Nicole Jao

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EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York, N.Y. *(May 2022)*
Master of Arts – Science Journalism, with a focus on climate change • Courses including investigative techniques, narrative writing, and environmental and medical reporting • Coursework on coastal city adaptation to sea-level rise • Reported on "burn loving" fungi that help forests recover after wildfire by restoring burned soil and potentially reducing erosion; American scientists using NFTs to publish and fund their research • Writing an 8,000-word narrative story about how New Orleans is coping with rising sea levels and extreme weather events

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ill. *(June 2014)*
Bachelor of Arts – Liberal Arts and Sciences, Economics

EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer, Various publications *(July 2019 – Present)*
Report and write about politics, technology, and the environment in China and Southeast Asia • Write *The Offset* – a monthly newsletter focusing on renewable energy, electric vehicles, and emerging technologies like carbon capture • Contributed articles to Foreign Policy, Quartz, TechCrunch China, REVOLVE Magazine, and others • Story highlights include: a feature about how Taiwan bolstered its global standing by supplying masks and medical supplies to allies; a long-form narrative story about Indonesia's growing palm oil industry and its link to deforestation in Northern Sumatra, one of Asia's largest carbon sink

Senior Journalist, **Tech in Asia**, Remote *(April 2020 – Apr. 2021)*
Wrote 3-4 feature stories per month, covering China and Southeast Asia's technology scene • Covered stories about start-ups accelerating online businesses during the peak of the pandemic • Interviewed founders and executives of high-profile companies, including ecommerce giant Alibaba and TikTok owner ByteDance • Assisted with editorial duties including copy editing and regular appearances on the company's podcast

Technology Reporter, **TechNode**, Beijing and Shanghai/China *(December 2017 – Apr. 2020)*
Wrote 3-4 news articles per week and 1-2 feature stories per month about China's emerging technology trends • Covered Beijing's crackdown on cryptocurrency and the mass exodus of start-ups; how the country built its electric vehicle market from the ground up • Moderated panels and fireside chats at international conferences including TechCrunch Hangzhou and Shenzhen

Intern, **International Telecommunication Union (UN agency)**, Geneva/Switzerland *(March 2017 – Sept. 2017)*
Wrote feature articles about emerging technologies and how they contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals • Edited and proofread speeches and statements for high-level officials • Assisted with video and podcast production • Developed content marketing campaigns for UN initiatives and events

Research Executive, **Acorn Marketing & Research Consultants**, Taipei/Taiwan *(January 2015 – Apr. 2016)*
Worked with global brands including Citibank, Neutrogena, and Lego on branding, new product development, and marketing campaigns

SKILLS AND ACTIVITIES

Languages: Chinese (native or bilingual), English (native or bilingual), French (novice)
Multimedia: Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, Illustrator, After Effects, WordPress, Podcast Production
Data and technology: R Coding, HTML
Volunteer Work: 350.org, Khan Academy, World Vision
Affiliation: Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA), National Association of Science Writers (NASW)
Online courses: Journalism workshops at the Knight Science Program

REFERENCES

Marguerite Holloway – Director of Science and Environmental Journalism at Columbia: mholloway@columbia.edu
Terence Lee – Editor-in-Chief at Tech in Asia: terence@techinasia.com
Colum Murphy – China Government Reporter at Bloomberg: Colum.murphy@gmail.com