

Zach Wendling

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EDUCATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Lincoln, NE

Bachelor of Journalism: Journalism

Expected graduation 05/2023

Bachelor of Arts: Political Science

GPA: 3.97/4.00

- UNL Honors Program | Regents Scholar | Founder, inaugural president of Society of Professional Journalists campus chapter

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nebraska Examiner — Lincoln, NE

Reporting Intern

01/2023 to present

- Working to assist three reporters in day-to-day and enterprise reporting of the Nebraska Legislature, the only Unicameral. Daily tasks have focused on hearings and floor debates on all subject matters, including education, insurance, health and transportation. Coverage has also been led on LGBTQ legislation, such as a nationally recognized filibuster and gender-affirming health care.

Nebraska News Service // KRNU // Nebraska Nightly — Lincoln, NE

Political Lead/Reporter

08/2022 to 12/2022

- Led political reporting for college's online wire service and assisted coverage on radio station and weekly student broadcast. Daily tasks included delegating assignments as available. During the 2022 midterm elections, joined bimonthly meetings as often the sole student representative to prepare for live broadcasts, social media and general coverage on election night.

The Hill — Washington, DC

Editorial Intern

05/2022 to 08/2022

- Published 18 articles on the most pressing topics facing the nation including abortion, guns, race in America, the 2022 midterms and the aftermath of Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. Led enterprise and day-to-day assignments.

Nebraska News Service — Lincoln, NE

Multimedia Journalist

01/2022 to 05/2022

- Contributed to more than 100 statewide wire service clients to supplement local coverage including frontpage stories.

The Daily Nebraskan — Lincoln, NE

Various (Senior News Editor, COVID Team Editor/Reporter, Assistant News Editor and News Reporter)

09/2019 to 02/2022

- Worked closely with newsroom sections and wrote more than 200 articles quickly and on deadline. Ensured cohesive reporting, smooth operations and close relationships with university administrators leading to weekly calls with top officials. Retained a dozen hired, quality talent staffers, assigning stories for five-day-a-week publishing in 15-week semesters. Only student report to consistently cover newly installed University of Nebraska system president and Board of Regents for more than a year.
- Temporarily left News at Editor-in-Chief's request to lead COVID Team. Culminated in a project documenting the virus's impact on campus of around a dozen enterprise stories (half personally written) one year after students were sent home.

The News Station — Washington, DC

Reporting Intern

06/2021 to 08/2021

- Published seven independent stories in a fast-paced environment learning directly from a 15-year Capitol Hill veteran. Topics included prison and drug policies, cannabis research and drug and overdose data.

RELEVANT SKILLS & MERITS

- Proficient with Microsoft Office 365, Google Drive, Adobe software, Flourish, Data wrapper and Knight Lab
- Intermediate understanding and comprehension of the Spanish language
- Amateur photography and videography skills, including with DSLR Sony and Cannon cameras

ADDITIONAL MERITS

- Examining relationships in nonpartisan Nebraska Unicameral for senior honors thesis Spring 2022-present
- Contributed to award-winning "Being Black in Lincoln" UNL depth-reporting class Spring 2021
 - Winner of the 2022 College Journalism Award from the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Foundation