# SIMON J. LEVIEN

# CONTACT

simonlevien@college.harvard.edu simonjlevien.com 973-670-8761 Professional Affiliations: AAJA, IRE, and SPJ @simonjlevien

# **EDUCATION**

## Harvard University May 2024

B.A. History

Asian American Dance Troupe; Roosevelt Scholarship for FGLI Students

# RECOGNITION

#### New York Times Student Journalism Institute 2021

Youngest selected in two cohorts.

POLITICO Journalism Institute 2023

ΔΔΙΔ -

2021 Student Excellence in Written Reporting Award

Overseas Press Club Foundation 2023 Scholar

Associated Collegiate Press · 1st Place — Story of the Year in Climate Change Reporting

SPJ New England ·
Mark of Excellence Awards —
Finalist in In-Depth News Reporting
(x2)

ProPublica · Diversity Scholarship

Longreads · Editor's Pick

Ida B. Wells Society · IRE Conference Scholarship

#### Reporting cited by:

NYT, WaPo, Axios, CNN, UPI, VICE, Boston.com, The Lily, NBCU Academy, Nieman Lab, IRE Local Matters, Poynter Institute, American Press Institute, Pew Research Center, Muckrack, and major outlets in South Korea.

# **SKILLS**

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Echobox, Hootsuite, Mailchimp

#### **RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS:**

Google Analytics, Parse.ly, Chartbeat **INTERESTS:** Art and Architecture, Historically-informed Journalism, State Politics, Enterprise Reporting

## **EMPLOYMENT**

## **Wall Street Journal**

Washington, D.C.
June 2023 to Present

**Politics Reporting Intern** 

• Covering the U.S. Senate on the Journal's Capitol Hill team, with a focus on the debt-ceiling crisis.

#### The Boston Globe

Boston, Mass. June 2022 to Sept. 2022

**Politics Reporting Intern** 

- Pitched Page A1 features and dailies on <u>campaigns</u> and high-priority <u>bills</u> as the Mass. legislative session came to a close. Built a voter's guide in advance of the September primary.
- Published an above-the-fold <u>enterprise story</u> demonstrating that state casino regulators are not thoroughly tracking the prevalence of people with gambling problems, while the state has pushed to expand the gaming industry.
- Continue to string primary and general election breaking news on the governor's race.

## The Harvard Crimson

Cambridge, Mass. Jan. 2022 to Jan. 2023

**News Executive & Audience Engagement Editor** 

- <u>Discovered</u> over 10,000 internal Harvard governance documents. Lead a team to publish an investigative follow-up package.
- Led the Metro Desk; edits Boston-Cambridge daily coverage and investigations; advises a team of over a dozen reporters.
- Directed The Crimson's digital strategy, administering an annual readership survey. Oversees hitting newsletter, social media, and website KPI targets.

## **News & Magazine Senior Reporter, Photographer**

Sept. 2019 to Dec. 2021

- Wrote The Crimson's most-read article last year: a yearlong <u>investigation</u> into the previously forgotten historical KKK presence on campus, which was then covered by the <u>Washington Post</u> and won awards from AAIA and SPI.
- Led half- to full-year <u>investigative projects</u> that led to administrative changes. Covered city politics and the administration of Harvard's engineering school, publishing 130+ articles and photos.
- Invited to speak about my investigations at IRE 2022, Harvard reunions, and Brown University.
- Produced the only <u>piece</u> of foreign correspondence for The Crimson in recent history: a widely-cited eight-article series on an international controversy sparked by a Harvard Law professor.
- Spearheaded a feature on campus flooding concerns that won best 2021 climate story from the ACP.
- Photographed Cornel West in a series that became the cover image for The Crimson's magazine.

### **Social Media Director & Newsletter Editor**

Jan. 2021 to Dec. 2021

- Created and edited a newsletter team that revamped newsletters with tens of thousands of subscribers. Newsletters saw above-industry-average click and open rates in 2021.
- Managed The Crimson's social media (150,000+ total followers), including a strategic expansion to TikTok and LinkedIn platforms.

### Rappler

Seoul, South Korea July 2020 to Sept. 2020

**Newsbreak Investigative Team Member** 

• Researched labor abuses against Filipino seafarers and how sex trafficking changed amid Covid-19.

## **Asian American Journalists Association**

Remote June 2021 to Aug. 2021

**Voices Fellow - Investigations Reporting Team** 

Crafted an original survey of diversity and pay at top college newsrooms for a <u>report</u> confirming inequity issues that plague award-winning student newspapers nationally. Republished by Nieman Lab and NBCU Academy.

## **Harvard Institute of Politics**

Cambridge, Mass. Jan. 2022 to May 2022

Chief of Staff, Fellows & Study Groups

• Supervised Wall Street Journal Washington bureau chief Jerry Seib's study group: "Political Parties in the Age of Disruption," with guests including Marty Baron and Chuck Todd.