

# CARA NISSMAN

www.caranissman.com

## EXPERIENCE

Freelance Journalist, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Nov. 2003-Present

- Formulate and pursue stories for print and online publications about youths, families and individuals on diverse issues, including relationships, education, religion, finance, immigration, travel, books, health and welfare

LRP Publications, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

*Editor and reporter*

April 2006-Present

- Develop, report, write and edit multiple articles a week on school psychology and other education issues for online subscription-based resource *Special Ed Connection*. Also develop content for monthly newsletters, including *Early Childhood Report* and *Today's School Psychologist*
- Conceive, write and edit education guides on topics including autism, anxiety and other issues in schools
- Edit columns by renowned psychologists and educators
- Brainstorm ideas and contribute to the execution of education books, audio conferences, webinars, blogs and other products
- Attend multiple national conferences each year to stay abreast of changes in psychology and education and to interview education professionals, families and other experts on learning

Boston Herald, Boston, Mass.

*Features reporter*

Oct. 2001-Nov. 2003

- Conceived, researched and composed frequent features for the Lifestyle ("Edge") section (on family, entertainment, books, health, fitness, relationships, travel, fashion, home and more) and for supplements, including Learning, Travel, Brides, Home and Style
- Freelanced for other magazines and Web sites

*Teen reporter*

Dec. 2000-Nov. 2003

- Conceptualized, investigated and wrote weekly articles for the teen page "Your S.T.U.F.F." (Style, Triumphs, Upsets, Friends, Future)
- Wrote news features frequently regarding teens and served as teen expert of the newsroom
- Reviewed teen-related and teen-targeted tomes for the Books section
- Recruited and maintained the Boston Herald teen council, a large group of local teenagers who regularly offered input for stories, wrote their opinions and suggested sources

- Assigned and edited teen contributions, including a girl's account of losing her friend to drunk driving
- Spoke frequently at schools about journalism and media literacy

*Editorial assistant for Lifestyle section*

Nov. 1999-Dec. 2000

- Freelanced regularly for Family, Style, Learning, Books, Brides, Travel and Home sections and supplements

Women's Health Online (now defunct), Boston, Mass.

Teen health columnist

Feb. 2002-May 2002

- Launched position at online publication devoted to female health
- Conceived, reported and wrote monthly articles dispelling myths about teen health concerns

Cinemanía, Madrid, Spain

Editorial intern

Spring 1999

- Wrote briefs and reviews in Spanish for monthly Spanish movie magazine
- Researched in English and Spanish for staff members' articles

The Boston Book Review, Cambridge, Mass.

Editorial intern

Fall 1998

- Proofread and standardized stories for monthly literary magazine
- Informed writers and reviewers of requirements and rejections
- Wrote contributors' notes

Boston's Roommate Magazine, Brookline, Mass.

Editorial assistant

Summer 1998

- Conceptualized, wrote and edited articles for monthly real estate and city life magazine
- Proofread entire magazine, which encompassed ads, articles, graphics and headlines

CommonWealth Magazine, Boston, Mass.

Editorial intern

Spring 1998

- Wrote articles for Inquiries section of quarterly political magazine
- Aided in editing page proofs of Spring 1998 issue

CFO magazine, Boston, Mass.

Editorial intern

Fall 1997

- Wrote "Product Corner" columns at monthly business magazine
- Verified facts and proofread copy

Movieline magazine, Los Angeles, Calif.

Editorial intern

Summer 1997

- Proofread copy at monthly entertainment magazine
- Verified facts with publicists and agents

## **EDUCATION**

University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism, Adelphi, Md.

"Condition Critical: Covering Children's Health," March 14-18, 2004

- Took part in five-day conference to learn latest trends in kids' health and to brainstorm inventive coverage

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York City

"Children and Mental Illness: What Do We Really Know? A Colloquium on Coverage That Makes A Difference," Oct. 3-5, 2003

- Discussed the latest findings in kids' mental health and the responsibility of the press in reporting on these issues

University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism, Washington, D.C.

Journalism Fellowship in Child and Family Policy, Sept. 2003

- Attended weeklong conference on reporting about child and family health and welfare, juvenile justice, education and public policy, kicking off a funded short-term investigation of child interpreters in immigrant families

Boston University, College of Communication, Boston, Mass.

Bachelor of Science in Journalism, cum laude May 2000

- Major: Magazine Journalism
- Minor: Spanish Literature
- University Scholarship for Merit; Pamela Posen Endowed Memorial Scholarship; Dean's List; Golden Key National Honor Society

Boston University Madrid Internship Program

Jan. 1999-Aug. 1999

Wrote reviews and summaries in Spanish for Cinemanía, Spain's premiere movie magazine, while excelling in Spanish-only classes delving into Spanish art history, cinema and theater and traveling around Europe at every opportunity

## **SKILLS**

- Strong command of Spanish
- Fastidiousness in editing, proofreading and fact checking
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Adobe InCopy and InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Publisher, Quark X-Press, Microsoft Excel and Macromedia Dreamweaver for Macintosh and PC systems

