TERESA (TERRY) BERTLING

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Skills Summary:

Senior editor at three daily newspapers, with 35+ years in newsroom management. More than seven years as full-time faculty and 11 years as adjunct lecturer at Texas State University's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Have taught 10 different classes in the SJMC and taught University Seminar (US1100). Strong skills in editing, writing, project management, photography, social media, interpersonal communication, teaching and nurturing a professional staff.

Education:

- Master of Arts degree in communication arts from the University of the Incarnate Word (December 2009). Graduated With Distinction (4.0 GPA). Thesis: "The Role of Niche Products in Newspaper Profitability and Readership."
- Bachelor of Arts degree from Stephen F. Austin State University (1977) with double major in journalism and health/PE with teaching certificate.

University Experience:

October 2024 to present Texas State University San Marcos, Texas
Associate Professor of Practice, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Courses Taught:
MC3383 Editing and Managing Content
US1100 University Seminar

October 2021 to September 2024 Texas State University San Marcos, Texas
Senior Lecturer, School of Journalism and Mass Communications
Courses Taught:
MC3383 Editing and Managing Content
MC3321 News Writing and Reporting
MC1313 Media Writing
US1100 University Seminar

Summer 2023 Texas State University San Marcos, Texas
Lead Reporter, Texas Community Health News
Wrote data-driven health stories for nonprofit startup to serve Texas news organizations

August 2018 to September 2021 Texas State University San Marcos, Texas
Lecturer, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Courses Taught:
MC1313 Media Writing

MC3321 News Writing and Reporting 1
MC4321 News Writing and Reporting 2
MC1100B Grammar for Journalists
MC3383 Editing and Managing Content

January 2007 to May 2018 Texas State University San Marcos, Texas
Adjunct Lecturer, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Courses Taught:

MC4356C Community Affairs Reporting
MC2374 Information Gathering & Analysis
MC4356G Magazine Writing
MC4356F Feature Writing
MC3383 Editing for Clear Communication
MC1313 Media Writing
US1100 University Seminar (not in SJMC)

Relevant Professional Experience:

June 2022 to present San Antonio Express-News San Antonio, Texas
Part-time Assistant City Editor
Edit content for the Monday edition of the newspaper and ExpressNews.com on Sundays.

December 2012 to May 2018 San Antonio Express-News San Antonio, Texas
New Publications and Special Projects Editor/Travel Editor

- Coordinated Express-News' 150th anniversary coverage for eight months in 2015, assigning and editing daily full-page features with current and historic photos, compiling and editing photo galleries for ExpressNews.com. Compiled the series into a coffee-table book with 500+ pages called "San Antonio: Our story of 150 Years in the Alamo City" by Trinity University Press (September 2015).
- Planned and edited special sections (Guide to San Antonio, San Antonio Gives, Fiesta and Rodeo previews, Texas Traveler).
- Wrote occasional stories and produced photo galleries and video for MySA.com and expressnews.com.
- Planned/edited 2017 daily history series (April 2-Dec. 31) in the Express-News pegged to the beginning of the city's Tricentennial year in January 2018.
- Launched The San Antonio Light, a free weekly non-subscriber section in 2013 that went to 125,000 homes in San Antonio, serving as a sampler of San Antonio Express-News content. Quickly doubled profitability of publication it replaced (Glance).
- Selected noted authors as half of Author Selection Committee for San Antonio Express-News Book & Author Luncheon each fall, (through 2017) benefiting the Mays Cancer Center at UT Health San Antonio (formerly the Cancer Therapy & Research Center at UT Health).
- Coordinated summer interns and planned their training (2017).

December 1994-November 2012 San Antonio Express-News San Antonio, Texas
Features/Niche Products Editor, previously Assistant Managing Editor/Sunday and Features

- Supervised feature sections (S.A. Life, *Culturas*, Travel, Taste, Weekender, TVnow) niche publications and special sections. Revamped each product to appeal to broader readership.
- Created and edited monthly Trends magazine, an upscale San Antonio Express-News publication, from May 2009 to August 2012 that focused on local personalities, home, art and culture, fashion, food, travel and trends.
- Wrote occasional stories for Travel, Trends, Taste, S.A. Life, Weekender and produced occasional photo galleries and short videos for MySA.com.
- Coordinated growth in niche products produced by the features department, including converting Trends, an upscale lifestyle publication, from a quarterly glossy broadsheet to successful monthly magazine.
- Increased feature staff contributions to MySanAntonio.com and ExpressNews.com through growth of blogs, online exclusives and multimedia stories.
- Launched Teen Team made up of 20-35 high school students to increase young reader contributions and expose teens to journalism career opportunities for more than 10 years.

