

Contact

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Top Skills

Blogging

Journalism

Editing

Maya Rhodan

Writer. Storyteller.

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Maya Rhodan is D.C.-based writer and communications professional. She was previously a staff writer at TIME Magazine and has contributed to ESSENCE and FORTUNE magazines. As a political reporter, she has covered the White House, the Supreme Court, Congress, and immigration policy, the intelligence community, criminal justice, and race-relations.

In 2014, Maya wrote an award-winning report on African American women's reproductive rights for Essence's May 2014 issue. In 2015, she was a part of a two-woman team dispatched to Charleston, S.C. to report on the aftermath of the Emanuel AME Church shooting. The team won a Deadline Club award for their gripping report. In 2016, Maya conducted an exclusive, on-camera interview with U.S. President Barack Obama and prima ballerina Misty Copeland.

A 2012 graduate of Howard University's School of Communications, she has also written and reported for The Center for Public Integrity, Ebony.com, Washington City Paper, Washingtonian Magazine, and the NNPA newswire and its member newspapers.

Experience

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Director of Speechwriting

April 2022 - Present (1 year 6 months)

Smithsonian Institution

Digital Content Producer-National Museum of African American History and Culture

November 2018 - April 2022 (3 years 6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Manages storytelling for and about a major public outreach arm of the Museum, the Center for the Digitization of African American History, including the management of a public storytelling platform

- Helped lead a public storytelling initiative on American experiences during Covid-19 pandemic and racial justice programming alongside curators and other museum leaders
- Produces, writes, and edits a quarterly newsletter with distribution of 1,000+, the first of its kind for the Center
- Successfully developed and executed press and marketing strategy for a month-long activation in Chicago, Ill. including a Chicago Tribune cover story, morning media hits, and primetime public radio broadcasts

Time Magazine DC Bureau

Staff Writer

July 2013 - November 2018 (5 years 5 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Regularly produced informative content for the news magazine's website and print publication
- Interviewed lawmakers and Washington power players—including an exclusive, on-camera interview with President Barack Obama and prima ballerina Misty Copeland, one of several exclusive interviews with cabinet-level officials in the Obama administration.
- Covers breaking news and writes magazine features, including an award winning piece on the aftermath of the Emmanuel A.M.E. church shooting
- Other positions held include TIME White House Correspondent from 2015-2016; web reporter from 2014-2015; intern/editorial assistant from 2013-2014

National Newspaper Publishers Association

National Correspondent

September 2012 - May 2013 (9 months)

Washington, DC

- One of two Washington-based reporters covering national news for Black community newspapers across the country; from health to voting rights, education, and women's rights.
- Wrote 5 front-page articles for NNPA member newspapers including Dallas Weekly, The Washington Afro, and The District Chronicles
- Maintained and produced content that drove traffic to the Black Press USA website

Washingtonian Magazine

Editorial Intern

May 2012 - September 2012 (5 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Interviewed prominent figures in the Washington community for magazine features including "Great Hair" in the September 2012 issue and a feature on pet care for the Nov. 2012 issue
- Performed administrative tasks such as internal mail distribution
- Assisted in the production and success of three Washingtonian events

Washington City Paper

Editorial Intern

January 2012 - May 2012 (5 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Wrote, pitched, and fact-checked articles and listings for the website and print publication
- Reported a breaking news story that brought over 200,000 viewers to the website
- Maintained the "Neighborhood News Roundup," a website staple
- Initiated "Norovirus Watch 2012," a news watch for the virus contracted by college students in the D.C. area

The Hilltop Newspaper

2 years 1 month

Editor-In-Chief

May 2011 - May 2012 (1 year 1 month)

- Led a 30-person team of student journalists and editors who wrote, edited, and produced Howard University's award winning bi-weekly print newspaper with a weekly circulation of 18,000
- Served on an executive board with school administrators; maintained payroll; secured advertising in order to keep the paper running independently of the university
- Increased social presence and advanced digital-first strategy to expand the paper's web audience; weekly readership increased 150% year-to-year
- Implemented a donation-based paywall via CollegePublisher CMS to encourage alumni and student contributions to the student-run publication

Metro Editor

May 2010 - April 2011 (1 year)

Wrote and edited stories for the metro section of the biweekly Howard University publication. Section connected Howard University students to the greater DMV area.

The Center for Public Integrity

Intern- International Consortium of Investigative Journalists

June 2011 - August 2011 (3 months)

Assisted international journalists with research for long-term investigations on Health, Oil, Federal aid for natural disasters and Mining in Colombia and Venezuela. Also, composed tweets and Facebook posts to maintain ICIJ's social media outlets, and wrote articles for the iWatch News website

Education

Howard University

B.A, Print/Online Journalism · (2008 - 2012)