

# Elaine Vitone

## professional experience

### University of Pittsburgh

Senior Editor, *Pitt Med*: December 2013–Present

Write feature stories and write/produce *Pitt Medcast*, presenting complex scientific topics in the accessible, narrative-nonfiction style of the magazine. Manage the Investigations and Alumni News sections. Assist with aspects related to storyboarding, design, production, quality control, and on-time delivery. Supervise staff members and serve as a mentor. Work with freelance writers, negotiating fees, editing copy, and reviewing final layouts.

Associate Editor, *Pitt Med*: March 2010–December 2013

Analyzed and wrote about complex scientific material. Oversaw, developed, and managed two sections of the magazine, assigning stories to freelancers and the editorial intern. Contributed to the development of original ideas for stories and for photography and art to illustrate articles. Edited, proofread, and fact-checked.

### Freelance

Writer & Editor: May 2005–December 2012

Wrote as a generalist for national, regional, institutional, and online magazines, including *GQ*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *US Airways Magazine*, *Pennsylvania Pursuits*, *Pittsburgh* magazine, *Pitt Med*, *Pitt Magazine*, *Carnegie Magazine*, *Hofstra Law*, *Barnard Magazine*, *Spectrum*, *UB Today*, and *Old House Web*. Copyedited and proofread for *Pitt Magazine*, the University of Pittsburgh's Web Team, Carnegie Mellon University's School of Design, and Heartwood Institute.

**Jeanne Marie Laskas**, author and *GQ* correspondent

Researcher: October 2006–March 2010

Contributed to the development of original ideas for feature stories. Located and interviewed sources.

### WQED Multimedia

Contributing Editor: January–July 2007

Storyboarded and wrote three pages per issue of *Pittsburgh* magazine's Scoop section, including the section opener and several lifestyle columns.

Writer & Researcher: March–May 2006; March–May 2007

Updated and wrote openers for the "Arts & Leisure" and "Home & Garden" sections of *Pittsburgh City Guide 2007*.

### Creative Nonfiction Foundation

Assistant Editor, *Creative Nonfiction*: June 2004–April 2005

Assisted in the production of an international literary journal of quality nonfiction prose. Edited and copyedited writers' work. Wrote and designed flyers, advertisements, and other promotional materials. Maintained the foundation's web site.

Assistant Director, Mid-Atlantic Creative Nonfiction Summer Writers' Conference: Summer 2004

Assisted in coordinating event programming. Judged an essay contest for the Jewell Parker Rhodes Scholarship.

## education

### University of Pittsburgh

M.F.A., Writing, Concentration in Nonfiction: Spring 2006

### St. Edward's University, Honors Program

B.A., English Writing and Rhetoric, Summa Cum Laude: Spring 2000

## awards

### **National Association of Science Writers**

Excellence in Institutional Writing Award: 2018

### **Press Club of Western Pennsylvania**

Finalist, Golden Quill Award, Health/Science/Environment, Online: 2016

Finalist, Golden Quill Award, Health/Science/Environment, Online: 2013

### **Pennsylvania Women's Press Association**

First Place, Excellence in Journalism Award, Health/Science: 2015

### **Carnegie Science Center**

Science Communicator Award: 2014

### **International Association of Business Communicators, Pittsburgh Chapter**

Golden Triangle Award of Excellence, Interactive Media Design: 2013

Golden Triangle Award of Excellence, Features Writing: 2011

Golden Triangle Award of Honor, Features Writing: 2008

### **Association of American Medical Colleges Group on Institutional Advancement**

Award of Excellence, Robert G. Fenley Writing Awards, Basic Science Staff Writing: 2012

### **Old House Web**

Blogger Contest, First Place: 2009

### **Pittsburgh Black Media Federation**

Robert L. Vann Award of Excellence, Business Feature, First Place: 2008

### **University of Pittsburgh, English Department**

Creative Nonfiction Award: 2004

## skills

### **Mac OS X**

Proficient in Audition. Familiar with InDesign, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Drupal, WordPress, Soundtrack, iMovie, and social media.

## invited talks

### **University of Pittsburgh**

"Media Internships," a panel and networking event hosted by the Pitt Career Center, October 24, 2018. "How to write engaging, character-driven narratives that bring complex research to life for lay readers," a presentation for Pitt's Seminar in Composition/Writing in Medicine course, March 28, 2014. "Getting Started as a Freelance Writer," a panel presentation for Pitt's Creative Nonfiction Writers' Professional Development Society, April 12, 2007. "Careers in Nonfiction Writing," a panel presentation for Pitt's Senior Seminar course, March 27, 2007.

## volunteer experience

### **Liberty Elementary Academic Fund (LEAF)**

Communications Committee Member: September 2017–Present

### **National Book Critics Circle**

Writer & Researcher: June–July 2006

Assisted in composing a comprehensive guide to successful book reviewing.

Interviewed editors for Q&A's posted on Critical Mass, the NBCC blog.

### **Creative Nonfiction Writers' Professional Development Society**

Co-Founder & President: January–May 2006

Founded a student organization devoted to career development for students and alumni of the Creative Nonfiction MFA Program at the University of Pittsburgh.

### **Volunteers in Service to America**

Publications Editor, Texas Homeless Network: July 2000–July 2001

Edited, wrote, and designed the newsletter and all promotional materials.

### **The Homeless Media Project**

Editor-in-Chief, *the Austin Homeless Advocate*: July 2000–July 2001

Wrote, edited, and copyedited, and designed a newspaper and promotional materials. Coordinated community volunteers and homeless participants. Assisted in incorporating as a nonprofit and applying for tax-exempt status.