1988-December 1994 El Paso Herald-Post El Paso, Texas

Managing Editor

- Coordinated content of award-winning special projects.
- Improved content by working with staffers, content review task forces and community focus groups.
- Directed daily newsroom operations with staff of 39, running daily budget meetings, supervising coverage plans, coordinating staff recruiting and leading annual strategy sessions for budget/planning.

1980-88 The Huntsville Item Huntsville, Texas

Managing Editor, then Editor

- Directed staff of 11 that won newspaper war with competing local daily in fewer than 12 months.
- The Item was recognized as one of the best small dailies in Texas in a survey of Texas newspaper editors during last year as editor.
- Eyewitness and pool reporter for 26 lethal injection executions at Texas Department of Corrections, writing news stories on deadline.
- Coordinated award-winning special projects and team efforts; wrote local editorials, news stories and features; designed pages.

1977–1980 The Huntsville Item Huntsville, Texas

Family Editor, Reporter, then City Editor

- Wrote daily news and feature stories.
- Covered Huntsville City Hall, schools, prisons and high school football (Coldspring High School for three years).
- Supervised small staff of reporters and helped design pages.

Texas Community Health News stories:

From Telehealth to Tools, Pottsboro Library Connecting Community (Public Health Watch, Feb. 2, 2024)

Network connects pediatricians with mental health professionals to treat growing number of children (Public Health Watch, Sept. 10, 2023).

New program links millions of Texas students with free mental health care at school (CBS Austin, Sept. 13, 2023 and KVII-TV Amarillo, Sept. 18, 2023)

Summer Danger: Distractions and rural roads increase fatal crash risk for Texas teen drivers (KABB Fox San Antonio, July 28, 2023)

Medical tests may help save firefighter lives (CBS Austin, July 11, 2023)

Local business wins GRIT Award for persevering during pandemic (San Marcos Daily Record, July 17, 2023)
Medical tests may help save firefighter lives (CBS Austin, July 11, 2023)

Renters unlikely to benefit from property tax proposal (Fox4Beaumont, July 11, 2023)

San Antonio-born Texas Tito's honored by TXST health center for resilience through pandemic (San Antonio Express-News, May 28, 2023)

Magazine articles, reports (highlights):

Mahjong is having a moment and San Antonio is playing to win feature for print and online San Antonio Magazine (November/December 2025)

Mi Casa – Step inside the Tree House Project: Rustic sophistication meets modern luxury in Dominion dream home story for print and online San Antonio Magazine (September/October 2025)

Makers – Mapping the Hill Country for tourism: Sarah B. Eckert's business a hand-drawn road to success for print and online San Antonio Magazine (July/August 2025)

Mi Casa – From Midcentury to Modern: HGTV Smart Home 2025 boasts features that enhance everyday living for print and online San Antonio Magazine (May/June 2025)

"Must-Watch: Goodtaste With Tanji," story and handout photos about broadcaster Tanji Patton's launch of her 10th season of her lifestyle TV show seen around Texas San Antonio Magazine (September/October 2024)

"Acres of Blooms: Wildflowers paint Texas with spring's spectacular shades," story and five photos for print and online San Antonio Magazine (March/April 2024)

"The Class of 2020," special section essays from graduating high school seniors, freelance section editor for the San Antonio Express-News (May 2020).

"TCU football fans' guide to San Antonio dining, nightlife and more," Fort Worth Star-Telegram Travel section (Dec. 22, 2015)

"A relaxing getaway to San Antonio's Eilan Hotel & Spa," Fort Worth Star-Telegram Indulge magazine (May 2015).

Contributor to "Sweet Dreams" team project featuring top luxury hotel suites in Texas metro areas, Indulge magazine (May 2013). Same package ran as lead story in San Antonio Express-News Travel pages as "Sweetest Suites" (May 2013).

