

Makena Huey

award-winning journalist with a passion
for empowering others through storytelling



makenahuey.com



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EDUCATION

Pepperdine University

B.A. English - Writing & Rhetoric, Minor in Journalism
2017 - 2021
GPA: 3.98 (summa cum laude)

SKILLS

- WordPress, Microsoft Office
- Basic Spanish
- Leadership, project management, organization, attention to detail, strong work ethic, communication, social media
- Writing and editing, including AP Style

AWARDS & HONORS

- Associated Collegiate Press: Newspaper Pacemaker Winner, Online Pacemaker Winner, Magazine Pacemaker Finalist
- College Media Association: Best Special Edition
- LA Press Club's Southern California Journalism Awards: Best College Newspaper, 3rd Place
- Pepperdine Student Publications Awards: Superior Staff Member, Editorial Leadership, Best All-Around Contributor, Service Spirit
- Dubin Endowed Journalism Scholarship
- Blanche E. Seaver Faculty-Staff Scholarship
- Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society
- Dean's List (2017 - 2021)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Reporter

The Acorn Newspapers, May 2021 - Present

- Write around seven stories per week as the sole reporter for the Moorpark Acorn, covering local government, education, court and crime
- Cover county-wide events and topics for other four editions
- Design print edition of the Moorpark Acorn each week and manage website
- Establish Instagram presence to increase website traffic for all editions while maintaining the Moorpark Acorn's Facebook and Twitter accounts
- Contribute to Beyond the Acorn magazine and Branching Out podcast

Content Creator

MakeupByMakena.com, 2015 - Present

- Create written and visual beauty content for my website and social media accounts
- Collaborate with brands to increase sales and generate income

Executive Editor

Pepperdine Graphic Media, Spring 2021

- Oversaw Pepperdine's student-run multi-media publications
- Managed leadership team and remotely trained 80+ students
- Produced award-winning special edition about journalism
- Pioneered news literacy and diversity projects
- Worked 50 hours per week in digital-first newsroom

Managing Editor

The Graphic, Fall 2020

- Edited all content while managing staff
- Produced award-winning special edition of data journalism, writing story about sexual assault
- Covered breaking news (COVID-19, elections, Woolsey fire, Borderline shooting)
- Previous Roles: Copy Editor

Editorial Intern

San Diego Community News Group, Summer 2020

- Produced weekly pitches and assignments, writing several front-page articles
- Copy edited and assisted with page design while improving social media presence

Editor-in-Chief

Currents Magazine, Spring 2020

- Produced award-winning magazine about gender equality on campus, writing story about intersectional feminism
- Pitched magazine's theme, stories and visual elements while mentoring staff
- Previous Roles: Assistant Editor, Assistant, Copy Editor

Pepperdine University

- Pepperdine Writing Center Tutor (Fall 2018 - Spring 2021)
- Pepperdine Journalism Teaching Assistant (Spring 2019 - Spring 2021)
- Pepperdine Libraries Digital Collections Intern (Fall 2020 - Spring 2021)
- Pepperdine Research Intern (Spring 2021)