

Cordell Jones

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Reporter June 2022 - Present

(Essence Magazine, Tallahassee Magazine, Scalawag Magazine, Tribe Magazine, | Remote Soundsphere Magazine)

Freelance Assignment Pitching and Reporting

- Pitched and wrote original features for national and regional outlets, including:
 - *Essence*: [Explored Historical Black College and University fashion culture on campuses such as FAMU and Howard](#)
 - *Scalawag*: [Covered stories on Black South Florida preservationists](#)
 - *Soundsphere*: [Reviewed the documentary "Slave Play, Not A Movie. A Play"](#)
 - *Tribe Magazine*: [Highlighted Tallahassee's emerging creative scene](#)
 - *Tallahassee Magazine*: [Profiled three rising local fashion designers and the local independent fashion scene](#)
 - *Miami Times*: [Reported on local black arts and culture features](#)
 - *Ebony*: [Contributing and pitching monthly stories as an entertainment and culture contributor](#)
 - *Yams The Magazine*: [Interviews with musical acts like Phabo and Jae Stephens](#)
 - *Burnaway*: [Conducted a studio visit with Miami-based artist Jevon Brown](#)
 - Hy-Lo News: [Converted two podcast episodes to engaging articles and social media posts](#)
- Demonstrated versatility in voice, tone, and storytelling across diverse editorial platforms for three years

The Miami Herald, Miami FL June 2025 - August 2025

Reporting Intern | Miami, FL

Consumer & Culture Reporting

- Researched and wrote 3–5 stories weekly on consumer-related issues, including a feature on [Gena Sims, founder of the Autism Theater Project](#), and [Orlando Plein, founder and owner of Lando Golds](#), to gain readership from over 30,000 local readers.
- Covered cultural topics relevant to Miami residents, such as [school zone activity and speed check cameras in Miami-Dade County](#).
- Collaborated with a six-person reporting team to develop and pitch stories on trending topics, including [new airport technology at Miami International Airport](#)
- Conducted interviews, gathered public feedback, and incorporated multimedia elements to enhance storytelling impact
- Contributed to weekly newsroom meetings and editorial planning sessions to align reporting with audience interests and publication goals

Big Bend Habitat for Humanity January 2025 - May 2025

Public Relations Intern | Remote

Community Public Relations

- Developed communication strategies and document plans to promote the work of Habitat for Humanity to the local Tallahassee community
- Delivered three campaigns through creating a newsletter, a brochure, and a press release for the local Habitat for Humanity
- Supported strategic planning for public outreach and digital content distribution

Journey Magazine August 2024 - May 2025

Copy Editor | Tallahassee, FL

Editorial Management, Writing, Idea Creation

- Led story development and editorial processes for a student-centered magazine focused on culture, fashion, and politics
- Collaborated with writers and photographers to produce over 20 published articles
- Facilitated reader engagement by incorporating feedback from 40+ students to guide story content and design

FAMU TV-20 August 2024 - December 2024

Camera Operator | Tallahassee, FL

Visual Storytelling, Pre-Production, Shot Composition

- Operated multiple cameras while learning about pre-production processes for broadcast television
- Helping in shot composition for studio shots and live shots to over 30,000 Tallahassee homes
- Managed script reading, camera operations, and studio conversations from the production bay and studio for the Fall 2024 season

WANM-FM (Student Radio Station) May 2024 - May 2025

Social Media Director | Tallahassee, FL

Social Content Creation, Content Scheduling, Analytics

- Created and scheduled 364+ multimedia posts across Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube
- Increased Instagram following by 9% and drove a 200–400% weekly growth in impressions and page views
- Developed cohesive branding and audience engagement strategies for a student-run station

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Journalism May 2025

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University | Tallahassee, FL

Relevant Coursework: Reporting and Writing, Magazine Article Writing, TV News, Communication Law and Ethics, Multimedia Oral Engagement, Visual Storytelling

KEY SKILLS

- **Reporting, Writing & AP Style**
- **Multimedia Production:** Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Audition, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, WordPress, CUE
- **Digital Media:** Social Media Strategy, Instagram, TikTok, and Youtube Analytics, Web Content, Content Ideation
- **Broadcast & Radio:** ENG Camera Operation, Audio Editing, Podcast Production

PROGRAMS, PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, AND CERTIFICATIONS

- **Programs:** Soho House Creative Futures Collective (2026) | Bloomberg Journalism Cohort (2025) | Bloomberg HBCU Academy of Excellence (2024) | Center for Journalism and Democracy Summit (2024)
- **Professional Organizations:** SFL Chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists (2026)
- **Certifications:** Adobe InDesign (2018), Microsoft Word (2018), Microsoft PowerPoint (2018), Adobe Dreamweaver (2019), Adobe Animate (2019), Adobe Premiere Pro (2020), Adobe Photoshop (2020)