

EMA SASIC

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Illinois State University

Bachelor of Science in Journalism Sociology minor Class of 2018, 4.0 GPA

SKILLS

- Associated Press writing style, news writing, interviewing and editing
- Photography, photo editing and video editing
- Podcasts
- Adobe InDesign,
 Photoshop, Illustrator
- ♦ Social media
- Languages: Fluent in Serbo-Croatian and Serbian, some Spanish

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ENTERTAINMENT AND HEALTH REPORTER

April 2021 - Present

The Desert Sun — Palm Springs, Calif.

- ♦ Worked on a variety of entertainment pieces, including covering film festivals, interviewing actors and television personalities, and writing music reviews and feature stories during the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and Stagecoach country music festival
- Wrote in-depth stories on health topics such as COVID-19, fentanyl overdoses, mental health, HIV/AIDS and homelessness

WRITER AND PODCASTER

April 2021 - Present

Next Best Picture, Mama's Geeky — Remote

- Wrote several film reviews and features every month for Next Best Picture and Mama's Geeky, two websites focused on the film awards season race
- Frequent guest on Next Best Picture podcasts, where I reviewed films, discussed the Oscar race and talked about upcoming releases
- Attended the Sundance, SXSW, AFI and Bentonville film festivals
- ♦ Gained a social media following with the online film community

SPECIALTY PUBLICATIONS EDITOR

August 2020 - April 2021

Bakersfield Life Magazine — Bakersfield, Calif.

- Oversaw monthly publication of lifestyle magazine with a circulation of 38,000
- Brainstormed stories, cover ideas, photo and video opportunities and page layout for each issue with one other employee
- Wrote various stories that matched a given month's theme, such as features on farmers navigating COVID-19, fashion and beauty trends, distance learning and local changemakers

REPORTER/COLUMNIST/PAGE DESIGNER

June 2018 - April 2021

The Bakersfield Californian — Bakersfield, Calif.

- Covered K-12 and higher education in Kern County
- ♦ Wrote in-depth stories on board decisions and policies, academic programs and COVID-19 school closures, along with features and profile pieces
- Launched Ema's Picks, a weekly entertainment column reviewing movies and television shows
- Managed website traffic and social media accounts
- Designed daily opinion pages, along with other sections as needed, using Adobe InDesign

EDITOR/NEWS EDITOR/REPORTER

February 2015 - May 2018

The Vidette — Normal, III.

- ♦ Held various news positions for Illinois State University's student-run newspaper, including Editor in Chief my senior year
- Supervised production of semi-weekly newspaper, daily online content, the Editorial Board and social media accounts
- ♦ Co-host of Weekly Pop, an entertainment podcast show
- Wrote award-winning in-depth series "Coming to America: An ISU perspective," focused on international students and their thoughts on the country's political climate following the 2016 election

AWARDS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of Hollywood Critics Association, Film Independent, Rotten Tomatoes, Cherry Picks, International Film Society Critics
- 2019 California Journalism Awards coverage of youth and education, second place; 2019 CJA profile story, fifth place; 2020 CJA profile story, fourth place; 2020 CJA coverage of protests and racial justice, fifth place