

Carla R. Thompson
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Professional Experience

Writing

Freelance Culture Critic Brooklyn, NY 2007-present
Specializing in pop culture, television, politics and business

Blogs

The Ride: Popping Off About Pop Culture (<http://cwrite.wordpress.com>)

Milestones

#47 Blog of the Day – Growing Blogs – October 8, 2008 (WordPress)

“Featured Post” on several WordPress tags

Articles Featured in “News” on Wordpress.com main page. Categories: Sports, Entertainment and Health

Article Links featured on Huffington Post (MSNBC page) and CNN.com (“Fareed Zakaria GPS”)

Increased traffic year-over-year on average by at least 400 percent.

Blogcritics Magazine (<http://blogcritics.org>)

Contributing Writer

Featured in *Houston Chronicle* article, “Is Oprah Backlash Gathering Steam?” (Dec. 2007)

Freelance Journalist Montgomery, AL/Brooklyn, NY 2000-2006
Wrote news, feature, and op-ed articles for both online and print media. Covered a variety of topics including: education, small business, career, and social policy.

Publications

Black Enterprise	Women’s eNews
AOL Black Voices	Gotham Gazette
Huntsville (AL) Times	BlackAmericaWeb
Alternet	BET.com
Birmingham (AL) News	Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Montgomery (AL) Advertiser	SUCCEED Magazine

Awards: Capital Press Women’s Contest – Writing for the Web-Features
1st Place (Women’s eNews)
National Federation of Press Women Communications Awards
Writing for the Web – Features, Honorable Mention
(Women’s eNews)

Author

Bearing Witness: Not So Crazy in Alabama (August Press 2005) – memoir
Reviewed by: Booklist, Library Journal, Baltimore City Paper, Mosaic Literary Magazine, and Black Issues Book Review.

60 Seconds to Shine Volume IV: 161 One-Minute Monologues from Literature (Smith and Krauss; November 2007) –excerpt from *Bearing Witness* included in anthology.

Media

Guest Co-Host

"Screen Time" (*BlogTalkRadio*) Brooklyn, NY 2008
 Co-host for weekly half-hour show about all things television.

Co-Host

WVAS-FM (90.7) Montgomery, Alabama 2001 - 2002
 Served as co-host for *Open Mic*, an hour-long daily talk/news call-in show. Developed and researched topics. Scheduled and pre-interviewed guests. WVAS-FM is an 80,000 watt NPR affiliate located on the campus of Alabama State University and serving south central Alabama. Guests included: author Randall Kennedy, talk show hosts, Farai Chideya and Tavis Smiley, and former Alabama governor Don Siegelman.

Producer/Writer/Director

Rainmaker Productions Los Angeles, CA 1995- 1997

The Root of It All (Distributor – National Film Network)

A short video documentary that explores how hair takes on social, political, and emotional significance in the lives of African American women.

Award: Honorable Mention- 37th Annual Rochester International Film Festival

A Hill of Our Own

A short narrative film that explores the issue of class through the relationship of two little girls who live at opposite ends of a hill and of the socioeconomic spectrum. Features T'Keyah Crystal Keymah of Disney Channel's *That's So Raven*.

Award: Artistic Director's Award of Merit – Sinking Creek Film and Video Festival, Nashville, TN

Education**Adjunct Instructor/Visiting Assistant Professor of Communication Studies**

Proficient in the use of instructional technology at the college/university level.

Courses Taught

Public Relations	Writing for Public Relations
Business Communication	Public Speaking
Communication Techniques	Theories of Communication and Persuasion
Seminar in Video Production	

Institutions

Fordham University-Lincoln Center	New York, NY	2006 - present
Baruch College (CUNY)	New York, NY	2006 - 2009
Brooklyn College (CUNY)	Brooklyn, NY	2003 - 2006
Auburn University at Montgomery	Montgomery, AL	1998-1999, 2001, 2002
Huntington College		1998 – 1999

Special Student Projects

Assisted students in the development of a movement campaign to create awareness of date rape and domestic violence. Culminated in a "Take Back the Night" candlelight vigil. (Theories of Communication and Persuasion)

Guided students in the creation of a comprehensive study of the Evening College. Examined the following: recruitment, marketing, student life, and financial aid. Compared Huntington to other institutions offering similar services. Offered analysis and recommendations for change. Presented findings to the Dean of the Evening College. Produced document that was used an

official document of the Evening College. (Business and Professional Communication)

Member

Curriculum Outcome Assessment Program (COAP) – a college-wide program to assess student learning across a number of core competencies. Communication Studies COAP team assessed oral communication. (Baruch College)

Advisor

Faculty Advisor – Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority – Rho Chi Chapter (Huntington College)
Member – Publications Board – Collaborated with editors and faculty in judicial matters and policymaking for yearbook, newspaper, and literary magazine. (Huntington College)

Judge

Spring Speech Festival 2008 (“The Price is Right for Going Green”) – Member of a panel of three faculty members/business professionals evaluating student presentations for annual school-wide competition (Baruch College)

Award: Grant Recipient – Conference on College Composition and Communication (2007)

Marketing and Public Relations

Acting Director of Public Relations and Marketing/Public Relations Associate

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Montgomery, Alabama 1999-2002
Developed publicity campaigns and implemented strategies that promoted the Museum as an attraction for cultural, educational and recreational enjoyment. Wrote and distributed news releases and PSAs. Pitched stories to local, regional, and national media. Worked with professional firms and media representatives to design and publish collateral materials. Wrote copy for Museum magazine and collateral materials. Created and outreach programs for underserved audiences. Participated in community/staff project management teams. Scheduled media interviews for staff and special guests. Supervised PR Secretary and volunteer staff.

Writing for the Media Seminar

Seraaj Family Homes Montgomery, Alabama 2002
Created and conducted a day-long seminar for the marketing staff of a state-wide social services agency.

Volunteer Activities

Team Leader/Volunteer

Brooklyn Jubilee Brooklyn, NY 2006 – 2007
Volunteer for faith-based legal services nonprofit which provides counseling in the areas of housing, food stamps and health insurance.

Board of Directors/Vice Chair

Aid to Inmate Mothers (AIM) Montgomery, AL 2000
Wrote op-ed about organization for Alabama newspapers. Assisted Executive Director in working with the media to promote AIM. Coordinated an exhibition of inmate art which was displayed at the Montgomery-area Barnes and Noble. Chaired the Long Range Planning Committee. Developed a survey to assess the skills and resources of board members.

Education

Loyola Marymount University Los Angeles, CA
MFA – Communication Arts Major: Television Production
Honors: Bill Cosby Award – Graduate Division
Professor Gertrude Rivers Robinson Award for Achievement - Graduate Division

Northwestern University Evanston, IL
Bachelor of Science in Speech Major: Communication Studies