

# The Journalists

## Communication and journalism alumni go on the record

Wednesday, April 12, 2017



There's no question that the world of journalism has changed. Circulation for print publications is down; newsrooms are understaffed; blogs have become a source of news. Yet that hasn't discouraged UNH students from majoring in journalism or communication and going on to land great jobs and not-so-recent grads from attaining seasoned-pro status. Check out some of the interesting places these wordsmiths are working.

### Justin Doubleday '13

Major: English/journalism

Reporter, Inside Defense, an online news service covering defense and aerospace, Washington, D.C.

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## **Chad Graff '12**

Major: English/journalism and communication

Sports writer, Twin Cities Pioneer Press, St. Paul, Minnesota



**NICK STOICO '15**

## **Nick Stoico '15**

Major: English/journalism  
and political science

Sportswriter/editor, Concord  
Monitor, Concord, New  
Hampshire

### Best story covered so far:

“Since moving to sports, the best story I've covered is probably the Division II high school boys hockey championship in March. Bow beat undefeated Keene for the title after losing to Keene twice during the regular season. It may not seem like a huge story outside of our coverage area, but it was pretty significant locally.”

### Best thing about being a journalist:

“I think being a news reporter is the only job out there where you can 'stick it to the man' every day. Holding public institutions and the officials in charge of them accountable is the most important role of the press in our democracy. As for a sportswriter, it's simply a combination of two things I've always cared about deeply: sports and writing. I understand the emotions fans have while following their favorite teams. Being in the middle of it all is fun, and it's a great environment to practice writing and improve as a storyteller.”

## **Cameron Johnson '15**

Major: Journalism

Photographer, RR Auction, Amherst, New Hampshire

### **Kate Gardner '14**

Major: English/journalism

Reporter, The Forecaster, Portland, Maine

### **Dana Jennings '80**

Major: English

Culture editor, The New York Times



**KATIE SCHULZ '16**

### **Katie Schulz '16**

Major: Journalism, art minor

Digital producer, NH1 News,  
Concord, New Hampshire

#### Best story covered so far:

“I’ve done many stories, but I find my favorites to be the ones I’m making extra calls on, putting extra hours in and getting more than just

the necessary components. My favorite stories come from the ones that I put my heart and soul into. As a young journalist, my best story is yet to come, and I’m excited for what that topic may be.”

#### Best thing about being a journalist:

“Getting to learn a little bit about everything. As a journalist, you don’t have to choose a particular field for the rest of your life. Being able to invest yourself in an area of study to learn all you can to write a story is very rewarding.”

### **Brianna Hand '13**

Major: English/journalism

Editorial manager, Skyword Inc., a content-marketing services company, Boston, Massachusetts.

### **Jackie MacMullan '82**

Major: Journalism

Sportswriter, ESPN; biographer

### **Hadley Barndollar '16**

Reporter, Seacoast Media Group, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### **Thomas Gounley '12**

Major: English/journalism and environmental conservation studies

Reporter, Springfield News-Leader, Springfield, Missouri

### **Mark Daniels '07**

Major: English/journalism

Sports reporter, Providence Journal, Providence, Rhode Island



**ZACK COX '12**

### **Zack Cox '12**

Major: Communication,  
sports studies minor

Sports writer, NESN.com

Best story covered so far:

“The best story I have covered has to be Super Bowl LI. This was my first season as a Patriots beat writer for NESN.com (after stints covering the Bruins, Celtics and Red Sox), and for it to culminate in one of the greatest NFL games of all time was something I never could

have imagined experiencing in my professional life. Covering the Patriots unfortunately means covering a whole slew of off-the-field controversies (Deflategate, the team's connection to Donald Trump, etc.), as well, which made getting to witness and write about that incredible comeback and all the emotion surrounding it even more rewarding.”

Best thing about being a journalist:

“It's hard to pick out a single best thing about being a journalist. The opportunities and access it affords me obviously are incredible. I love getting that inside look at all the players, teams and personalities that you really can't get in any other profession, then being able to share it with others through my writing. Plus, my job description basically is to watch sports, write about them and talk about them. Not going to lie, it's a pretty sweet deal.”

**John Wayne Ferguson '09**

Major: English/journalism

Reporter, Galveston County Daily News, Galveston, Texas

**Keeley Smith '10**

Major: English/journalism

Executive editor, Long Beach Post, Long Beach, California

**Lisa Miller '80**

Major: English

Director, UNH journalism program; associate professor of English

**Josh Sullivan '15**

Major: English/journalism

Crime reporter, Killeen Daily Herald, Killeen, Texas

Best story covered so far:



**JOSH SULLIVAN '15**

“This time last year, I wrote a story about a woman named Karen Vidoli, who ran the Boston Marathon and raised money for cancer research. Both of her parents and her sister died

of cancer, and as she was training for a marathon, she was diagnosed as well. She beat it, and then went on to run four marathons, including Boston twice, all while raising thousands of dollars. She opened up to me about her crippling fear of the disease and her fear that she'd one day be diagnosed again. That story meant a lot to me because she trusted me with something extremely personal. I knew I had to do it justice on paper.”

Best thing about being a journalist:

“Definitely the pay and the great hours. Just kidding. I never have a boring day at work. If it's a boring day, it means I'm not doing my job well enough. Even on slow news days, there is always data to look at or one specific area to explore. Policies are always changing; people are always selling drugs; and crimes are always happening. If they aren't being caught, then it's because of something the police aren't doing, and there's another story in itself. “

**Max Sullivan '14**

Major: English/journalism

Reporter, Seacoast Media Group, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### **Meg Heckman '01**

Major: English, business minor

Lecturer, UNH English department, Boston Globe contributor

### **Megan Specia '09**

Major:

Journalism/communication

Video journalist, The New York Times

### **Marcus Weisgerber '04**

Major: English/journalism

Global business reporter, Defense One, which provides news and analysis on U.S. defense and national security, Washington, D.C.

### **Susan Doucet '14**

Major: English/Journalism and international affairs

Associate editor, CommunityCo, a brand-building organization for invite-only professional communities, Boston, Massachusetts

WRITTEN [Jody Record '95](#) | Communications and Public Affairs |

BY: [jody.record@unh.edu](mailto:jody.record@unh.edu)

## **Noses for News**

Many of these UNH alumni journalists are also alumni of the UNH student newspaper, The New Hampshire. Find out more about these and other alumni in The New Hampshire's [TNH Alumni Series](#).

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