

Sam Searles

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🌐 samsearlesreports.blog

SUMMARY

I love working on a team and doing my best to tell stories, whether that be on stage, in a newsroom, through writing, in front of a camera, or behind a microphone. I've learned through my various jobs and volunteer positions to work with many diverse groups of people.

EXPERIENCE

Gun Violence Prevention Reporter/Report For America Corps Member

WHYY

June 2022 - Present, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

- Secured reporting position at Philadelphia's WHYY to document gun violence and prevention initiatives, resulting in increased public awareness around the issue, reporting stories that served as catalysts for policy changes affecting gun violence prevention.
- Moderated and co-moderated political debate panels between candidates, including the Democratic candidates for Philadelphia's 100th mayor.
- Co-hosted the 5th episode of the now award-winning "Stop and Frisk: Revisit or Resist" podcast which has won, among others, a regional Edward R. Murrow award.
- News photography for personal bylines stories as well as other reporters/WHYY events.
- Guest lectured on gun violence prevention reporting at Swarthmore College.
- Attended panels and trainings by Poynter, the Philadelphia Center for Gun Violence Reporting, Report for America, and more.

Playwright, Tour Guide/Actress

History Alive, Inc

June 2019 - Present, Salem, Massachusetts

- Wrote and performed various pieces as 19th century abolitionist Charlotte Forten.
- Social media and graphic design to promote various performances at History Alive.

Freelance Graphic Designer

Redbubble

January 2018 - Present, Jan 2018 - Present · 5 yrs 6 mos

- Created dozens of designs for distribution on products through RedBubble.

Photographer

Sunspot Studio/Self

January 2016 - Present

- Portrait and event photography for professionals, families, and more.
- Experience with wedding, maternity, and newborn sessions.

Nanny

Care.com

August 2017 - January 2022, Aug 2017 - Jan 2022 · 4 yrs 6 mos

- Developed positive relationships with families, providing guidance and support in caring for their children, with an average parent satisfaction rating of 4.8/5 stars over almost 5 years.
- Planned and led activities based on the children's interest and development level, such as outdoor games, arts, and crafts and administered safety precautions to ensure the safety of the children.

Assistant Manager, Photographer, Sales

Cherry Hill Programs

November 2021 - December 2021, Salem, New Hampshire, United States

- Coordinated families in taking photos with Santa at several area malls.
- Photographed family photos with Santa.

- Retail sales of photos and digital packages.
- Set up and tear down in the key-holder position. Developed and implemented efficient scheduling procedures, resulting in a reduction of labor costs by 10% and improved customer service by 15%.

Personal Care Assistant

Synergy Home Care

August 2020 - December 2021, Nashua, New Hampshire, United States

- Facilitated physical, emotional and mental well-being of clients by providing individualized personal care, increasing independence, and facilitating access to community resources.
- Coordinated with family members to provide optimal assistance for loved ones.
- Provided rides, medication management, pet care, meal preparation, and exercise management.

Anchor

Town of Tyngsborough

May 2021 - May 2021, Tyngsborough, Massachusetts, United States

- Anchored special coverage for Tyngsborough Television's 2021 Candidate Forum.

Student Reporter

New England Cable News aka NECN

January 2021 - May 2021, Greater Boston

- Pitched, reported, and edited three stand-up packages for New England Cable News/NECN as part of the Suffolk In the City program.
- Subjects included Black History Month, Covid-19 vaccine requirements, and college admissions during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Reporting Intern

SOURCE Media

February 2021 - April 2021, Framingham, Massachusetts, United States

Housing Hotline, Helping Homeless, and Creating Affordable Housing Discussed At Framingham Fair Housing Committee Meeting - Framingham SOURCE

Communications Intern

Skillsoft

September 2020 - March 2021, Nashua, New Hampshire, United States

- Administrative assistance on the Skillsoft podcast including scheduling guests, coordinating social media, and production.
- Created graphics for social media.
- Wrote for the Skillsoft intern blog and coordinated intern events.

Events Staff

Tillingers Concierge, Inc.

November 2019 - February 2020, Boston, Massachusetts

- Completed hospitality tasks such as coat check, ticket sales, set up and tear down, and ushering.

Production Intern

New Hampshire Public Radio

June 2019 - August 2019, Concord, New Hampshire

- Wrote and produced two full-length pieces as part of the Creative Productions Unit.
- Completed group editing sessions.
- Background voice acting as part of the 'Patient Zero' podcast.
- Completed vox-pop/man-on-the-street interviews.
- Headshot photography for various colleagues.

School Age Aide and Substitute - Before and After School

Adult Learning Center

January 2015 - June 2019, Nashua, New Hampshire

Junior Counselor

The Palace Theatre

July 2016 - June 2017, Manchester, New Hampshire

EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree, Broadcast Journalism

Suffolk University • Boston, Massachusetts, United States • 2021

Studies, Communication Arts

CERTIFICATIONS

Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED

American Red Cross • 2022

CPR/AED/First Aid

National CPR Foundation • 2020

CPR/AED/First Aid

American Heart Association • 2018

COURSEWORK

Broadcast Journalism

21st Century Journalism

Dramatic Art & Social Reality

Excursions in Mathematics

First Year Seminar

First Year Writing – Waived With AP Credit

Fundamentals of Audio Prod

Graphic Design I

Intro Lang & Soc Interaction

Intro to Communication

Introduction To Digital Reporting

Introduction to Media Studies

Introduction to Theatre

Journalism II

Justice Law and Politics

Nutrition, Health, & Well Being

Online Journalism

Production I

Professional & Technical Writing

Race in American Society

INVOLVEMENT

Granite State Chapter Board Member, Chapter Representative

HOPE worldwide • February 2018 – Present

National Youth Advisory Council

HOPE worldwide • May 2017 – August 2019

Community Outreach Director

New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council • September 2016 – June 2019

SKILLS

Industry Knowledge: Online Journalism, Audio Editing, Photojournalism, Community Engagement, Community Outreach, Research, Project Management, News Writing, Audio Recording, Audio Post Production, Graphic Design, Fundraising, Public Relations, Hosting, Multiplatform Reporting

Tools & Technologies: Microsoft Word, Adobe Audition, Canva, ProTools, Audacity

Interpersonal Skills: Public Speaking, Leadership, Strategic Planning, Writing