

Whitney K. Pipkin

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Journalist & Storyteller

- Established journalist whose writing has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *NPR*, *Civil Eats*, *NationalGeographic.com* and *SmithsonianMag.com*, among many others, with more than a decade of journalism experience.
 - Record of high-quality journalism at a nonprofit news organization covering environmental issues from a virtual newsroom. Adept at writing a mix of longer, in-depth stories and shorter blog articles while contributing to social media platforms and managing content and strategy for the publication.
 - Expertise on issues related to gender and workplace demonstrated in Spring 2019 *Edible DC* [cover story](#) on women's efforts to rise in the restaurant industry.
 - Growing Christian writing portfolio at whitneykpiipkin.com with Christian articles published in *Deeply Rooted* and *Joyful Life* magazines and at GCDiscipleship.com.
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Key Skills

Top-Tier Journalist • Storytelling Expertise • Detail-Oriented Editor • Independent Self-Starter • Comfortable with Virtual Office • Manager of Multiple Roles
Blog Writer • Social Media Manager • Team Player • Researcher & Fact Checker

Career

Staff Writer - Chesapeake Bay Journal | April 2013 to present (7 years)

Covering the nation's largest estuary through investigative, in-depth and feature stories of varying lengths for monthly print edition and online. Increasing the newspaper's coverage of food and farming issues through explanatory reporting that connects them to water quality. Managing social media platforms and maintaining clear communication with colleagues in a remote office environment. Esteemed as the authority on issues impacting the six-state watershed, the *Bay Journal* has more than 100,000 monthly readers and is the largest environmental newspaper on the East Coast.

Freelance Journalist - Washington, DC area | June 2012 to 2019 (7 years)

Specialized in stories about food, agriculture and the environment with work published nationally in *The Washington Post*, *NationalGeographic.com*, *NPR*, *SmithsonianMag.com* and in regional publications such as *Virginia Living*. Appeared on *The Kojo Nnamdi Show* and as a presenter at regional conferences. Cast vision and managed team of writers, photographers and designers as guest editor for *Edible DC's* biennial sustainability issue.

Past Experience

Reporter II, *Skagit Valley Herald* - Mount Vernon, Wash. | 2009 to 2012 (3 years)
Reestablished a business beat and coverage of the agricultural and environmental topics for which this region north of Seattle is known. Consistently produced long-form narratives that delved deeper into news events and the characters behind them. Earned an award for team's coverage of a deadly refinery blast, which I covered for two years.

Reporter/Intern, *The News Tribune* - Tacoma, Wash. | March to June 2009
Sought out feature stories and covered breaking news related to the region's struggle with the recession. Pushed in-depth stories to the front page with relevant writing.

Reporter/Intern, *The Wichita Eagle* | Summers 2007 & 2008
Recruited as an intern based on previous freelance work. Fulfilled the duties of a full-time reporter, including presenting and pursuing follow-up and enterprise stories.

Education

The University of Oklahoma Gaylord College of Journalism & Mass Communications | 2005-2008

Bachelor's degree in Journalism | *Summa Cum Laude, minor in French*

Institute for Journalists of Natural Resources Fellowship | July 2011 Participated in a week-long Puget Sound institute exploring the region's environmental conundrums and how to best cover them with on-the-ground reporting.

Ethics and Public Policy Center's Media Program, Washington, D.C. | Oct. 2010
Invited to conference introducing a select group of burgeoning reporters to accomplished journalists in the DC area, including *The New York Times'* David Brooks and *The Atlantic's* Jeffrey Goldberg.

World Journalism Institute, New York City | May to July 2008 Accepted to eight-week convergence course on multimedia journalism that included hands-on training from and networking with professionals from a cross-section of media formats.

Gospel Centered Discipleship Writers Cohort | January to July 2020

One of twelve writers accepted to a six-month mentoring cohort for those looking to learn more about and break into Christian publishing. Monthly mentoring sessions with authors such as Jen Wilkin, Hannah Anderson, Jared Wilson and Trillia Newbell. Completed monthly writing assignments that turned into published pieces. Ongoing member of the GCD Writers' Guild, an online network of Christian writers.

Awards

- 2nd place Feature Writing 2006, NATIONAL SPJ - *for a story about a college fraternity brother with cancer*
- 2nd place In-Depth Enterprise Reporting/Team 2006, Regional SPJ
- 1st place Business Reporting 2008, Regional SPJ
- 2nd place Spot News Reporting/Team 2011, Regional SPJ - *for coverage of deadly Tesoro Refinery explosion in Anacortes, Wash.*
- 2 honorable mention recognitions from Hermes Creative Awards for “Female (Up)Rising,” the cover story in *Edible DC’s* Spring 2019 issue
- 1st place Environmental Reporting from the MDDC Press Association in 2019 for a story about dolphins in the Potomac River
- 2nd place Environmental Reporting from the MDDC Press Association in 2021 for a story about safe swimming in polluted Bay waters