

JIM KILLAM

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OBJECTIVE

To steward God's stories: Use my experience in journalism, teaching and servant leadership to produce remarkable stories and publications that engage audiences in his work around the world.

EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer / Editor

1995-present

Writing, editing, design, photography and videography for numerous ministries and nonprofits. Website and social media manager. Magazine, book and newspaper writer. Trainer in writing, photographer, videography.

Story Director / Director of Field Communications

2014-18

Seed Company, a Wycliffe Bible Translators affiliate, Arlington, Texas.

- Led a team of 20 writers and editors in reporting on hundreds of Bible translation projects worldwide.
- Lead writer/editor for Seed Company's magazine, annual report, investor reports, books, and publications and scripts for world-class funding events.
- Developed and taught impact-reporting workshops to ministry teams around the world.
- Led media teams on in-depth reporting trips.
- Developed media training materials that are shared with other ministry organizations.

Missionary Journalist

2011-14

Served with ReachGlobal, the missions arm of the Evangelical Free Church of America. Developed Crossfield News (www.crossfieldnews.com). Duties included worldwide backpack reporting; editing; and developing an internship program and cross-cultural journalism training for students, career missionaries and short-term teams. Support-based position.

Student Publications Adviser

1995-2012

The Northern Star, a 16,000-circulation daily print and online newspaper for Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois. Led and advised staff of 125 in student-operated media. Worked with students in areas of reporting, writing, editing, page design, photography, graphics, production, Internet, interactive media, overall management and, to some degree, advertising and circulation. The Northern Star won hundreds of state and national awards during my tenure.

Journalism Teacher

1997-2012

Adjunct at Northern Illinois University: Taught sophomore- through senior-level courses in news writing, beat reporting, feature writing, sports journalism, publication design and magazine editing.

Newspaper Editor

1985-95

Served in leadership roles at three different daily newspapers in Illinois and Wisconsin. Titles included wire editor, associate news editor, writing coach and managing editor.

EDUCATION

- Northern Illinois University, B.A. 1985. Major: Journalism. Minor: History.
- American Press Institute, Reston, Virginia, 1989: Course for managing editors and executive editors.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Evangelical Press Association, 2013-present. Presenter at national conference.
- College Media Advisers, 1995-2012. Chair, Photojournalism Committee, 1997-99; presenter at national conventions, 1996-2012. Hosted and programmed faith-based journalism track, 2012.
- Dart Center for Journalism & Trauma, 2008-2012. Presenter at conferences for professional and collegiate journalists.
- Illinois College Press Association. 1995-2012. President, 2000-2003.
- Student Press Law Center. Board of Directors, 2002-2003.
- Northern Illinois Newspaper Association. Communications Coordinator, 1996-2012.

BOOKS

- *Go Tell It: How and Why to Report God's Stories in Words, Photos and Videos*. 2014, Moody Publishers.
- *When God is the Life of the Party: Reaching Neighbors Through Creative Hospitality*, 2003, NavPress.
- *Rescuing the Raggedy Man: The Story of the Rockford Rescue Mission*, 2004, Xulon Press.

AWARDS

Staff Awards

- Evangelical Press Association: First Place, Missions Publication, 2016.
- Associated Collegiate Press: National Pacemaker Award, 2008. Finalist, 1999, 2009. Collegiate equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize.

Individual Awards

- Counsel & Capital: Best Annual Report Letter, 2017
- Northern Illinois University: Journalism Alumnus of the Year, 2008; Northern Star Hall of Fame, 2013.
- Evangelical Press Association: Higher Goals in Christian Journalism Award, first place, Freelance Article, 2014; third place, Critical Review, 2001; second place, Column, 2007.
- Illinois Associated Press: first place, Public Service Reporting, 1990 (also named statewide best of show winner).
- AP Photo of the Month, February 2008.
- American Planning Association Journalism Award “for public service rendered in the advancement of city and regional planning through outstanding journalism,” 1991.
- Numerous other state and regional writing and editing awards.

SKILLS

- Adobe Creative Suite: InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Lightroom, Acrobat, etc.
- Project Management applications Wrike, Basecamp.
- Website / CMS management.
- DSLR cameras; video cameras.
- Wordpress website development / management.
- Print publication design.