



# MELANIE J. LAPLACA

AUTHOR | EDUCATOR | JOURNALIST

PEN NAME: MELANIE J. PELLOWSKI

## BOOKS

### SKYHORSE PUBLISHING

- *My Dearest Bridesmaid: A Heartfelt Keepsake from the Child in your Life*
- *My Dearest Sister: A Heartfelt Guide to the Love, Friendship, and Lifelong Bonds of Sorority Life*
- *The Pregnancy Primer: The Expectant Mother's Guide to all 9 Months*
- *The Teacher's Guide to Self-Care: The Ultimate Cheat Sheet for Thriving Through the School Year*

## CONTACT

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## MY STORY

*I am a freelance journalist who specializes in producing and writing human-interest features. Since making a transition into teaching, I have authored four gift books targeted at specific audiences including brides, sorority sisters, new mothers and teachers*

▶ FEATURE ARTICLES

▶ FEATURE VIDEOS

▶ VIDEO REEL

## CURRENT POSITION

South Hunterdon Regional School District

*Teacher of TV/Video Production | Lambertville, NJ; 2021-Present*

- Developed curriculum for new TV program.
- Created itemized log of studio equipment required to build a new high school television program.
- Produced multimedia content to highlight positive stories surrounding school district and local community.
- Conceptualized ways to connect staff and community members.
- Wrote and created multimedia content for monthly newsletter.

## CURRENT BOOK PROJECT

*Sports Girls Rule! The Softball Diamond*

A middle grade novel, inspired by personal and professional experiences, of the father-daughter bond developed through softball.

## EDUCATION

Boston University College of Communication

*MS Journalism 2008*

Douglass College, Rutgers University

*B.A. American Studies 2005 (HONORS)*

*MINORS: Theatre Arts & Mathematics*

- Phi Beta Kappa, Douglass College Scholar, Golden Key Honor Society 3.671 GPA, 129 degree credits; Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, Recruitment Chair

## SKILLS

Adobe Creative Suite, including: Photoshop, After Effects, Premiere Pro; Canva; WordPress; AP Wire: ENPS System; Final Cut Pro; Avid; Linear machine editing; Microsoft Office, digital video and still photography, digital audio recording and editing; voiceover talent.

# WORK HISTORY

## **HOPEWELL VALLEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL | Pennington, NJ | 2016-2021**

*Teacher of Television Production:* Developed Curriculum for TV Program; Created YouTube page featuring student-produced content. Guided students in producing weekly morning show that featured feel-good stories about students, staff & community members. Worked with superintendent to write and produce E-Learning content and positive stories highlighting the school community.

## **THE PATRIOT LEAGUE NETWORK | CENTER VALLEY, PA | 2013-2016**

*Host/Correspondent:* Produced in-depth video features and hosted programs highlighting Patriot League Schools. Reported live on sidelines. Conducted field and studio interviews

## **YURVIEW | REMOTE | 2014-Present**

*Freelance writer:* Enterprise and write feature stories for YurView.com

## **RCN | LEHIGH VALLEY, PA | 2015-2017**

*Take 5, SportsTalk:* Hosted live programming

## **5:00 FILMS AND MEDIA | NEW JERSEY | 2013-2014**

*Rebuilding Together:* Co-hosted web series on NY/NJ rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Sandy

## **FOOTBALL NATION | BOSTON, MA | 2012**

*Four Downs:* Hosted and scripted comedic web series that showcased the top 4 stories in football

## **MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL | NEW YORK, NY | 2012**

MLB Fan Cave Top-30 Finalist: Beat out over 20,000 national applicants

## **COX SPORTS NEW ENGLAND | RHODE ISLAND | 2009-2014**

*Varsity Life:* Reported, produced and edited local high school sports features; *An Interview with Ken Burns:* Hosted and produced interview special with Ken Burns; *20th Annual RI Open House & Air Show:* Hosted and produced Emmy-winning special; *Talkin' PawSox:* Co-hosted and produced sports magazine show covering Red Sox farm system; *RI State Cheerleading Competition:* Provided color commentator for live broadcast; *Cox Rhode Island Sports Awards:* Reported on the red carpet and produced feature packages; *Cox Sports Marathon broadcast:* Produced and edited feature stories; ran marathon; *Northeast Adventures:* Co-hosted local travel program; *Local Links:* Produced and edited feature packages for golf magazine show

## **CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE TV, LARSEN BAY LLC & NECN | BOSTON, MA | 2011**

*American's Best (Best of the Northeast):* Hosted New England travel program

## **NESN, METROPOLITAN PICTURES | BOSTON, MA | 2010-2011**

*Boston vs. the World:* Hosted boxing special and conducted on-camera interviews

## **COMCAST SPORTSNET NEW ENGLAND | BOSTON, MA | 2008**

Field produced hour-long football special

## **THE CORNER | YOUTUBE VENTURE | BOSTON, MA | 2008-2009**

Reported, produced and created online programming featuring Boston sports fan interviews

## **TRUMEDIA NETWORKS | BOSTON, MA | 2008-2009**

Reported and produced packages for sports fan social media outlet

## **CN8 THE COMCAST NETWORK | BOSTON, MA | 2008**

Backstage with Barry Nolan: Produced content for social media platforms

## **SOMEDIA NETWORKS | BOSTON, MA | 2008-2009**

VJIAMTV: Freelance video journalist: Produced, reported and edited packages

## **RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS | NEW JERSEY | 2008**

*Rutgers Football: A Gridiron Tradition in Scarlet:* Credited Photographer: Took photos of campus

## **MSNBC | National Broadcast | BOSTON, MA | 2007-2008**

*MSNBC On Campus:* Student news correspondent: Appeared live to discuss story with MSNBC host

## **KING WORLD | NEW YORK, NY | 2005-2006**

*Inside Edition:* Library Researcher, production assistant: Logged footage

## **NEW ENGLAND CABLE NEWS (NECN) | NEWTON, MA | 2007**

*Newsnight with Jim Braude:* General production intern: Organized live congressional debate

## **WCVB-TV, BOSTON CHANNEL 5 | BOSTON, MA | 2007**

*Team 5 Investigates:* Intern: Assisted producers with research of in-depth, investigative stories

## **NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK NEWS (NNN) | BOSTON, MA | 2006-2008**

General production intern of public access news program: Provided graphics, researched stories

## **BOSTON UNIVERSITY TELEVISION NETWORK (BUTV) | BOSTON, MA | 2006-2008**

Anchored, reported and produced content for newscasts

## **LATE NIGHT WITH CONAN O'BRIEN | NBC | NEW YORK, NY | 2005**

General Production Intern: Assisted writers and producers with various tasks

## **RUTGERS UNIVERSITY TELEVISION NETWORK (RUTV) | NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ | 2001-2005**

*Inside Rutgers:* Anchored, reported and produced campus news program

*Pass the Popcorn:* Hosted and scripted movie review show

## **RED LINE STUDIOS | NEW YORK, NY | 2004-2005**

*The Stranger Side:* Field production assistant: Assisted producers on site of TV documentary

*Jane Doherty Investigates:* Provided casting and field production assistance for TV documentary