

# Thomas Sawano

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## Summary

Multimedia journalist and documentary filmmaker with experience producing visual reporting, photography, and short-form video for regional newsrooms including the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *San Francisco Standard*. Reporting interests include labor, climate adaptation, local politics, and community-driven social movements.

## Experience

### Associate Producer | **Not In Our Town**

Jan. 2026–Present

- Produced and managed field production for a documentary short series following community responses to ICE activity in Minneapolis.
- Shot interviews, captured vérité footage, recorded production sound, and conducted field research during production.
- Coordinated post-production workflows and managed story development across multiple short-form documentary pieces.

### Photo Intern | **The San Francisco Standard**

June 2025–Sep.2025

- Produced photography and cinemagraphs for 40+ assignments across the Bay Area.
- Covered local politics, culture, and community events for digital publication.
- Occasionally served as a photo desk editor, coordinating assignments and managing visual layouts in the publication CMS.

### Visual Intern | **The San Francisco Chronicle**

June 2024–Aug. 2024

- Reported and produced multimedia stories on labor, education, and local community issues.
- Shot photography and short documentaries for digital and social platforms.
- Collaborated with reporters, editors, and producers on daily newsroom coverage.

### Correspondent Intern | **Lookout Santa Cruz**

Aug. 2022–Dec. 2022

- Reported on local government, electoral politics, and environmental issues in Santa Cruz County.
- Contributed breaking news and atmospheric storm coverage as part of the newsroom's Pulitzer Prize-winning reporting team.
- Produced enterprise reporting and feature stories across multiple local beats.

## Selected Work & Recognition

- *The Glacier Wedding* – Premiered at HOT DOCS International Documentary Festival, 2026
- Pulitzer Prize-winning storm coverage contributor – *Lookout Santa Cruz*, 2024
- Philomathia Foundation Grant Recipient – UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism

## Education

### University of California, Berkeley

Master's of Journalism, Documentary Filmmaking, 2025

- Department Fellow
- Graduate Student Instructor, Fall 2024

### University of California, Santa Cruz

B.A. in Philosophy, B.S. in Cognitive Science, 2022

- Reporter and City Desk Editor for student weekly *City on a Hill Press*.
- University of Edinburgh semester abroad in Fall 2021.

## Skills

- Multimedia reporting
- Photojournalism
- Documentary video production
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Photoshop & Lightroom
- CMS publishing
- Interviewing
- Breaking news coverage
- Assignment coordination
- AP-style newsroom workflows