"Barton Creek Resort & Spa: Hill Country retreat's amenities erase traces of city stress," Trends magazine (November 2010) and Houston Chronicle.

"Bon Appetit: More San Antonio restaurants bringing a French flair to the table," Trends magazine (August 2009).

"Big hair, Big D and the Mansion on Turtle Creek," Trends magazine (August 2009).

"Three Perfect Days: San Antonio," cover story for Hemispheres Magazine, the in-flight magazine for United Airlines, with a pressrun of 500,000 copies and an estimated two million readers. Story covered 12 pages of the magazine, with photos shot by a Hemispheres Magazine photographer. (March 2008).

National APME Reporting Committee's "Watchdog Journalism" report (co-chair, 2005).

San Antonio Express-News Travel and S.A. Life stories (highlights):

Staycations: Get off the beaten path for a nearby summer break, San Antonio Express-News SA Life cover story with my photos and handout photos for print (June 24, 2025) and online on Express-News subscriber site

"Early lives of famed Texans detailed," San Antonio Express-News Book page lead story (Dec. 5, 2021 in print) and on ExpressNews.com subscriber site

"Hit the road for holiday fun…" San Antonio Express-News Travel page (Nov. 24, 2021) and on ExpressNews.com

"Del Rio Mayor Bruno Lozano welcomes HBO drag reality show 'We're Here' to Texas border town" (Oct. 22, 2021, in print) and on ExpressNews.com subscriber site

"2 S.A. hikers complete the Appalachian Trail," (Nov. 7, 2018)

"Meet the San Antonio veteran hiking the whole 2,190.9-mile Appalachian Trail," (June 20, 2018)

"San Antonio hikers launch hike up Appalachian Trail," (March 8, 2018)

"Glamping in a luxurious spot outside Wimberley," (May/June 2018)

"Caribbean Journey is a short jaunt at Texas State Aquarium," (May 14, 2018)

"Two-stepping across Texas for dance hall preservation," (March 16, 2017)

"Georgetown Loop train ends at Colorado Pumpkin Festival," (Aug. 27, 2016)

"Padre Island National Seashore – a primitive, undeveloped beach awaits southeast of Corpus Christi," (Aug. 12, 2016)

"Holiday Exhibit: 'ICE!': Baby, it's cold! Frozen sculptures delight freezing crowds in Grapevine" (Nov. 22, 2015)

"Johnson City: Engaging young minds; Science Mill offers fun with STEM subjects," (Nov. 11, 2015)

"Memphis: Fake wood art wows the faithful; Cemetery has artwork similar to that in S.A." (Aug. 23, 2015)

"Celebrating the sunset: Cold front dips the temps but not the fun," (April 19, 2015)

"Casino gambling: Getting lucky at Kickapoo; Bingo, steaks leave a pair of rookies satisfied," (Jan. 18, 2015)

"Stories behind the songs: Bluebird Café takes fans to roots of lyrics," (Nov. 30, 2014)

"Islands of South Carolina" and "On Dewees, real world recedes as an isle full of wildlife emerges," (Jan. 12, 2014)

"Serenity in St. John," (Aug. 18, 2013)

"Natchez Trace Parkway: America's well-beaten path," (Dec. 26, 2010).

"Exploring Tucson: Foothills offer glimpses of majestic beauty," (March 21, 2010).

"Top of the world: A borrowed grandson, a steep ascent and a smooth pink dome give climber a longer view at Enchanted Rock," (Nov. 16, 2008)

"Lost in the Luberon: Wandering the hills of Provence, the land of lavender," (April 27, 2008) with "Shopping Paris: Lots of junk, little romance in famed flea markets." Same stories ran in the Houston Chronicle (Oct. 5, 2008)

"Riding the Divide: Spectacular views in the land of Colorado's Fourteeners," (July 2006)

"Texas Country Reporter Hospitality: TV host whips up the waffles in his Hill Country Hacienda," (June 2006)

"Tennessee Trackdown: Or how a mom followed her son to the Smokies," (January 2006)

"Land of the Unexpected: When planning a trip to New Mexico, keep your options open and your eye on the weather," (April 2005)

A section news/feature stories:

"Cold-stunned green sea turtles released into surf near Corpus Christi after treatment," (March 12, 2018)

