

ELNA SCHÜTZ

Resumé

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EMPLOYMENT

Freelancer

2019 - now

Currently I work as a freelance journalist and producer for various outlets locally and internationally, examples of which you can find on my website.

This has included writing, such as for the Daily Maverick and Deutsche Welle, as well as audio, such as for the BBC and PRX's The World. My longer form audio recording work includes stories for Undark and Proof by America's Test Kitchen. I have conceptualised and executive produced podcasts for corporate, educational, and journalistic institutions, such as the University of Pretoria and CIVICUS. My regular clients for podcast production have included Curio and The Economist, and I host podcasts, like GE Vital Voices. I have photographed for the Associated Press.

Podmeet

2016 - now

Podmeet is a networking and training project for podcasters that I founded to grow the South African industry. I plan and host events in two cities and provide on-going support to podcasters between meetings. This project was started while at the Wits Radio Academy and is done ongoingly with their support.

Content producer, Wits Radio Academy

2014 - 2018

As executive producer of two weekly radio shows I managed and trained teams of students for The Science Inside and The Business Buzz. This included conceptualising, researching and on-air producing shows, reporting and editing stories, and managing the digital strategy. I also presented the science show and previously produced a legal show, Law Focus.

I worked with community radio stations, such as training and content support. I also lead various other short-term projects, such as a series of audio documentaries about migration. Crossings was nominated for a 2017 Liberty Radio Award.

STATEMENT

I am a passionate and experienced freelance journalist who is highly proficient in creating a variety of content from news to long-form.

My work has spanned radio, podcasting, writing, and photography.

I am particularly interested in stories that illustrate macro issues through a micro or personal lens. Topic areas I regularly cover include health and human rights.

I am enthusiastic, highly organised, and motivated, with the ability to work flexibly and beyond the call of duty.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Journalism (cum laude)

Rhodes University, South Africa
2010 - 2013

A 4-year Honours level degree specialising in radio broadcasting, with a second major in English and minors in politics, psychology, anthropology & sound technology.

Graduated with academic colours and was on Dean's list for academic achievements for 2010, 2012 & 2013.

IEB NSC Matric

German School Pretoria
1997 – 2008

Graduated with 5 distinctions.

EMPLOYMENT continued

Scripting and production support, Alibi

April 2016

This serialised criminal justice podcast was one of the first of its kind in South Africa. My role included script editing and advice, as well as narration support.

Presenter at Rhodes Music Radio

2013

As on-air anchor and producer for the Weekend Wake Up Call on the student radio station, I planned and presented content and music.

Executive producer at Upstart Radio February – June 2013

Here I lead a team in producing a weekly community youth show on Rhodes Music Radio. This included liaising between organisers and providing regular feedback reports, as well as training and guiding the team of teenage contributors.

Arts & Entertainment editor at Activate

September 2011 - September 2012

After spending a previous year as writer for the student newspaper Features section, I edited the arts section. This included planning and editing content, working within the editorial team, and overseeing a team of writers, as well as writing regular editorials.

OTHER

South African Freelancers' Association

National Press Club

Foreign Correspondents' Association SA

South African Science Journalists' Association

Current member

Discovery Health Journalism Awards

Best Radio Journalism winner for 'Collective' (2018)

Liberty Radio Awards

Nominee in the radio documentary category (2017)

Nominee for business and finance show (2018 & 2019)

Heidelberg Laureate Forum (2016 & 2017)

World Science Forum, Jordan (2017)

World Conference of Science Journalists (2019)

Awarded a journalist's travel grant

Epidemiology course for Africa-based journalists

held by McGill University, Bhekisisa Centre for Health Journalism and others.

SKILLS

Radio, audio & podcasting

Excellent content conceptualisation, production and presenting.

Journalism

Highly proficient interviewing, research, writing and sub-editing

Sound engineering

Strong audio editing and mixing (Adobe Audition, Audacity, Descript, Hindenburg, ProTools)

Leadership, training and facilitation

Management and training of both existing and new teams.

Social media

Planning and management of various online platforms

Organisational skills

Exemplary time management and planning, including events

Languages

Fluent German and English, competent Afrikaans, with basic French and rudimentary isiZulu. Professional transcription and translation experience.

REFERENCES

Kindly request references.
