. Wrote for *All Things Considered*, *Discover*, *Living on Earth*.
- Produced “Celia’s Alaska: Pioneer Stories of Denali,” a selection of my interviews with longtime conservationist Celia Hunter.

Reporter/host/producer, WFCR, Amherst, Mass. (2003-2006)

- Hosted Weekend Edition Saturday, wrote local newscasts, spots and features.

Reporter/host/producer, KUAC, Fairbanks, Alaska (1998-2003)

- Hosted and produced Evening Rounds, a live, weekly call-in health show.
- Wrote spots and features and contributed interviews to Alaska Edition.

EDUCATION

Graduate School of Journalism, University of California, Berkeley

Masters in Journalism, 1998.

- Reader's Digest Excellence in Journalism Scholarship
- SPJ's Mark of Excellence Award, 2nd Place, "Modern Drugs or Ancient Remedies"

Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Arts, 1994, *cum laude*.

- Major: Latin American Studies, minor: anthropology
- Hewlett grant for thesis research in Cuba

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

IRE Data Visualization workshop (2019)

Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources Upper Mississippi River Institute (2018)

IRE Computer Assisted Reporting Boot Camp (2017)

IRE Total Newsroom Training at Iowa Public Radio (2015)

Institute for Justice and Journalism, Immigration in the Heartland fellowship (2014)

Sound Visions Science Literacy for Public Radio Reporters (2005)

SELECTED AWARDS

2019 Midwest Broadcast News Association, merit award, "Across Midwest Farm Fields, Pesticide Exposure Is Tracked Unevenly Or Not At All"

2018 Midwest Broadcast News Association, first place, "How Fancy Cheese May Save Some Small-Scale Dairies"

2017 Iowa Broadcast News Association, second place, "Planting Season is a High Stakes Bet"

2016 RTDNA Regional Murrow Award, "On the Trail of PED"

2015 Midwest Broadcast News Association, award of merit, "Avian Flu in the Midwest"

2013 Northwest Broadcast News Association, first place, "Refugees Find Home on the Farm"

2011 MassHumanities project grant, "Peace Corps Voices"

2005 Massachusetts/Rhode Island Associated Press feature reporting award, "Pay Phones"

2003 Alaska Public Health Association Community Service Award in Health

2001 Alaska Broadcasters Association, Goldie, "Evening Rounds"

2000 Alaska Press Club, First Place, "Evening Rounds"

MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

AIR, Board of Directors (2008-2015)

Girl Scouts of the USA, Gold Award (1988)

Investigative Reporters and Editors

National Association of Science Writers

Fluent in Spanish.