

Maina Durafour

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EDUCATION

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Journalism, May 2024

Related courses: Newswriting, Broadcast, Podcasting, Environmental Journalism, Multiplatform Editing, Visual Journalism

SKILLS

Adobe: Audition, Premier Pro, Photoshop, Lightroom Classic | WordPress | S.E.O writer | Web, newspaper, and TV news writing | Pitching stories ideas | Storytelling | Self-publishing | Respecting deadlines

Languages: French (native) | English (fluent – C2) | Italian (intermediate - B1) | Spanish (beginner – A1)

Intercultural Fluency: I love to travel, and discover new cultures, arts, history, and ways of living. Being an immigrant has made me flexible and given me strong environment adaptability as well as understanding and listening to others' stories.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

The New Britain Herald, New Britain, CT

Freelance writer, August 2024 – present

- Pitch original story ideas about cultural events
- Proceeding to interviews, audio recording and writing respecting the AP style guide
- Taking pictures to illustrate the article

People Are Culture and Flip the Lens, online

Intern, January 2024 – May 2024

PAC is a website and FTL is a YouTube channel created by Meg Pier that reports about people's cultures or cultural events/places.

- Pitch original story ideas for both written articles and videos according to SEO guideline
- Conducting interviews with a variety of people from around the world
- Film and editing video interviews for the YouTube channel such as “*What Is An Art Curator?*”, “*What Does It Mean To Be An Art Curator?*”
- Social media publication: creation of shorts for YouTube, promotion of the content, publication of polls on LinkedIn, and creation of Infogram.

The Daily Campus, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Contributing Writer, January 2023- January 2024

The Daily Campus is the student-run newspaper of UConn.

- Report and write stories about timely events on campus, news and features stories such as “*University of Connecticut faculty members are working to revive native plants on the roadside of New England*”, “*Remembering the Shoah, a Holocaust Remembrance at the University of Connecticut*”, “*University of Connecticut on the tip of Mount Washington with the Outing club*” or “*UConn and CT State Museum of Natural History to host educational hike and trail cleanup to celebrate Earth Day.*”
- Pitch original story ideas and interview students, faculty members, and sources outside of the school environment.
- Respect for the deadline, use of AP style, and clean copy.
- Photograph for “*Remembering the Shoah, a Holocaust Remembrance at the University of Connecticut.*”

UCTV, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Assistant News Director focusing on editing, September 2023-January 2024

UCTV is the student-run news channel.

- Teamwork for stand-up reporting or camera recording for events happening on campus, using professional cameras.
- Editing of 2-minute-long video packages including voice-over and videos.

Marquee Brand – Martha Stewart, New York, NY

Production Assistant freelance, January 2022-April 2024

- Contributing with setting up the environment for shooting videos and photos, including learning how to arrange things for the camera, how to find a good angle and light, and understand what shows well or not in a photography/video.
- Cleaning up post-production, inventorying, and reorganizing of products.

The Day, New London, CT

Freelance journalist, November 2022

- Interviewed Holly Cheeseman, a Connecticut House of Representatives member, representing District 37 to help cover the election.
- Wrote contribution for the article about election in the towns of East Lyme, Salem, and Montville.

WORK EXPERIENCE

UConn Catering, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Student Manager, October 2023-May 2024

- Use of Microsoft suite, transferring knowledge and skills to new student-workers, interacting with others, and motivating the team to put catering back on its level pre-covid.