"SA Art League and Museum to show coveted Davis Collection," (April 21, 2018)

"This paper has a story of its own; as it reported daily events, the E-N has become part of the history of SA," (A1, Dec. 31, 2015)

"Alamo's majestic tree: Since 1912 a live oak has stood silent vigil on hallowed ground. Though not there for 1836 battle, it, too, has history," (A4, Oct. 17, 2015)

"Anniversary souvenirs off 63 years; Shirts, mugs at tower show wrong year S.A. founded" (A1, Oct. 26, 2015)

Magazine Editing:

Editor of monthly Trends magazine, produced for an upscale audience with content about fashion, home decor, architecture, food, travel, dining, entertaining, autos, personalities (May 2010 to August 2012).

Editor of the national APME News magazine, a publication that went to newspaper editors and managing editors across the U.S. who were members of the Associated Press Managing Editors and subscribe to the Associated Press (2000 to 2004). Circulation about 2,500. Served as assigning editor and chief copy editor and coordinated the production of the magazine with a freelance designer and copy editor in San Antonio. As magazine editor, held a position on the national APME Executive Committee for four years.

Books:

"San Antonio: Our Story of 150 Years in the Alamo City," published by Trinity University Press (September 2015). Planned and edited 517-page coffee table book by the San Antonio Express-News staff and freelancers that was a collection from the eight-month daily history series marking the newspaper's 150th anniversary. Assigned and edited original stories for the newspaper and book.

"Cooking With Pecans," a cookbook published by Eakin Press (1986). Recipes gathered from members of the Texas Pecan Growers Association, family and friends.

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings:

"Media Convergence and the decline of the American Newspaper," by Dr. Valerie Greenberg and Terry Bertling. Co-authored paper presented by Dr. Greenberg at E-Learn 2009: World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare & Higher Education in Vancouver, B.C. (October 2009).

Invited Talks, Lectures, Presentations:

"Taking good writing to GREAT," presentation on editing to Texas Intercollegiate Press Association in San Marcos (April 11, 2024).

Panel Moderator, "Audience Engagement Strategies that Work" with Jessica Stahl and Julia Carpenter of The Washington Post, Society for Features Journalism national conference, University of Maryland (Aug. 29, 2015).

Moderator, Mass Communications Week panel at SJMC at Texas State University. Topic: Careers/Internships (October 2012).

Presented Top 15 Feature Sections with video and Writing Contest winners at Society for Features Journalism Conference in Tucson (August 2011).

"Media Workshop for Non-Profits," panel member, Trinity University, sponsored by The Association for Women in Communications, San Antonio Chapter (March 17, 2011).

"How to Write a Good Headline," webinar for BusinessWire, (Feb. 16, 2011).

"Best Feature Ideas: AASFE's Show & Steal," News University live webinar at Poynter Institute, focusing on top 12 trends seen in AASFE conference Show & Steal submissions (Oct. 8, 2010).

Panel discussion: "How Can Nonprofits Get Their Concerns Noticed by the Media?" San Antonio Nonprofit Council Workshop (May 14, 2010).

"When Papers Collide: Hooking up With Onetime Rivals," panel discussion with editors from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Corpus Christi Caller-Times, moderated by Brett Thacker, managing editor, San Antonio Express-News, at the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors conference in Austin, (April 26, 2009).

"State of the Newspaper" talk with Dr. Valerie Greenberg's graduate level journalism class at the University of the Incarnate Word (February 2009).

Texas State University guest speaker in classes taught by Dr. Sandy Rao and Professor of Practice Kym Fox.

"Multimedia Elements in Feature Writing" panel during Texas State University Mass Comm Week (October 2008).

Media Relations Seminar, Trinity University, panelist (2002).

Spoke to various San Antonio organizations, including local public relations professionals and marketing professionals, Society for Professional Journalists, high school journalism teachers and heads of non-profit organizations in my positions at the San Antonio Express-News.

Multimedia Design Productions (electronic media):

Various short videos on MySanAntonio.com to accompany stories, including sea turtle release at Padre Island National Seashore and Texas State Aquarium feature, 2018; Georgetown Loop train, 2016; ICE exhibit in Grapevine, 2015; Science Mill, 2015; Fiesta Hat Show luncheon, 2011 (and others).

