

Emily Swanson

Reporter

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Backstory

Before moving from Minneapolis to New York City to pursue a pivot into journalism, I had long careers as a high school English teacher and restaurant chef. Thanks to my unconventional experience, I bring a unique perspective to my new career and can comfortably engage in diverse environments.

Career highlights

CUNY Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism
/ Reporting Coach for Mott Haven Herald
JUNE THROUGH DECEMBER 2025, NEW YORK, NY

Assists with planning the South Bronx reporting classes and will coach fall semester students on story ideas, research, sourcing and overall Bronx familiarity.

Bronx Times / Intern, Freelancer and Staff Reporter
JUNE 2023 TO PRESENT, BRONX, NY

Publishes 1-2 daily stories (over 450 total) covering Bronx events, politics, business, housing, development, nonprofit work, arts and more. Notable coverage includes the local [barbershop](#) that hosted a Trump visit, security guards [who did not get paid](#) after their employer abruptly closed and [community opposition](#) to a new South Bronx migrant shelter. Also contributing to ongoing [affordable housing series](#) for amNewYork Metro.

The Guardian US / Freelance Reporter
NOVEMBER 2024 TO PRESENT, NEW YORK, NY

Periodically reports for the daily news desk, 2-3 stories per shift. Wrote commissioned story on Mayor Eric Adams' plan to [reinstate a federal immigration office](#) at Rikers Island.

The Bronx Brewery / Bartender
SEPTEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2024, BRONX, NY

Engaged with customers as a once-weekly bartender at the South Bronx location.

THE CITY / Reporting Intern
JANUARY - APRIL 2023, NEW YORK, NY

Pitched, reported and collaborated with staff writers on local stories covering [community board attendance](#), [new trains](#), [E-Z Pass complaints](#), [Harlem's Langston Hughes house](#), [NYPD rookie beats](#) and more.

Mott Haven Herald & Hunts Point Express / Reporter

SEPTEMBER 2022 - MAY 2023, BRONX, NY

Reported in South Bronx neighborhoods for CUNY-run news outlets, including an [award-winning news package](#) on small business growth.

Hai Hai / Sous Chef and Chef de Cuisine

AUGUST 2019 - JULY 2022, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Managed kitchen staff, menu planning and daily operations for acclaimed Southeast Asian restaurant under James Beard Award-winning chef Christina Nguyen.

Osseo Area Schools / High School English Teacher

2003 - 2014, BROOKLYN PARK, MN

Taught Advanced Placement and mainstream English courses at diverse public high schools.

Education

CUNY Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism

AUGUST 2022 - DECEMBER 2023, NEW YORK, NY

M.A. Journalism with Urban Reporting concentration; president of Graduate Student Council; member of Asian American Journalists' Association.

St. Olaf College

1999-2003, NORTHFIELD, MN

B.A. English and teaching licensure for grades 5-12.

Awards

2024 Mark of Excellence Best in Show award 2024 and third place **2024 Eppy Award** for investigative package [Day Care Danger](#).

2023 SPJ Mark of Excellence Award for [news package](#) on post-pandemic business recovery in the Bronx.

2023 New York Press Association Better Newspaper Contest award (News category) for Bronx Times story on [street vendors](#) facing enforcement by city officials.