

# Bethany Ao

JOURNALIST

## Experience

### THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

City Life reporter  
Philadelphia, PA  
*November 2017 – present*

- I report for the Arts and Lifestyle desks at the Inquirer, focusing on service-oriented journalism.
- I explore a variety of topics in my reporting, including everything from how to get started in the sport of boxing to the best escape rooms in town to goat racing at a local brewery. I also write timely, tight pieces related to any major events happening in the city, such as the Super Bowl.

### THE BOSTON GLOBE

Living Arts intern  
Boston, MA  
*June 2017 – September 2017*

- I reported for the Living Arts desk at the Globe, finding unexpected Boston-specific stories that resonated with our audiences.
- I wrote stories about a three-generation Pakistani-American family celebrating Fourth of July in the age of Trump, a woman trying to change an outdated Boston law about pet pigs, and a mural inspired by the experiences of incarcerated women. Two of my stories were printed on the front page this summer.

### THE DENVER POST

Features intern  
Denver, CO  
*June 2016 – August 2016*

- I covered Denver culture for 10 weeks on the features desk, writing over 70 stories.
- I pitched stories that brought health, education, environmental and LGBTQ issues into the Post's features coverage. I wrote about a Colorado composer's struggle with postpartum OCD, a transgender male model's aspirations, and a group of Kosovar artists who painted with American muralists to show unity during a tense political time.

### WEEKEND ARGUS

News intern  
Cape Town, South Africa  
*March 2016 – June 2016*

- I worked for 10 weeks at a weekend paper in Cape Town for my Journalism Residency. I covered breaking news, including crime and political protests, as well as features while there.
- I completed an in-depth eight article series on the discrimination the city's transgender community faces, including long waits for surgery and backlogs for gender changes on ID cards.

## Education

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN JOURNALISM, MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Northwestern University  
Medill School of Journalism  
Evanston, IL  
June 2017

Semester abroad at Charles University  
Prague, Czech Republic  
2015

## Awards

AAJA-PHILADELPHIA JOHN CURLEY SCHOLARSHIP  
2018

AAJA-COLUMBIA JOURNALISM SCHOOL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP  
2017

RICK WAMRE HYPER-LOCAL FELLOWSHIP  
Medill Fellowship Program  
2015

## Skills & Involvement

### LANGUAGES

High proficiency in Mandarin Chinese

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat

### PROJECTS

ProPublica Illinois Audience Engagement with Medill's Knight Lab (conducted media engagement research for PPIL ahead of 2017 launch)