

Mark Guarino

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Digital-forward journalist who excels at national news, cultural trend features, and enterprising stories that take a deeper cut into the headlines of the day. A data-driven writer who understands delivering spot news in real time and utilizing social media for sourcing and reader engagement. Specialties are enterprising story ideas neglected by the competition and intersecting political and cultural trends to create analytic think pieces that speak to the current moment.

JOURNALISM

Freelance Journalist

Cover national news and culture out of Chicago and the greater Midwest for a variety of prominent international, national, and local media outlets. Coverage includes news features, political trend pieces, breaking news, Sunday arts features, business stories, cultural criticism and more. Areas of coverage include business, labor, crime, federal trials, state and city politics, hate crimes, the environment, culture, federal/state/city elections, more. Byline appears in:

The Washington Post
The Guardian
Al Jazeera America
The Chicago Tribune
Crain's Chicago Business
Reuters
Agence France-Presse (AFP)
Salon
Chicago Magazine
New York Magazine
Mojo

Past freelance stories have run in:

The New Orleans Advocate • People • The New York Times (reporting) • No Depression • SPIN • Midwest Living • Blurt • Harp • Paste • Jazz Times • The Chicago Reader • Blender • Punk Planet • North Shore Magazine • IIT Magazine • U.S. Catholic • Salt • Loyola Magazine • Chicago Life • Screen • The Wednesday Journal • The Forest Park Review

Midwest Bureau Chief: The Christian Science Monitor

November 2008 — November 2014

- Wrote breaking news and news analysis for csmonitor.com throughout day. Based in Chicago but often reporting from road throughout Midwest and the Gulf South.
- Wrote in-depth news features and arts/culture stories for online and weekly print magazine. Also frequently responsible for 4,500-word magazine cover stories.
- Coverage areas included national and state politics, domestic terrorism, Chicago politics, corruption and crime, Blagojevich trials, Penn State scandal, environmental issues and

disasters, agriculture, Detroit bankruptcy, same-sex marriage, automaker bankruptcies, pension crisis, urban renewal, poverty, religion, telecommunications legislation, post-Katrina New Orleans, and much more.

- At the forefront of the Monitor's Gulf Coast oil spill coverage, providing stories that touched upon all angles of the disaster, including engineering operations, the effect on Cajun culture and the seafood industry, the dispersants controversy, wildlife rescue, as well as daily updates on the ongoing recovery operations and subsequent claims process and federal trials.
- Besides covering the Midwest, also reported extensively from New Orleans, Mississippi, Tennessee, and other locations in the deep South.
- Media guest for many national radio and television talk programs including Sirius/XM POTUS Channel 124, NPR, Geraldo Rivera, Al-Jazeera, WGN, others.

Freelance Music Writer: The Chicago Sun-Times

July 2013 — February 2015

- Lead music writer/analyst covering national music artists and culture trend stories for suntimes.com and print.
- Stories include culture think pieces, artist profiles, reviews, and preview stories. Coverage includes updating culture blog, tweeting during major events such as Lollapalooza, Pitchfork Music Festival, more.
- Use WordPress to blog via suntimes.com; appear on video to provide analysis for major cultural events in Chicago area.

Senior Features Writer: Chicago Daily Herald

April 1997 — April 2008

Senior writer for third largest Illinois daily newspaper responsible for news stories, reviews, cultural think pieces, profiles, and general features relating to the national and local music scenes. Byline appeared in front news section, online, Friday guide, and living section. Also a frequent media expert (WGN, WMAQ, WBBM, WLS, WLUW, WCKG).

Metro Reporter: Chicago Daily Herald

August 1996 — April 1997

Wrote two to three local news stories daily, covering suburban Chicago. Also enterprised stories and wrote in-depth regional and news feature stories on a weekly basis.

Copy Editor: Chicago Daily Herald

June 1994 — August 1996

Copypedited local news copy, wrote headlines, composed pages.

BOOK

Under contract with the University of Chicago Press (press.uchicago.edu) for a non-fiction book.

EDUCATION

Bennington College, Bennington, VT
Master of Fine Arts (MFA), Writing

Loyola University Chicago
Bachelor of English (BA); Concentration: Creative Writing; Minor: Theology