

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

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

Familiar with Indesign, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Drupal, Contribute, WordPress, Audition, Audacity, Soundtrack, iMovie, and social media.

invited talks

University of Pittsburgh

"How to write engaging, character-driven narratives that bring complex research to life for lay readers," a presentation for Seminar in Composition/Writing in Medicine: March 28, 2014;
"Getting Started as a Freelance Writer," a panel presentation for the Creative Nonfiction Writers' Professional Development Society: April 12, 2007; "Careers in Nonfiction Writing," a panel presentation for Senior Seminar: March 27, 2007.

volunteer experience

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 for a statewide membership organization of homeless service providers.

The Homeless Media Project

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

Wrote, edited, and copyedited stories, headlines, photo captions, and teasers.
Designed newspaper layout and promotional materials. Coordinated community volunteers and homeless participants. Assisted in incorporating as a nonprofit and applying for tax-exempt status.