Derrick Bryson Taylor

Brooklyn, NY 11226 646-298-2482

DerrickBTaylor@gmail.com www.DerrickBrysonTaylor.com

EXPERIENCE

The New York Times, New York, NY

May 2019 - Present

Express Desk Reporter

Write and report on breaking-news stories for the Express desk of The New York Times. Monitor social media and competing news outlets for stories that Times readers would like to see. Closely follow budding news related to crime, weather, politics, human interest and technology among other topics. Develop and pitch long-term and short-term story ideas from trending news and events. Follow up on stories we've previously covered to see if additional coverage is warranted.

PageSix.com, New York Post, New York, NY

July 2018 - April 2019

News Editor

Helped lead a team of 15 to success with strategic planning and execution. Daily tasks included managing the homepage, editing display and headline copy, editing stories for accuracy, flow, voice and SEO keywords. Reported and wrote exclusive stories. Approved and rejected pitches as well as worked with writers to develop new angles on stories. Created new and innovative ways to increase and retain readership. Monitored traffic through Parse.ly and rejiggered stories to meet traffic goals. Promoted to news editor from associate editor in 2018.

PageSix.com, New York Post, New York, NY

Associate Editor

June 2014 – July 2018

Generated over 2,000 articles, earned 70 million pageviews and 20 million unique visitors with an impeccable can-do work attitude. Consistently landed among top performing authors and editors. Reported dozens of original and exclusive stories for the brand – including Billy Bush drama, Kim Kardashian baby news, Lamar Odom's recovery efforts and Teresa Giudice's prison term – resulting in viral content and mass pick-up from competing outlets. Established and grew strong relationships with industry insiders, handlers, publicists, lawyers, celebrities and freelance writers. Assigned, edited and published stories with SEO-friendly headlines. Closely watched traffic, reshaping the homepage and adjusted art to drive audience engagement. Set the pace and rhythm of the day with a keen eye toward prioritization and details. Managed the brand's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Promoted to associate editor from reporter in 2017.

Entertainment Writer, New York, NY

February 2014 – December 2017

Freelance

Reported and wrote entertainment stories and viral lists for British site ThatGrapeJuice.net, Time Warner Cable and NickiSwift.com. Other responsibilities included landing high-profile interviews, attending red-carpet events and developing on-brand stories around celebrities, movies, TV shows and anniversaries.

Essence.com, New York, NY

August 2010 - February 2014

Associate Editor

Daily responsibilities included researching, monitoring and reporting on celebrity news. Wrote four to seven 300-600 word articles a day with rapid speed. Uncovered major Janet Jackson marriage news and solved Alicia Keys and Beyoncé video mystery. Worked closely with publicists and stars. Cultivated a growing list of reliable and knowledgeable freelancers in New York and Los Angeles by networking, attending celebrity events, galas and red carpets. Developed and executed four to eight original galleries a month around celebrities and pop-culture events like the Grammys, Golden Globes and *American Idol* resulting in 500,000 pageviews a month on average. Recapped and live tweeted weekly TV shows like *Scandal* with original voice. Contacted celebrities for regular on-camera visits. Managed the brand's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts to drive traffic. Edited and produced freelance articles. Attended industry events in evenings and on weekends.

Essence Magazine, New York, NY

June 2010 – August 2010

Editorial Assistant (Internship)

Wrote and edited articles for the 40th anniversary issue of Essence magazine. Interviewed celebrities and generated news and entertainment topics for culture section. Performed administrative duties to ease workload of entertainment director and senior editors. Regularly pitched story ideas and researched daily entertainment news.

Z!nk Magazine, New York, NY

January 2010 – June 2010

Editorial Assistant (Internship)

Wrote and maintained the magazine's first-ever men's weekly fashion column for Zink.com. Pitched and executed stories on men's fashion trends for monthly magazine. Fact checked and researched entertainment and culture news, trends, hot

topics and product news items for website. Joined editorial team to brainstorm interview questions for models and designers.

The Light Magazine, Charlottesville, VA

Fashion Editor (Intern, Fashion Editor)

January 2008 - May 2009

Given the title and responsibilities of fashion editor upon arrival for The Light Magazine with a circulation of 15,000. Expansively developed fashion section by creating spreads to suit magazine's target audience of 25-40-year-old African-Americans.

V Magazine, Charlottesville, VA

August 2005 - May 2009

Fashion Editor

Created editorial vision, designed pages, acted as photo editor, assigned duties to fashion staff, managed fashion budget and wrote articles to accompany fashion spread twice a semester. Managed all aspects of editorial production for the fashion pages of student-run magazine at the University of Virginia with a circulation of 3,000.

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York, NY

Magazine concentration with coursework in cultural affairs, pop culture, traditional news, photography. Staff writer and multimedia contributor for TheBrooklynInk.com, a daily, student-run online newspaper, and The New York Review of Magazines, a student-produced publication on the magazine industry.

Bachelor of Arts, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

English major, French minor. Fashion Editor of V Magazine, Resident Advisor, Co-Chair of the Peer Advisor Program of the Office of African-American Affairs.

SKILLS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

Multimedia: Photoshop, Bridge, Wordpress, Adobe Illustrator, Final Cut Pro, PowerPoint, Moveable Type, Crowd Fusion, Drupal

Photography: Professional photographer using Canon 6D DSLR.

Languages: Fluent in French.