

# ALIANA MEDIRATTA

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## SUMMARY

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Driven journalist with a track record of producing audience-driven breaking and enterprise stories across digital platforms. Skilled at executing on strong pitches, building source networks, and translating complex topics clearly.

## EDUCATION

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**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS** | St. Louis, MO | May 2025 | GPA: 3.7/4.0

*Bachelor of Arts in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Minor in Writing*

## JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

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**Verite News** | New Orleans, LA - *Newsroom Fellow*

June 2025 – Present

- Report breaking and enterprise City Hall stories that perform 30-40% above average in online views.
- Produce vertical social video explainers, generating 3x–6x average views.
- Broke accountability stories on police surveillance, election misinformation, and labor laws; covered on local radio and television, leading to increased transparency from city government.
- Covered multiple pivotal local elections through pre-race analysis and day-of coverage, producing clear, accessible stories that helped our audience engage with city politics according to reader feedback.
- Write daily newsletter copy summarizing key news takeaways and social copy specific to platforms.

**Student Life** | St. Louis, MO - *Managing News Editor (prev. Junior Editor, Staff Writer)*

Sept. 2022 – April 2025

- Drove a 23.5% increase in online views YoY by growing enterprise coverage.
- Reported major breaking stories on sexual misconduct, campus policy, and a bomb threat; top stories averaged 10,000+ views and were picked up by The New York Times and AP.
- Directed 30+ staff in daily digital publishing, live updates, print layout, and social distribution.
- Elected post-graduation to Student Life Board to support the long-term sustainability of the organization.

**Palo Alto Weekly** | Palo Alto, CA - *Editorial Intern*

June 2022 – Aug. 2022

- Covered housing crisis, political protests, and community news for an award-winning local newsroom.
- Quickly turned around briefs, conducted background research, and pitched stories.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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**WashU Marketing and Communications** | St. Louis, MO - *Editorial Intern*

Jan. 2025 – May 2025

- Wrote stories about student engagement for 15,000+ by applying brand storytelling principles.
- Produced internal guidance for marketing team on AI best practices through heavy research.

**WashU Mock Trial** | St. Louis, MO - *Tournament Director, Competitor*

April 2023 – May 2024

- Organized tournaments to raise \$7,500 in program funding and earned national public speaking awards.

**New Sector Alliance** | Stanford, CA - *Editorial Intern*

June 2022 – Dec. 2022

- Wrote grant proposals to help secure \$50,000 in funding for a nonprofit leadership development program.

**@siliconvalleyprobs** | Menlo Park, CA - *Administrator*

Feb. 2019 – May 2021

- Produced culturally relevant digital content to scale Instagram audience from 30k to 50k in a year.

## AWARDS

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Gregory Freeman Award for Outstanding Career Achievement in Journalism (2025); Missouri College Media Association First Place Award for In-Depth (2023, 2024) and Investigative Reporting (2023)

## SKILLS

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*Editorial:* Pitch development, public records/FOIA, sourcing, investigative reporting, data analysis, AP style.

*Digital:* WordPress (CMS), CapCut, Google Workspace, Lightroom, InDesign, shooting photo/video, SEO.

*Strengths:* Deadline management, collaborative communication, audience-driven storytelling.