"Island hopping near SC" entry on Here & There travel blog on www.MySanAntonio.com with two photo galleries to accompany lead Travel page package (Jan. 10, 2014).

"First Day Hikes" Travel story in San Antonio Express-News and online photo gallery on Trends blog. (Dec. 27, 2012)

Fashion's Night Out photo gallery for Trends blog (Sept. 7, 2012).

Trends magazine swimsuit photo shoot behind the scene photos for gallery on Trends blog (May 24, 2012).

Trends magazine Miss Fiesta, Princesses behind the scenes photos for photo gallery on Trends blog (April 2012).

White Bluebonnets photo gallery from Willow City Loop for Trends blog. (March 29, 2012).

Photo gallery on Trends blog on "Brides Behind the Scenes" from fashion photo shoot for Trends magazine (January 2012).

“Brides Across America,” video of free wedding gown giveaway for military brides. (Jan. 12, 2012).

“River Walk Lights,” video of new holiday lights on San Antonio River Walk for MySA.com (December 2011).

“Fiesta Hat Contest” video, MySanAntonio.com (April 2011).

“Luminaria” preview video posted on YouTube and linked from Trends blog at MySA.com (March 2011).

“A horse-drawn carriage ride downtown San Antonio” video on Dixiedogmom YouTube channel (Nov. 5, 2010).

“Luminaria” video (March 14, 2009). Posted on YouTube and linked from Trends blog.

"Texas Pecans: From the Family Farm to the Dinner Table," a 13-minute video produced as part of Media Production class at the University of the Incarnate Word (December 2004). The project included shooting and editing the video for class presentation.

Video for MySA.com with two Travel section cover stories, “Lost in the Luberon: Wandering the hills in Provence, the land of lavender” and “Shopping Paris: Lots of junk, little romance at famed flea markets” in the San Antonio Express-News (April 27, 2008). Shared editing with Travel Editor Tracy Barnett on video: “A day at the Eiffel Tower.”

Consultancies:

Media Partner for Keystone School for American Society of Newspaper Editors' Partnership for the 2004-'05 school year. The $5,000 grant for the school was funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Besides supporting the grant application, I served as a mentor to journalism students and worked with their teacher, Ron Aaron, to improve the school newspaper's quality and frequency and to upgrade campus equipment.

Workshops/Conventions attended:

Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas annual conference (Sept. 26, 2025) in Austin with SJMC students.

Dow Jones News Fund AI for Journalism Educators Workshop on Zoom (June 6-7, 2025).

Texas Managing Editors conference. Coordinated auction for Buster Haas Minority Internship Program (April 25-27, 2025) in San Antonio.

SPJ Region 8 Conference (April 4-5, 2025) in San Marcos.

AI in Teaching and Learning Symposium, March 26-27 at Texas State University.

Teaching Online at Texas State (TOTS), online asynchronous course, March 12-May 12, 2025 offered through Texas State University.

Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas annual conference (Sept. 13, 2024) in Austin.

Texas Managing Editors conference. Coordinated auction for Buster Haas Minority Internship Program (April 19-21, 2024) in Temple.

Investigative Reporters and Editors Data Boot Camp for Educators (July 10-14, 2023) University of Missouri-Columbia.

Texas Press Association Annual Convention and Trade Show (June 1-3, 2023) Round Rock, Texas.

South Texas Press Association (April 20-21, 2023) in Boerne, Texas.

Texas Managing Editors conference (April 14-16, 2023) in Galveston, Texas.

Society of Professional Journalists, Region 8 (March 31-April 1, 2023) in San Antonio, Texas.

Texas Association of Managing Editors conference (April 29-May 1, 2022) in Irving, Texas.

ACES: The Society for Editing, conference (March 31-April 2, 2022) in San Antonio.

Teachapalooza IX, The Poynter Institute (June 7-9, 2019) and Teachapalooza X online (July 8, 2020). Teachapalooza XI online (June 2021).

Solutions Journalism HIS Educator Academy online (July 8-9, 2021).

ISOJ (International Symposium on Online Journalism online (April 26-30, 2021)

IRE Watchdog Workshop at Texas State University (Feb. 9-10, 2019).

SPJ's Excellence in Journalism national conference in San Antonio (Sept. 8-9, 2019).

