

Dan Weissmann

1923 W. Morse Ave. #2
Chicago, IL 60626

(773) 474-9396
dan.weissmann@gmail.com

Chicago Public Media, Chicago.

Vocalo.org Host/Producer, 2007 to 2010

- Created award-winning content in formats that included live public-affairs talk radio, audio documentary, and interactive multimedia.
- Developed and directed *The Daily Thread*—an online/broadcast conversation featuring personal, narrative responses to provocative, topical questions.
- Set editorial agenda for the *Thread*, coordinated the work of volunteer participants and Vocalo staff, edited user-generated audio, and posted multimedia entries daily to Vocalo.org and WBEZ's blog.
- Planned and directed monthly, station-wide editorial initiatives, which encompassed pre-produced segments, on-air interviews, and public events.
- Created, marketed and led “Make Your Radio,” an audio production workshop in which students with no experience used basic computers, cheap microphones, and free software to record, edit, score, and upload original audio stories.
- Created custom workshops for Interfaith Youth Core, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, Columbia College Chicago, Public Allies, and Radio Arte, among others.

Awards:

2008: Indiana Society of Professional Journalists, in two radio categories: Coverage of minority issues, and public-affairs programming.

2007: Indiana SPJ, in two radio categories: Coverage of minority issues, and education reporting.

Columbia College Journalism Department, Chicago.

Professor (part-time), 2010; 2004 to 2007

- Developed a course on Chicago's 2007 municipal elections in which students assisted the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform in creating a “sunshine” database on aldermanic candidates, and used the database for enterprise projects.
- Other courses include: Computer-Assisted Reporting, Advanced Magazine Writing, and Introduction to Journalism.

Freelance Journalist and Writer, Chicago, 2010; 2003 to 2007.

- Contributing to the BBC World Service, *Crain's Chicago Business*, *Chicago Reader*, and other outlets. Helped create templates for two standing features in *Crain's*.
- Clients include Community Media Workshop, The Center for Arts Policy at Columbia College Chicago and The Cross-City Campaign for Urban School Reform.

Awards

2006: Peter Lisagor Award from the Chicago Headline Club, feature writing, for “When Death Comes to Work,” published in *Crain's Chicago Business*.

2003: Lisagor Award, commentary, for education columns in *Chicago Journal*.

Redmoon Theater, Chicago.

Community Action Director, 2003 to 2006

- Oversaw Redmoon's Neighborhood Arts Programs and served as a member of the theater's senior staff, directing Redmoon's goals and strategy for community engagement.
- Created the Redmoon School Partnership Program, a long-term project aimed at transforming educational practice at an urban public school through multi-disciplinary arts integration programs.
- Designed school-selection process, drafted early grant proposals, and met with funders. Managed relationships with school administrators, teachers, other external partners, and parent leaders.

Catalyst Chicago: Independent Reporting on Urban Schools

Reporter and Web Site Editor, 1998 to 2003

Associate Editor, 1997 to 1998

Contributor, 1991 to 1996

- Wrote long-form narratives, data-driven investigations, and breaking news.
- Oversaw web site, including the assignment and editing of web-only copy
- Led the adoption by *Catalyst* staff of databases and GIS as reporting tools.
- Created two series: "Neighborhoods," which linked community-development trends to local public education issues, and "Chronicles," which tracked the first years of the Vallas administration through the daily experiences of individual schools.

Awards

2001: Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, the Society for Professional Journalists Sigma Delta Chi Award, and a Lisagor Award: Joint awards to seven reporters from *The Chicago Reporter* and *Catalyst* for "Education Matters," a three-part series.

2000: Lisagor Award, online reporting, with Elizabeth Duffrin.

1997: Lisagor Award, best newsletter, for November 1997 issue, featuring cover package "Can Middle Class Kids be Lured Back?"

1997: Education Press Association, for "Building Boom," an investigation of the Chicago Public Schools capital improvement programs

1995: Education Press Association, for "School Chronicles."

Education

Yale University. B.A., *cum laude*, in American Studies, 1990.

Service

Albany Park Theater Project board of directors, 1997 to the present.

Technical Skills

Database management systems, spreadsheets, geographic information systems, audio production, web production, digital image editing.