

Mary Freda

Storyteller

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EDUCATION

Ball State University Muncie, Indiana

Major: News Journalism, Spanish
Degree: B.A., May 2019
GPA: 3.76

SKILLS

Writing | Copy editing | Social media, SEO | Interviewing | Photography | Videography | Spanish | Fact checking

AWARDS

The Daily News | Newcomer of the Year, 2017

The Daily News | Most Dedicated Staff Member, 2018

Keating Competition | One of 10 state-wide finalists, 2018

Columbia Scholastic Press Association | News feature, second place, 2018

ACTIVITIES

Society of Professional Journalists |

Ball State University
Member, 2016-present

Online News Association |

Ball State University
President, 2018-present

Burriss K-5 Spanish Program |

Burriss Laboratory School
Spanish tutor, 2018-present

REFERENCES

Greg Fallon

Executive editor |
The Star Press
Muncie, Indiana
gfallon@gannett.com

Lisa Renze-Rhodes

Adviser |
Unified Media Lab
Muncie, Indiana
lrenze@bsu.edu

Ray Cooney

Editor |
The Commercial Review
Portland, Indiana
r.cooney@thecr.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Star Press | Muncie, Indiana Eugene S. Pulliam Internship Program Intern

May 2018-August 2018

- Reported on the Muncie community, including coverage of local fairs.
- Supplemented coverage with photo galleries, videos and maps.
- Contributed six stories to M Magazine, The Star Press' quarterly publication, that produces content for Muncie and East Central Indiana residents.
- Developed an understanding of the necessity for community journalism through pieces on local organizations and businesses.

Freelance Reporter

August 2018-present

- Report on the Muncie and surrounding Delaware County communities.
- Create content for special sections, including articles for M Magazine.
- Pitch story ideas that are of interest to The Star Press' audience, while making the reader's experience a forethought.

The Commercial Review | Portland, Indiana

Freelance Reporter

October 2017-present

- Serve as a watchdog to the Dunkirk, Indiana, community as the Dunkirk City Council beat reporter.
- Report on the Jay County community, including coverage of local government, businesses and events.

COLLEGIATE EXPERIENCE

Ball Bearings Magazine | Muncie, Indiana

Fact Checker

October 2018-present

- Verify all names, figures, pronouns and details in print and online stories.

Cardinal Communications | Muncie, Indiana

Copy Editor

September 2017-August 2018

- Edited public relations content for various local and state organizations, including Boys and Girls Club of Muncie and Down Syndrome Indiana.
- Communicated with team leaders about content changes to optimize the quality of client projects.
- Implemented new copy-writing practices through presentations on AP style.

The Ball State Daily News | Muncie, Indiana

Assistant News Editor

August 2017-May 2018

- Created weekly content plans for the news section, including plans for long-form and investigative pieces.
- Advised and oversaw investigative pieces that required archival research and records requests.

News Reporter

August 2016-September 2018

- Covered crime, breaking news and general assignment stories, including pieces on Ball State's 17th president and Indiana state legislation.
- Wrote an average of three to seven stories a week and focused on spot news, general assignment pieces, meeting coverage and digital briefs.