"Foundations of Online Course Design and Development" training at Texas State University (May 2019).

"Product Development for Newsroom Leaders," non-credit Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas (April/May 2019). Other MOOCs include "Introduction to Infographics and Data Visualization," (Fall 2013) and "Social Media for Journalists," (Spring 2014).

TEDx SanAntonio, Trinity University (October 2012, 2011 and 2010).

International Symposium on Online Journalism at University of Texas (April 2019, 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010).

Online News Association convention (2019 in Austin); News Leaders Association (2019 in Austin) Society for Features Journalism conference (August 2017 in Kansas City, August 2016 in Austin; August 2015 at University of Maryland (the year I was president of the organization); August 2014 in Nashville; August 2013 in St. Petersburg, Florida; August 2012 at University of Maryland, August 2011 in Tucson). SFJ was previously called the Association of Sunday and Features Editors. Attended AASFE conferences (October 2010 at Poynter Institute, 2009 in Portland, 2008 in Houston, 2007 in Savannah and various previous years).

Video workshop, Austin Chapter of National Association of Hispanic Journalists (July 2010).

Texas APME conference (2019, 2018, 2017 and most years since 1980).

Visual Journalism Workshop, co-sponsored by Texas State University, Texas Press Association and Texas Daily Newspaper Association (Jan. 16, 2009).

ASNE Growing Online Audience seminar (2007) in Houston.

Newspapers Next: The Transformation Project (December 2006) Southern Methodist University).

ASNE Young Readers Workshop (2005) Austin American-Statesman.

National APME conferences (1999 to 2004). Served as liaison for conference planning when San Antonio hosted the national convention in 2000.

Fellowships, Awards, Honors:

Fellow, Knight Digital Media Center Multimedia and Convergence Workshop at UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism (July 17-22, 2011).

Outstanding Graduate Honor Student for Graduate Research, University of the Incarnate Word, School of Interactive Media & Design (April 2010).

Hearst Newspapers Eagle Award (2007).

Jack Douglas Award for distinguished service in journalism from the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors (2007).

Meritorious Service Award from the national Associated Press Managing Editors (2003). The award, chosen by the board of directors, recognized four years as editor of the APME News magazine, a quarterly publication.

Named one of the Five Outstanding Young Texans by the Jaycees (1986, the first year women became eligible for the award).

Member of the San Antonio Express-News staff that won the Texas APME Best Newspaper Award (2005). Judges specifically mentioned strong features sections in their comments.

National Association of Secondary School Principals' Benjamin Fine Award for special section: "Educating the Poorest -- Challenge in Segundo Barrio" (2005, El Paso Herald Post) for a team in-depth project.

Numerous awards from Texas APME, including first place awards for news writing, features, editorial writing, page one layout, team effort and community service (1977-1988, The Huntsville Item).

University Service:

Judge and room monitor, TIPA conference student competition (April 11, 2025)

Library Committee, meetings April 25 and Oct. 14, 2025

CoFAC Review Committee – Presidential Awards for Excellence – Service (Feb. 27, 2025)

Judge, speaker and room monitor, TIPA conference student competition (April 12, 2024)

Presenter, “AP Style Smackdown,” Star Camp (Aug. 15, 2024)

Bobcat Days speaker (Oct. 26, 2024)

Took two SJMC students and a fellow professor to the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas annual conference in Austin (September 2024 and 2025).

Lead reporter, Texas Community Health News, produced stories for the non-profit news organization that provides data-related health content to Texas newsrooms (summer 2023).

Online News Association OJA contest screener for several categories (2023, 2022 and 2021 and judge in 2024).

Judge for Delaware Press Association annual journalism contest (March 2021 and 2022).

Employers Advisory Board member, Texas State University (2017-18).

Judge for Barbara Jordan Media Award, Student Category (February 2012).

Served on the Advisory Board for the Communication Arts Department at the University of the Incarnate Word (2009-2012).

Judge for AEJMC international writing competition coordinated by Dr. Sandy Rao (2011 and several previous years).

Co-editor for Commentary magazine for friends and alumni of Texas State School of Journalism and Mass Communication (2007).

