

Apoorvaa “Apps” Bichu

Multimedia journalist with expertise in intercultural communication and social justice reporting

apoorvaa5898@gmail.com | 402-319-9870 | [LinkedIn](#) | [Portfolio](#)

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Journalism (Specialization in Social Justice) | **Northwestern University, Medill School of Journalism** September 2022
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism (News and Public Relations) | **Creighton University** May 2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Growth and Justice Reporter | **MoCo360** | **Rockville, MD** October 2022-present

- Report breaking news for MoCo360 media, quickly, fairly and accurately and expand stories if necessary.
- Cultivate a network of diverse sources encompassing the spheres of development, real estate, crime and law enforcement.
- Pitch and develop enterprise stories that readers can't find anywhere else.
- Use public records to find scoops and do data reporting and use digital tools to present data visualizations.
- Strategically use social media to build sources, track news and distribute content.

Newsroom Intern | **Education Week** | **Bethesda, MD** June 2022-August 2022

- Contributed to Education Week's editorial and digital teams
- Wrote, reported, and edited news stories about K-12 education
- Created digital and social campaigns for content promotion
- Fact-checked and proofread copies using Education Week in-house editorial style.
- Updated and maintained Education Week's official website using Wordpress CMS and SEO tools.

Social Justice Journalism Intern | **The Chicago Reporter** | **Chicago, IL** April 2022-May 2022

- Wrote and researched articles as a student intern for **The Chicago Reporter** and its editorial partner publication [Illinois Latino News](#).
- Researched solutions-based journalism projects such as researching the high drop-out rates among Hispanic student populations during the pandemic
- Pitched stories to other media partners in the Solving for Chicago Network as part of the 2022 Path Forward project.
- Invited to be a guest speaker at the Collaborative Journalism Summit and talked about my solutions journalism story for TCR and ILLN.

Investigative Journalism Extern | **MuckRock** | **Chicago, IL** January 2022-March 2022

- Participated in a joint media law-journalism practicum at the Pritzker School of Law, for which I externed at the non-profit MuckRock.
- Conducted fact gathering for USA Today's Documenting COVID-19 project by researching unexplained excess death rates and undocumented COVID deaths in various US counties.
- Filed and followed up on as many as 40 FOIA and public records requests for investigative projects such as: examining the distribution of childcare relief stabilization grants in various Michigan counties and researching the link between poorly maintained air filtration systems in school districts and the spread of COVID

Student Reporter | **Medill Reports** | **Chicago, IL** September 2022-August 2021

- Covered Chicago's travel and tourism industry as part of my journalism methods class
- Wrote [travel related stories](#) covering the city's hotels, tourism agencies and tourist attractions
- Traveled to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast for a Medill Explores trip and [covered education](#) among Native American tribes.
- Shadowed Chicago Department of Aviation officials for a day as a Choose Chicago student partner and workshopped ideas for their media partner Ten Thirty Media

Editorial Intern | **Omaha Publications** | **Omaha, NE** February 2021-May 2021

- Wrote [a feature article](#) on a young Omaha-based pastry chef for Omaha Magazine May 2021 edition.
- Compiled the magazine's calendar section of Omaha's arts and culture events for its May and June '21 editions.
- Participated in the weekly production meetings and story brainstorming sessions.

Opinion Editor | **The Creightonian** | **Omaha, NE** August 2019-May 2020

- Wrote and published 24 opinion pieces for The Creightonian about topics such as [cultural identity crisis](#), [student debt](#), [feminism](#), and [modern romance](#).
- Assigned opinion stories to opinion columnists every week.
- Edited the opinion stories written by columnists.
- Designed the opinion page for The Creightonian using InDesign.

Communications Intern | **Erace the Hate** | **Omaha, NE** October 2018- May 2019

- Wrote [monthly blogs](#) and [feature posts](#) for Erace the Hate's official website.
- Built social media following by designing targeted media campaigns on Canva for Twitter and Instagram.
- Participated in the Big East Startup Challenge at St. John's University and pitched Erace the Hate's ARTrepreneur program as a startup.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Presented and published research | **Quest Journal and CSCA** May 2021

- Presented research paper: "Harry Styles's Unique Persona: Defying Hegemonic Masculinity" at the Central States Communications Association Conference '21
- Published my research [Harry Styles's Unique Persona: Defying Hegemonic Masculinity](#) published in the 2021 Quest Journal of Undergraduate Research
- The research article was a rhetorical analysis of how singer Harry Styles challenged hegemonic standards of masculinity through his public persona.

Vice President | **Public Relations and Social Affairs** | **Creighton's International Student Association** February 2019-May 2020

- Worked extensively with international students from all over the world and encouraged involvement within the ISA
- Coordinated and publicized events such as the annual international student banquet
- Helped onboard new members and facilitated a smooth adjustment to American collegiate life.

SKILLS AND SOCIETIES:

Languages: English, Hindi, Urdu, and Marathi (Fluent) | Arabic (Intermediate) | Programs: Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, Audition, Anchor, WordPress, InDesign | Member of South Asian Journalists Association (SAJA), Asian American Journalist Association (AAJA), Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE), Solutions Journalism Network.