





MARK OPREA

WRITER

CONTACT

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Cleveland, Ohio, USA

SKILLS

DSLR Photography 
Adobe Lightroom 
Flourish 
Google Workspace 
Wordpress/CMS 

EDUCATION

Kent State University

B.A., English
2011-2015
Magna Cum Laude | Avg. GPA: 3.8
Dean's List, four semesters
Internships: Akron Life, Chautauquan Daily
KSU 2014-2015 Student Abroad, Italy

LANGUAGES

English 
Spanish 
Italian 

REFERENCES

Dillon Stewart, editor

(440) 668-6147
stewart@clevelandmagazine.com

Sarah Fenske, editor

(314) 887-1210
sfenske@riverfronttimes.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

Staff Writer

2022-Present

Cleveland Scene

Write [daily news articles](#) on local culture, development and politics, along with feature-length cover stories six, seven times a year. Cover the Mayor's Office, City and County councils, Downtown goings on, breaking news, neighborhood issues and human interest stories. Take and edit DSLR photography for every article I produce.

Freelance Journalist

2015-2022

Various Publications

Have written [short and long features](#) in three countries for national publications like TIME, Pacific Standard, NPR, OZY, Atlas Obscura and Narratively, along with hard news, op-eds, advertorials and [copywriting](#) for locals like the Cleveland Scene, Cleveland Magazine, Case Western Reserve and Crain's. Had work featured in the Reader's Digest, Longreads and The Week, and editor's picks in [2017](#) and [2018](#). Won two Ohio Press Club awards for [investigative reporting](#) in 2022.

Project Editor

2019

Freshwater Cleveland

Led a [bilingual community journalism project](#) in Cleveland's Hispanic neighborhood with two writers. Developed sources, shot neighborhood events, pitched news and feature packages to editor-in-chief. Wrote a dozen features myself in 3 months.

English Teacher

2017-2019

Harmon Hall Juarez, Puebla, Mexico

Taught 5 two-hour ESL classes per week. Crafted lesson plans using Cambridge texts and company methodology. Managed grading, attendance charts. Kept tabs on high-needs students, talked to parents in Spanish.

Editorial Assistant

2015-2017

Cleveland Magazine

Wrote the entertainment calendar, The Weekender and short arts Q&As. Produced advertorials and service pieces; attended 8 a.m. pitch meetings, evening galas; did library research, fact-checking for managing editors.

ACTIVITIES & AWARDS

2022	Ohio Press Club, First Place Press Club of Cleveland, Finalist Certificate, Cleveland Photographic Society	2017	Host, "Writer's Ball" Promoter, Belt Publishing Host with ACLU, "A Small Reading to Restore Hope and Sanity"
2021	Fellow, Solutions Journalism Network Kiplinger Fellow, Ohio University Speaker, KSU School of Journalism Speaker, Solutions Journalism Without Borders	2015	Researcher, WRHS Italian-American Project Albert Fitzpatrick Award for Excellence in Reporting
2020	Mentee, S.JN's Mentorship Program Grant Recipient, PEN America Speaker, Western Reserve Writer's Con.	2014	Vincent Scholarship, KSU Charles Miller Award for Outstanding Staff Member