

SERENA MARIA DANIELS

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EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer @ NextCity.org

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - APRIL 2018 - PRESENT

Focus on community development and economic justice in American cities

Equitable cities fellow @ NextCity.org

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - APRIL 2017 - MARCH 2018

Surdna Foundation-supported reporting fellowship with focus on economic equity models in marginalized communities in Detroit and other American cities

Freelance Dining Editor @ Detroit Metro Times

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - JULY 2015 - JANUARY 2017

Restaurant critic & food blogger covering Detroit's restaurant scene, with appearances on Al Jazeera America, WDET, WDIV, Spike TV's Bar Rescue

Researcher @ Page 1 Projects

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - MAY 2015 - SEPTEMBER 2016

Obtained decades-old public records via FOIA, conducted interview and collected archives for screenplay development for the 2017 feature film "Detroit"

Freelance Journalist

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - FEBRUARY 2014 - PRESENT

Focus on food, community development, economic justice, immigration, race & ethnicity, religion, foreclosures, Detroit bankruptcy, Flint water crisis

Staff Writer @ The Detroit News

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - SEPTEMBER 2011 - FEBRUARY 2014

General assignment reporter, with special interest in communities of color, urban policy; interim Ford Motor Company; coverage of 2012 presidential elections

Staff Writer @ Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS - OCTOBER 2009 - SEPTEMBER 2011

General assignment reporter; responsibilities included criminal justice, suburban government, religion

Staff Writer @ The Orange County Register

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA - DECEMBER 2006 - OCTOBER 2009

Beats included local government and politics, transportation, traffic, breaking news

AWARDS

Second place, feature writing (100,000+ circ.) @ Society for Professional Journalists, Detroit chapter for December 2016 article "How Mexico's national dish is feeding Detroit's dining scene"

First Place, breaking news, (100,000+ circ.) @ Society of Professional Journalists, Detroit chapter for 2012 article "Jane Bashara, 56, found strangled, husband charged"

Finalist, breaking news @ Pulitzer Prize, 2011, worked with team of journalists on coverage of the deaths of two firefighters

Honorable Mention, breaking news @ Associated Press Sports Editors for 2010 article "Student killed in accident at Notre Dame"

First place, localization of a national story, online @ Society of Professional Journalists, Detroit chapter

Third place, business/agriculture news, weekly/specialty @ Michigan Press Association

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Journalism

@ California State University, Northridge, 2006

Upper division coursework, Spanish @ Wayne State University, Detroit, 2014-2015

SKILLS

Microsoft Office; Adobe Creative Suite; social media platforms; content management systems; Nexis/Accurint; Final Cut Pro; Audacity; basic conversational Spanish

MEMBERSHIPS

Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting

James Beard Foundation

National Association of Hispanic Journalists

PROJECTS

Co-Founder @

tostadamagazine.com

DETROIT, MICHIGAN - FEBRUARY 2017 - Present

Founding editor and publisher of Detroit Journalism Engagement Fund-supported new media outlet that provides digital content focused on food and culture in Metro Detroit; writes content; shoots photos; conducts interviews; reviews restaurants; CMS management on WordPress; website design; social media management; hires freelance editorial talent

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

S&P Global Financial Data

Journalism Fellow @

International Center for Journalists

NEW YORK CITY, 2016

Grant-supported online training course on using financial data for business reporting

Ford Fellow @

International Center for Journalists

WASHINGTON D.C., 2014

International reporting fellowship providing training and financial support of reporting for September 2014 article "Twenty years after NAFTA, a mini Detroit rises in Mexico," featured in *Bridge Magazine*

Immigration in the

Heartland Fellow @

Institute for Justice and Journalism

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, 2013

Among 17 journalists selected to learn immigration reporting skills and report on the challenges faced by immigrant families