Community Service:

Venue Lead, San Antonio Book Festival (April 12, 2025)

Venue Lead, San Antonio Book Festival (April 13, 2024)

Jury Duty in Bexar County (May 1, 2024)

Toy Wrap Party for the San Antonio Fire Department (December 2023)

Venue lead, San Antonio Book Festival at Central Library (April 2022).

Half of Author Selection Committee for the San Antonio Express-News Book & Author Luncheon. Helped select six authors (with Express-News book editor) for annual event that attracted a sellout crowd of 1,000 benefiting the Mays Cancer Center (formerly the Cancer Therapy & Research Center) at the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio.

Founder and co-chair for Express-News Children's Book & Author Celebration benefiting the San Antonio Public Library Foundation Born to Read program. Event held in fall 2009-2013.

Chaired San Antonio Express-News United Way campaign in 2014 and 1996 and served as the newsroom's representative on the company's United Way Committee in 1995 and 2015.

Professional Service:

SFJ Contest Administrator (freelance) for the Society for Features Journalism (February through July 2022, 2023 and 2024). Point of contact for media organizations for more than 900 entries in 22 categories, screening entries, coordinating assignments with judges, compiling results from a professional contest platform and sending out checks and awards.

Contest Coordinator (freelance) for the San Antonio Express-News (December 2021 through February 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025). Compiled contest entries for Texas Managing Editors (formerly APME) and others.

Judge, ACES: The Society for Editing, headline contest (July 2025).

Judge, Delaware Press Association, personality profiles contest category (March 2025).

Editing (pro bono) for Teen Team essays for the San Antonio Express-News (Fall 2024).

Compiled and edited (freelance) annual Top Workplaces listings for San Antonio Express-News (Summer 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025). Added Austin American-Statesman in 2025.

Reviewer for Sage publishing, three chapters of news reporting and writing textbook by Vaccaro (July 2022).

Served two times on the San Antonio Express-News Ethics Committee, updating the newsroom Ethics Policy, most recently in March 2008.

Served on interdepartmental task force to create and launch a new weekly publication -- 210SA for readers in the 18-39 demographic. This was a freestanding and free circulation tabloid designed to reach people who weren't reading the mainstream newspaper. Supervised the five-person staff for this publication, which won the Texas Daily Newspaper Association's "Bright Idea" award. The publication was launched in the spring of 2007 and discontinued in the fall of 2009.

Created San Antonio Express-News Teen Advisory Board (later renamed the Teen Team). This involved soliciting teens from local high schools, selecting students and meeting with the team monthly to get feedback on the newspaper, discuss coverage ideas and talk about careers in journalism. The program continued for more than 10 years, giving local teens a chance to get published in the newspaper and Teen Team blog on MySA.com.

Served as a judge for various industry contests, including ONA Online Journalism Awards, the Robert McGruder Diversity Leadership Award for APME/ASNE/Freedom Forum, the Association of Food Journalists Special Projects competition, Association of Sunday and Features Editor Best Section and Writing Contest, SFJ Writing Contest and national APME writing and photography contests and the Delaware Press Association annual contest.

Professional Organizations:

Investigative Reporters and Editors (member since 2023)

ACES, the Society for Editing (member since 2021)

Society of Professional Journalists (renewed membership in January 2022)

Member, Online News Association and News Leaders Association (2018-2019), Board of Directors, Society for Features Journalism Foundation (2014 and 2016); President, Society for Features Journalism (2014-2015), First Vice president, SFJ (2013-14); Second Vice President (2012-13), Regional director and program book coordinator (2011-2012). Joined leadership ladder in middle of 2011-2012 year as Secretary/Treasurer. Regional director and contest co-chair, SFJ, formerly American Association of Sunday and Features Editors (2010-2011).

Co-chair of Show & Steal (best practices idea exchange) for AASFE (2009-2010) and served on various other committees in previous years.

Volunteered for Texas APME convention auction, benefiting the Buster Haas Minority Internship Program (2005-2018, 2022, 2023). Auction coordinator in 2024.

Co-chair of Reporting Committee, national APME (2004-2005).

APME News magazine editor and member of Executive Committee, national APME (2000-2004).

President of Texas APME (1989). First woman to hold that position in Texas. Previously Freedom of Information chair, treasurer, secretary, vice president. Later served as contest co-chair and volunteer for the annual Buster Haas Minority Internship Program Auction at annual conventions.