

Mary C. Curtis

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Summary

An award-winning journalist and manager with experience as a writer and editor. A creative thinker and enterprising writer/reporter who has adapted core journalism skills and values to print and electronic media. A public speaker and media expert who offers insight and commentary on journalism, diversity, politics and other topics making headline news. My goal -- to quote the Nieman mission -- is "to promote and elevate the standards of journalism," in my writing, editing and teaching.

Highlights

- Roll Call columnist, 2016
- Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, 2006
- Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs, journalism's first social media fellowship, at Ohio State, 2011
- Political reporting and commentary in 2016, 2012 and 2008 presidential contests
- Radio and television commentary on MSNBC, NPR's "All Things Considered" and "Tell Me More," "Here & Now," stories and reporting for WNYC's "Studio 360," appearances on BBC World News, CNN and MSNBC
- Thomas Wolfe Award for "My Rebel Journey," a narrative examination of Confederate heritage groups
- Recognition by such professional organizations as the Association for Women in Communications, National Society of Newspaper Columnists, Society of Professional Journalists and the National Association of Black Journalists

Experience

Columnist, *Roll Call*, January 2016-present

Contributor, *NBCBLK*, *NPR Code Switch*, January 2015-present

Senior facilitator, *The OpEd Project*, September 2013-present

- Teaching, coaching faculty at Yale University, Ford Foundation in writing and TV appearances

Contributor, *She the People* blog, *Washington Post*, January 2012-December 2014

National Correspondent, *AOL PoliticsDaily.com*, Charlotte, NC, April 2009 to April 2011

- Enterprise reporting and commentary. Coverage includes National Tea Party convention, National Rifle Association conference, Glenn Beck's "Restoring Honor" rally in Washington

Commentator, *WCCB News Rising Charlotte*, 2009 to Present

- Weekly segments on CW affiliate (WCCB-TV) morning show, political commentary, special reports

Freelance writer and journalist, October 2008 to Present

- *The Root*, including, on the 2010 50th anniversary of Greensboro Woolworth sit-in, interview with Franklin McCain, one of the four original North Carolina A&T student demonstrators
- *HRDCVR*, essay on Malia and Sasha Obama
- *Creative Loafing*, Charlotte alternative newspaper, weekly column on 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte
- *MSNBC*, *Up*, *Politics Nation*, other shows
- WFAE-FM (Charlotte NPR affiliate), offered 2009 presidential inauguration coverage and other commentary

Columnist, *The Charlotte Observer*, Charlotte, NC, 2007 to 2008

- Syndicated on McClatchy-Tribune wire service

Dance Writer/Critic, *The Charlotte Observer*, Charlotte, NC, 2006 to 2008

Executive Features Editor/Columnist, *The Charlotte Observer*, Charlotte, NC, 1994 to 2007

- Development of lifestyle and arts sections, creation of Faith & Values and Garden sections and E&T entertainment tab
- Write columns syndicated through McClatchy-Tribune wire

Editor, *The New York Times*, 1985 to 1994

- Deputy Education Editor (1993-94)
- Home Section Editor (1991-93): Guide coverage of home, style and family issues; manage a team of style reporters

- The Living Arts Editor (1989-91): Develop coverage of the national edition's arts and lifestyle section
- The Living Arts, Deputy Editor, (1988-1989): Part of the team that developed the section and implemented the roll-out
- Culture, Copy Editor/Sunday editor (1985-1987): Handled breaking culture news stories throughout the paper, including 1A

Features Editor for Arts and Entertainment, *The Baltimore Sun*, Baltimore, MD, 1983 to 1985

Copy Editor, *The Arizona Daily Star*, Tucson, AZ, 1981 to 1983

Awards and Honors (partial listing)

2014 1st place, National Society of Newspaper Columnists, for Washington Post columns

2014 1st place, Green Eyeshade Award, Society of Professional Journalists, political reporting

2014, 2013, 2012, 2010 The Association for Women in Communications Clarion Award, Online Journalism, columns

2014, 2008, 2004 1st place, National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence contest

2008 McClatchy President's Award, for "50 years after integration," Charlotte Observer series on the violent and nonviolent history of Charlotte-Mecklenburg public school integration

2005 1st place, Carmage Walls commentary award, for a collection of columns, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association

2004 Thomas Wolfe Award, for "My Rebel Journey," an examination of Confederate heritage groups

2004 Inducted into the Hall of Fame, Region IV National Association of Black Journalists

Media Appearances (partial listing)

2015 "Love Her, Love Her Not: The Hillary Paradox," contributor

2014 "Let There Be Light: Exploring How Charlotte's Historic West End Is Shaping a New South," contributor

2013 Media Ethics at Work (CQ Press), contributor

2012 Michael Smerconish show to discuss N.C. politics

2012 Warren Olney's "To the Point" and "Hearsay with Cathy Lewis" on N.C. Amendment One on same-sex marriage

2009 "The Final Four of Everything," (Simon & Schuster) "bracketology" anthology, contributor

Public Speaking (partial listing)

2015 "Power of Narrative" conference, Boston University, presenter

2015 W.K. Kellogg Foundation America Healing Conference: All Children Must Thrive, panel moderator for "Healing Relationships between Law Enforcement and Communities of Color," Asheville, N.C.

2015 Speaking in Berlin, Germany, on race, policing and the U.S. presidency, sponsored by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

2014 A Celebration of Patricia McBride, Kennedy Center honoree, plan and host Charlotte onstage event, featuring McBride

2012 Columbia College, Chicago, keynote address for creative non-fiction conference

2012 University of North Carolina, "The Changing Face of the American South" conference

2012 Jackie Robinson Foundation, "Impact of Minorities on 2012 Elections"

2012 Johnson & Wales University, "How Have Electronic and Social Media Affected Political Campaigns?"

2010/2011 Onstage pre-performance interview of Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux, N.C. Dance Theatre Director's Choice program

2009 Participant in conference, "The Madisonian System and Modern America: Is It Broken, and Can We Fix It?" sponsored by Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier home and the Brookings Institution

2008 Harvard Law School panel, "Will the 2008 Campaign Pave a Path Towards Inclusive Politics? America's Leading Journalists Discuss Race, Ethnicity, Age, Gender and Division"

Professional Organizations

National Society of Newspaper Columnists; Society of Professional Journalists; Trotter Group of African American columnists; National Association of Black Journalists; JAWS (Journalism & Women's Symposium); Women + Girls Research Alliance at University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Advisory Council

Community Associations

Freedom School Partners, literacy program

Education

Fordham University, *New York, NY*

- Bachelor of Arts, Communications, summa cum laude