

THOMAS G. BENNER

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Award-winning journalist with a wealth of experience in journalism and mass communication. Excellent writing and editing skills, ability to meet daily deadlines and long-term goals. Experience includes writing with precision on a wide range of subjects, editing from story conception to publication, recruiting and cultivating talent, writing materials from an institutional perspective, and journalism instruction at the college level. Multimedia and social media skills, highly collegial and well-liked manager and team leader, extremely effective and results-oriented professional.

Journalism

Freelance journalist, Singapore October 2012 to present
News and opinion writing published by Al Jazeera English, Nikkei Asian Review, Christian Science Monitor, Fair Observer, Global Post, the Atlantic, the Straits Times, Today, Japan Today.

Elected member, Singapore Press Club management committee April 2013 – present

Journalism fellow, Dateline Tokyo Fall 2014

Spare Change News, Cambridge, MA July 2011 to September 2012
Editor-in-chief
Edited a biweekly newspaper covering homelessness and related news and policy issues in the Greater Boston area. Managed paid and volunteer staff, oversaw news coverage, led social media efforts, and reported and wrote news stories and editorials. The paper is part of the International Network of Street Papers.

Patriot Ledger, Quincy, MA September 2000 to February 2008
State House Bureau Chief
Reported and oversaw coverage of Massachusetts state and legislative issues, government and elections for daily newspaper. Wrote editorials reflecting editorial board opinions.

Business Editor February 1999 to September 2000
Oversaw business news coverage and managed business reporting staff for daily newspaper.

Daily Record, Morristown, NJ 1991 to 1999
Editorial page editor

Wrote editorials for daily newspaper. Solicited opinion pieces and edited columns from local writers. Chose and prepared for publication letters to the editor. Designed and paginated opinion pages.

North Jersey Herald-News, Passaic, NJ

Editorial page editor 1989 to 1991

Wrote editorials for daily newspaper. Solicited opinion pieces and edited columns from local writers. Chose and prepared for publication letters to the editor. Designed opinion pages.

United Press International, Trenton, NJ

Reporter 1986 to 1987

Covered government, politics and breaking news for wire service. Met hourly deadlines for newspaper and radio broadcast.

Trenton Times, Trenton, NJ

Reporter 1984 to 1986

Covered police, general assignment and municipal government for daily newspaper.

The Cranbury Press, Cranbury, NJ

Editor 1982 to 1984

Responsible for all aspects of running a weekly community newspaper including staff management and page design.

By The Sea, Point Pleasant, NJ

Co-founder and co-editor 1981 to 1982

Published, edited and wrote an entertainment newspaper serving the Jersey Shore.

Publications

Editor-in-Chief, *N3 Magazine*, the official magazine for the New. Now. Next Media Conference hosted by the Asia chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association. Published May 2018.

Co-author, *The Singapore Lessons: Wheelock College's Early Childhood Learning Journey*. Published June 2018.

Editor, *Living in Singapore Fourteenth Edition Reference Guide* (American Association of Singapore), August 2015 – May 2016.

Contributing editor, *How to LEAD (Learn, Engage, Apply, Develop)*, Professor Ranga Krishnan (MediaCorp Press Ltd, 2015).

Contributing writer, *Influential Brands – A Documentary Of Their Heroic Rise* (Brand Alliance, 2014).

[Finding Your Voice, Honing Your Message: Advocacy Writing for Early Childhood Education,](#)
by Trisha Craig and Tom Benner. ¹

[Singapore: A Smart Nation,](#) Scientific American, May 2016. ²

Teaching

Singapore Polytechnic, Singapore April to August 2017
Adjunct lecturer, School of Communication, Arts and Social Sciences
Taught two workshops titled News Writing for the Global Audience for second-year polytechnic students, and co-taught a lecture class titled Writing Across Media Platforms for first-year polytechnic students.

Emerson College, Boston, MA September 2011 to May 2012
Journalism Instructor
Taught an undergraduate journalism course, *Beat Reporting Across Media*, a class in multimedia reporting. Each student covered a part of Boston and reported news stories in traditional print, audio and video formats.

Northeastern University, Boston, MA January 2008 to May 2008
Adjunct Instructor – School of Journalism
Taught *Introduction to Journalism* course to undergraduate journalism majors.

Lecturing

Journalism talks and writing workshops delivered at Wheelock College-Singapore, Singapore Institute of Technology, Singapore Management University, SEED Institute, Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University, and Yale-NUS College.

Communications

Wheelock College Singapore January 2015 to present
Consultant
Develop website, social media platforms and blog posts for Singapore satellite of Boston-based liberal arts college.

King Content, Singapore January 2014 to present
Consultant
Compose and strategize content for agency clients including Future Ready Singapore.

Weber Shandwick, Singapore March 2014 to March 2015
Consultant

¹ <http://singapore.wheelock.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PDS-2015-1-Finding-your-Voice-Honing-your-Message.pdf>

² <https://www.scientificamerican.com/products/singapore-a-smart-nation/>

Composed and strategized corporate social media, edited reports and wrote report summaries, op-eds and speeches for agency clients including MasterCard, Microsoft, ExxonMobil and Rolls-Royce.

Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, Boston, MA

Communications Director

May 2008 to May 2011

Shaped and implemented private non-profit research center's media and outreach strategy and helped expand the organization's impact on statewide public policy debates.

Responsible for website design and contents, electronic communications and social media. Edited publications for external release. Drafted op-ed columns and letters to the editor.

Columbia University Office of Public Information, New York, NY

News Writer

1987 to 1989

Wrote press releases and facilitated media coverage of university while taking graduate courses.

Education

Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Pomona, N.J., 1981. B.A., Liberal Arts

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs and School of Journalism, 1987-1989. Graduate work, no degree.

Awards

2007 Suburban Newspapers of America. Shared in national third place award for community service, "Melanie's Law," a series of stories on successful efforts to toughen the laws against repeat drunken driving.

2006 Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Shared in 2006 top national print media award for stories and editorials that led to passage in the Massachusetts Legislature of tougher repeat drunken driving laws.

2004 Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Shared in top national print media award from for special report on habitual drunken drivers.

2001 Inland Local News Writing Competition. First place in newspapers nationwide with circulation of 25,001 to 75,000 for series of stories examining the significance of the Lottery to the state and local economies.

Society of American Business Editors and Writers. "Best in Business, Spot News" award for spot coverage of 1999 Raytheon Company's Quincy plant closing.

The New Jersey Press Association and the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Various awards for editorial writing in 1998, 1996, 1994 and 1993.

Society of Professional Journalists, New Jersey chapter. Daily Opinion Writing, first place, 1990.