

Maria Luisa Tucker

MULTIMEDIA PROFESSIONAL

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EDUCATION

Columbia University
M.A. American Studies
Focus on Politics and Ethnicity
2006

Texas State University
B.A. Mass Communication
Concentration in Print Journalism
Minor in Media Studies
Graduated *cum laude*
2000

AUDIO COURSES

BRIC Podcast Fellowship
BRIC Arts Media
Fall 2019

Intro to Radio Podcasting
BRIC Arts Media
Summer 2018

Radio Boot Camp
UnionDocs Center for
Documentary Art
Fall 2018

SKILLS

ProTools
Hindenburg
Adobe Premiere

Summary of Qualifications

- Self-starter with 15+ years of experience reporting, editing, and fact-checking in deadline-driven environments
- Freelance audio producer committed to amplifying voices that are not heard often enough in mainstream media; comfortable working with people of all backgrounds and points of view
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills and ability to collaboratively solve problems

Audio Experience

Fall 2019

Produced “[Content Likely to Incite](#),” a 13-minute segment about social media and gun violence, for BRIC’s Brooklyn, USA podcast

Spring 2019

Producer/Editor for [Do You Even Podcast?](#), a weekly conversational show that reviews podcasts

Production Assistant for [Technopolis](#), Atlantic Media’s technology podcast, booking guests and scheduling studio time

September 2018 – Present

Occasional producer for [Radio GAG](#), a weekly WBAI gun violence prevention show by Gays Against Guns

Writing/Editing Experience

May 2015 – Present

Freelance Writer/Editor

I help smart people make their content smarter, providing copy writing, developmental editing, fact-checking, and proofreading services for clients, including Youth Communication, Girl Effect, and The Investment Integration Project. I’ve written freelance for AlterNet.org, BRIGHT Magazine, Tonic/Vice, and *Parents*.

September 2014 – Present

Journalism Instructor, [NYU School of Professional Studies](#)

I develop and teach journalism and social justice courses for NYU’s High School Academy, helping high school students develop their writing, research, and critical thinking skills.

February 2009 – September 2017

Editor/Editorial Director, [Youth Communication](#)

I had several different titles at this award-winning youth media nonprofit organization. I first edited [YCteen](#), a NYC magazine for high schoolers, and [Represent](#), a national magazine by and for

WRITING AWARDS

[1st Place Investigative Reporting](#)

New Mexico Press Association
Better Newspapers
Contest, 2002
Santa Fe Reporter

[2nd Place In-Depth Reporting](#)

New Mexico Press Association
Better Newspapers
Contest, 2002
Santa Fe Reporter

[1st Place Media Reporting](#)

Association of Alternative
Newsmedia, 2003
Santa Fe Reporter

EDITING AWARDS

[Periodical of the Year](#)

Association of American
Publishers, 2011
New Youth Connections (YCteen)

[Best Series](#)

Association of American
Publishers, 2011
New Youth Connections (YCteen)

[Honorable Mention, Casey Medals for Meritorious Journalism](#), 2012

"My Headscarf Cover-Up"
New Youth Connections (YCteen)

[Revere Awards – Beyond the Classroom](#)

Association of American
Publishers, 2017
*Real As Me: A Curriculum Guide
for Empowering Young Women*

youth in foster care. In 2012, I was promoted to Editorial Director, managing the editorial staff, providing a cohesive vision for all publications and websites, and creating and managing production schedules. Highlights include:

- Editing five curriculum guides and seven anthologies.
- Developing and researching themes for magazine issues, including juvenile justice, racism, food systems, foster care, economic inequality, and immigration.
- Developing a multimedia program that produced the [first editorial videos](#) for the organization. I directed, shot, and edited more than 45 videos over the span of three years.
- Working one-on-one with teens and young adults as they wrote both reported and memoir-style stories.

April 2007 – October 2008

Staff Writer, [The Village Voice](#)

As an investigative reporter, I wrote long-form pieces that tested my courage. I went [undercover with white supremacists](#) in New Jersey; told the story of a young woman who [murdered her sexually abusive father](#); and revealed New York's practice of [locking sex offenders in psych wards after they'd served their sentences](#). I also covered local politics, immigration policy, and housing, and contributed short items to the blog and the annual *Best of New York* issue.

November 2005 – June 2006

Staff Writer, [AlterNet.org](#)

As a remote writer for this independent news site, I wrote op-ed blog posts, investigative pieces, and essays from New York, New Mexico, Texas, and California. I covered politics, immigration, religion, criminal justice, and pop culture. Some popular pieces included an article exploring the [racial dynamics of California prison riots](#), a personal essay about [my family's bi-ethnic identity](#), and an investigation into [labor practices at Wal-Mart](#).

October 2001 – June 2003

Staff Writer, [Santa Fe Reporter](#)

I dove into investigative reporting at this deadline-driven alt-weekly in New Mexico, my first full-time writing job out of college. I spent months with the family of woman who had been beheaded by her drug dealer to report on the complex rules of the state's victim services agency; rode with cops and interviewed survivors for a story about rape kits that were never tested; and interviewed prisoners for a story on a controversial morality program inside state prisons. I won several awards for my work at the *Reporter*.