

YIXIAO(JOY) REN

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EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York, N.Y. Aug 2023- May 2024
M.S., with training in audio production, video production and investigative techniques. Courses include: Reporting, Investigative Journalism, Narrative Social Issue Writing, Audio, Short Documentary Storytelling

Sichuan University Sept 2012- June 2016
B.A. Chinese Language and Literature, with additional coursework in journalism and communications.
Overseas exchange: Duke University Global Learning Program in Kunshan, China (Fall 2014) with coursework in global economics, writing in English and medical ethics; National Taiwan University (Fall 2013).

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Independent journalist on social justice, **Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism** Aug 2023- May 2024

- Long-form story on Columbia University's campus protest at *Phoenix Weekly*, one of the most-read magazines on international issues for mandarin speakers
- Short documentary on how the survivors of the 1989 Tiananmen Square Protest and Massacre in Beijing built the world's only museum that commemorates the incident. Additionally, wrote a 5,000-word story on it
- Short documentary on Andi Owens, now 95, a black curator of a Harlem museum he found in the 1970s that's at risk of disappearing
- Audio story on the face-off between protestors and NYPD at Rockefeller center's Christmas Tree lighting event
- Conducted investigative reporting on lack of autism diagnosis in New Jersey

Staff Writer, **Common Sense**, a well-known underground student magazine featured in Peter Hessler's *Other River: A Chinese Education* Sept 2013- Dec 2015

- Contributed stories include a breaking news and explainer on the Taiwan elections of 2016; a profile, with Q&A, of a now-banned Chinese nonfiction writer; and a profile of an independent documentary filmmaker who made a film about "left-behind children," a phenomenon in rural China that parents often leave their children at home to other relatives for work in cities.

Book Author, published a book for a Chinese book series called Children of China – on the life of a Uyghur child. *Life of Nu re ai li* (Wo shi zhong guo de hai zi-nu re ai li de shi jie) China: Changjiang Children's Press Co., Ltd.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Teacher and Department director, **Amazing Grace Academy, Sichuan, China** Aug. 2020 – Oct. 2022

- Taught language arts and music for K-5 grades in this school that served a diverse student body with 30% children with special needs, 20% coming from traumatic experience with the goal of developing children's social-emotional and academic learning.
- Directed the department of language arts for lower grades with the focus on staff training; Served as the school's band director and produced the school's annual Christmas show.

Program director and English Teacher, **Fountain Educational Consulting Company**. Aug. 2018-Aug. 2020

- Provided counseling sessions for students in Sichuan Normal University; Organized cultural exchange activities, translated English projects, facilitated marketing projects, etc;
- Taught, promoted and provided consulting on Cambridge Children's English Courses;

SKILLSETS

Multimedia: Hindenburg, Audition, Premier; **Investigative/data:** Excel, FOIA, FOIL, reading nonprofit 990 tax filings.
Languages: bilingual English-Mandarin

VOLUNTEERISM

Voluntary teaching in Liangshan, known as the one of the poorest region in China every summer from 2017-2020
Worked in an orphanage and school in Pekanbaru, Indonesia from August 2019 to October 2019.