JILL KARNICKI

**PHOTO EDITOR** | **VISUAL JOURNALIST**

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**PROFILE**

**Award-Winning Photojournalist and Editor** who makes insightful decisions about how audiences view the news through photos and videos. Drives readership, traffic, and social media engagement through compelling visual storytelling.

**Collaborative Team Leader** who coaches staff to excel beyond their comfort zone, establishes transparent communication, and promotes an inclusive environment, enabling cross-functional teams to thrive. Capitalizes on advanced technical skills to mentor and develop staff.

**EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Fine Arts, Illustration** Brooks Institute of Photography

**Master’s Program in Visual Communications** Ohio University

**AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS & AFFILIATIONS**

**2021| TXAPME Newsroom of the Year Award Winner**

Team leader in visual content

**2017 | Pulitzer Prize Finalist, Breaking News Reporting**

Led visual coverage capturing real-time developments of Hurricane Harvey and delivered crucial information to the community.

**2000 | Rotary Club International Cultural Exchange**

Professional cultural exchange in Southern India, including multiple presentations in India and follow-up presentations to Rotary Clubs in S. California.

**1995 - Present | National Press Photographer’s Association (NPPA)** Longest Standing Member

**1994 | Passage to a New India**

3-month selective admission international visual journalism program.

**CORE SKILLS**

Visual Content Development | Photo Editing | Team Leadership | Photojournalism

Newsroom Operations | DAM Software | Social Media | Slack | CCI

Adobe Photoshop, Premiere Pro | Photo Mechanic | Merlin | WCM | Microsoft Office

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**15 Years of Delivering Excellence in Photojournalism for The Houston Chronicle Media Group**

*5th Largest Sunday Publication in US* • *15M visitors, 1.1M weekly readers, 8.3M mobile visitors, 2M print readers*

✦ **CONTENT PHOTO EDITOR, DRIVER OF VISUAL STORYTELLING**

**The Houston Chronicle** | **2014 - Present**

* Leverage 20+ years of photo editing, illustration work, photography, and visual storytelling to coach a team of photographers, reporters, and other editors on best journalistic practices.
* Coordinate a staff of 10 visual journalists in the production of still photographs, video, digital content, and drone/aerial footage of all situations, including breaking news, natural disasters, civil unrest, and sporting events.
* Attend or facilitate multiple daily meetings, collaborating across cross-functional teams to craft inspiring visual narratives, prioritize stories, and manage long-term planning.
* Contribute to every aspect of the publication process, both in digital and print.
* Maintain a local and national freelance network of photographers to ensure comprehensive and unique coverage of planned, breaking, and high-profile events.
* Direct the daily visual news budget, website visuals, and picture editing duties.
* Guide visual direction on storytelling and manage visual content development.

✦ **NIGHT PHOTO EDITOR**

**The Houston Chronicle** | **2007 - 2014**

* Managed coverage and publication of photography in company publications, including daily presentation of the best photographs of a team of 14 staff photographers and wire photographs.
* Developed four daily news galleries to highlight local, national, and international wire photographs, including the staff photography site, which maintained #1 photo gallery status on Chron.com.
* Coordinated with designers and producers to strategize best usage of staff photography and video.

**EARLIER CAREER**

**Photo Editor** | The Washington Post

*Visual direction of A1, Metro, Business, Features, and Digital.*

**Illustrator** | Ohio University Libraries

*Full-time while attending graduate school. Created research posters for graduate students.*

**Chief Photographer** | Los Angeles Times, Times Community News

*Led a staff of three, multitasking as Photo Editor and Photojournalist.*

**Freelance Photographer, Commercial Photography Assistant** | San Francisco, CA

*Captured photographs for various weekly newspapers.*

**Black and White Laboratory Technician** | Brooks Institute of Photography

*Managed equipment, chemistry, and utilization of laboratory.*