

SHANNON ALEXANDRA FIRTH

Summary: I'm an award-winning health policy reporter and National Press Foundation Paul Miller fellow. I cover breaking news, and write enterprise, investigative and long-form features. I produce podcasts, host Facebook Live panel discussions and contribute to the health policy dialogue on the radio, TV and on academic panels.

FREELANCE WORK

Published by: *Scientific American Mind, The Week, The Independent on Sunday, Salon and Narrativefy*

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

MedPage Today Washington, DC April 2016–Present

Washington Correspondent

- Examine the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities, including families involved in child welfare
- Explain CDC guidance around mask-wearing, safely reopening schools, and activities for vaccinated persons
- Attend congressional hearings, medical conferences; explain clashing views of policies, guidelines or legislation
- Produce narrative stories for the Anamnesis podcast; host Facebook Live discussions

MedPage Today & Misc. April 2014–April 2016

Freelance Reporter

- Covered FDA panels, medical meetings, Ebola and Zika for *MedPage Today, The Week, Anesthesiology News*

U.S. News & World Report Washington, DC Nov. 2013–March 2014

Health Reporter

- Reported on the setbacks and successes of the Affordable Care Act's implementation

Dulcinea Media New York, NY Feb. 2008–May 2010

Senior Writer

- Wrote more than 200 educational stories focused on health, science and literature for an online startup

NONPROFIT & AGENCY WORK

National Alliance for Hispanic Health Washington, DC May 2014–Oct. 2014

Freelance Writer and Editor

- Interviewed and profiled more than 30 Hispanic scholarship students; copyedited health-related reports

Regal Literary, Inc. New York, NY Dec. 2006–Sept. 2007

First Serial Rights' Manager

- Critiqued authors' short stories and pitched their work to magazines; line-edited manuscripts

EDUCATION

CUNY Graduate School of Journalism New York, NY

Master of Arts; Journalism; Valedictorian

Georgetown University Washington, DC

Bachelor of Arts; English, Psychology

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

Poverty Award Washington, DC Feb. 2021

- Honored by the National Press Foundation for reporting on the pandemic's impact on child welfare

Center for Health Journalism Fellowship Washington, DC (online) July - Dec. 2020

- Selected as a National fellow by the USC Annenberg's Center for Health Journalism

AHCJ/PCORI Fellowship Washington, DC Oct. 2017

- Selected to attend the Association of Health Care Journalists' Comparative Effectiveness Research Fellowship

Paul Miller Fellowship Washington, DC Sept. 2015–May 2016

- Selected to participate in the National Press Foundation's 10-month fellowship on political reporting

AHCJ/NLM Fellowship Washington, DC Sept. 2016

- Selected to attend the Association of Health Care Journalists' fellowship at the National Institutes of Health

SKILLS

Software: Wordpress, Photoshop, Reaper, Final Cut Pro; **Hardware:** Marantz PMD660, JVC HM100U, Canon 60D