

Sandhya Kambhampati

sjkambhampati@gmail.com | @sandhya__k | www.sandhyakambhampati.com | (732)986-2813

Education

- Dec. 2013, E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University
B.S. Journalism, Minor in Spanish
- » Outstanding Overall Senior, E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, 2013
- » Focus in Latin American studies and statistics
- » Studied abroad: Vietnam, Mexico

Skills

Languages

- » Spanish (advanced)
- » Telugu (native)

Analysis & web development

- » Access
- » SQL/MySQL
- » Python
- » R & SPSS
- » QGIS & Mapbox
- » HTML, CSS
- » JavaScript

Graphics & Video

- » Photoshop
- » InDesign & Illustrator
- » After Effects & Final Cut Pro
- » Premiere Pro
- » XD

Research

- » LexisNexis & Pacer (advanced)

Professional Affiliations

- » IRE, SAJA

Other

- » Taught & presented at various conferences and universities around the world, including IRE, NICAR, International Journalism Festival, SRCCON, DataHarvest, Media Party Buenos Aires, Uncovering Asia, SKUP
- » AAJA LA Board Member
- » Graduate of Second City Improv School in Chicago
- » Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do
- » AAJA JCamp 2008 participant

Data & Graphics Reporter II | May 2019-Now, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, CA

- » Reporter focusing on demographic data and covering the diverse communities of the state
- » Analyze data, design and report explanatory graphics, maps and data visualizations online
- » Working on updating Mapping LA, a map of all the neighborhoods in LA, combined with Census analysis customized to a given neighborhood. Maintain open source Census downloader/ analysis tools and work with reporters to provide them with demographic analyses for stories
- » Manage, report large-scale multimedia projects across departments for both breaking news and enterprise stories

Data Reporter | June 2017- April '19, ProPublica Illinois, Chicago, IL

- » Reported & analyzed data for investigations covering the state of Illinois
- » Examined the Cook County property tax assessment system and found widespread inaccuracies in the commercial/industrial system, resulting in the Assessor getting voted out of office. The project won the Gerald Loeb Award (Local), the Driehaus Award for Investigative Reporting, the Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Journalism and was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for Local Reporting in 2018
- » Collaborated with other reporters on data brainstorming, acquisition, cleaning, bulletproofing for projects
- » Maintained databases for the Illinois newsroom, as well as regularly filing record requests

Knight-Mozilla OpenNews Fellow | March 2016-Jan. '17, Correctiv, Berlin, Germany

- » Analyzed data in R, Pandas and SQL and researched, reported & compiled data for a year-long investigation (in both English/German) into the infrastructure of 13,000 nursing homes throughout Germany. Investigation prompted discussion nationwide and prompted a change in these evaluations and won the Deutscher Reporter Preis for Innovation in 2016
- » Held newsroom knowledge lunches to teach reporters about Excel, data research & FOIA
- » Collected data & interviews related to newsroom on-boarding & off-boarding processes and published a e-book on best practices in December 2016

Database Reporter | July 2014-Jan. '16, The Chronicle of Higher Education/Philanthropy, DC

- » Lead reporter on The Chronicle's flagship database of college president pay (private and public colleges): combined 5 years worth of data with analysis & context for the database, wrote lead story on the research and spoke to national media outlets about the project
- » Collected over 200+ colleges' data using FOI for 6 months for an series on college athletics subsidies, which prompted discussion of changing student fees at some universities and won First Place in Data Journalism from the Education Writers Association Awards in 2015
- » Created, analyzed (SQL & R) and maintained enterprise datasets using surveys and public record requests on higher education and the nonprofit industry
- » Collaborated with reporters across both newsrooms to report and research stories & held trainings for reporters how to use/find data

National Digital Content Producer (Data/Interactives) | Jan.-May 2014, E.W. Scripps, Cincinnati, OH

- » Produced data-driven graphics, interactives, pieces for all 30+ Scripps TV & newspaper properties
- » Reported daily, breaking news, enterprise and long-term stories for TV & print

Data/CAR Intern | May-Aug. 2013, USA Today, McLean, VA

- » Wrote three front-page/weekend database stories on student loans, Click It or Ticket and black bears

Special Invited Assignment "Voices of the Voters" | Nov. 2012, PBS Washington Week, DC

- » Shot, edited, produced a five-minute election 2012 piece in Appalachia which won SPJ Region 4 Mark of Excellence Award: 1st place TV General Reporting

Production/Editorial Intern | June-Aug. 2012, CNN Newsource, Atlanta, GA

- » Wrote scripts, aided with research for stories, edited videos for air using Final Cut Pro, processed packages from affiliates of CNN, programmed five live-feed channels for 800+ affiliates

Multimedia Reporter/Producer | Sept. 2010-May '13, WOUB News, Athens, OH

- » Scripted, edited, shot video/photo on local events/issues for NPR/PBS affiliate radio, TV, web
- » Operated camera, prompter, LiveU for NewsWatch, a 5:30 P.M. newscast