

# ***Oscar Johnson***

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## ***Experience***

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**FITNESS JP** Tokyo, Japan

Editor and Writer

I assign, edit and write articles on fitness and amateur sports for this online English-language magazine targeting Japan's ex-pat community. This part-time contractual project stems from the editorial format that I designed and proposed for the Web site. Oct. 2005 to the present

**FREELANCE WRITING & REPORTING U.S.** Cities and Tokyo, Japan

I have been writing news, features, reviews and columns on various topics for publications including: Metropolis and JSelect magazines, and CareerCross Japan in Tokyo, Shanghai-based Asia Times Online and Oriental Express, as well as the Asian Reporter in the United States. I also shoot photos that accompany many of my articles. 1996 to the present

**THE ASAHI SHIMBUN/INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE** Tokyo, Japan

Copy Editor and Staff Writer

As copy editor for the English-language hybrid of Japan's No. 3 daily and the New York Times Co.'s IHT, I edited and often rewrote articles translated from Japanese. I contributed monthly to Asahi's ex-pat column and penned feature articles. Feb. 2004 - Sept. 2005

**THE DAILY PRESS** Newport News, Virginia

Government Reporter

I covered James City County and Williamsburg City government for this Tribune Co. paper's suburban bureau. I also wrote a variety of feature articles. Sept. 2001 - April 2002

**LOS ANGELES TIMES** Los Angeles, California

General Assignment Reporter (apprentice)

My daily reporting included Santa Monica city government, crime and police in South Central Los Angeles, courts and a variety of features. I received a letter of commendation from then Police Chief Bernard Parks for my features on the LAPD. Sept. 2000 - Sept. 2001

**NEWSDAY** Long Island, New York

Intern Reporter

I reported on courts, crime and communities in Nassau and Suffolk counties. June 2000 - August 2001

**SMOKE SIGNALS** Grand Ronde, Oregon

News and Copy Writer

I reported on federal and state government trends affecting American Indian tribes. I also wrote copy promoting the Grand Ronde tribe and its values. My historical series on this tribe

won the Newspaper Guild's David S. Barr Award. June 1998 - July 1999

THE NAMIBIAN Windhoek, Namibia

General Assignment Reporter

I reported on urban and rural news, state government, the arts and penned editorials for this nation's premier English daily. I shot photos for most of my stories. May - Dec. 1997

MEDIA INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA Windhoek, Namibia

Intern Research Assistant

I surveyed the political and economic viability of the nation's independent media as part of a regional study. I also researched start-up funds for such ventures. May - August 1997

THE OLYMPIAN Olympia, Washington

Intern Education Reporter

I wrote news and features about education, from colleges to elementary schools, while adding to this Gannett Co. paper's effort to diversify its community coverage. I also wrote a variety of profiles. Oct. - Dec. 1996

COOPER POINT JOURNAL Olympia, Washington

Reporter and Features Editor

At The Evergreen State College's student weekly, I wrote campus news, features and editorials. I edited copy, designed pages with PageMaker and recruited volunteer staff and submissions. I started an "Insights into Talking About Race." Sept. 1995 - Dec. 1996

CITY COLLEGIAN Seattle, Washington

Reporter and Features Editor

At Seattle Central Community College's student weekly, I wrote news, features and op-ed, edited copy, designed pages with Quark Xpress and assigning stories. I started a "Cultural Corner" feature series to showcase campus diversity. Sept. 1994 - June 1995

## ***Education***

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- ❖ *Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism: MS in journalism – 2000*
- ❖ *The Evergreen State College: BA journalism focus – 1998*
- ❖ *Center for Global Studies Namibia program: Studied development and media – 1997*
- ❖ *Seattle Central Community College: Pre-graduate focus in sociology – 1995*

## ***Honors***

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The Newspaper Guild's David S. Barr Award.

For "journalistic achievement and to encourage young journalists to focus on issues of social justice." Awarded for a five-part series I wrote on the little-known histories that comprise the predominant five American Indian tribes of the Grand Ronde confederation. - 1999

Association of Alternative Newsweeklies' Diversity Fellow

I was among 6 fellows nationwide invited to attend AAN's annual convention based on my critical analysis of Willamette Week newspapers need to service more diverse populations. Memphis, Tennessee - 1999

Unity Ambassador/Unity '99,

As a result of my work as an African American writing on American Indian issues, I was invited to be a cross-cultural ambassador at this quadrennial joint conference of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), Native American Journalists Association (NAJA), National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) and Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA). Seattle, Washington - 1999

Patricia Fisher Scholarship award for student journalists - 1996

Washington Press Association Scholarship - 1996

Northwest Journalist of Color Scholarship (two time recipient) - 1995 and 1996

## ***Seminars***

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Cross-Cultural Journalism Conference

On writing and reporting about communities of different cultures, with an emphasis on underreported American Indians and related issues. Sponsored by Central Washington University, Native American Journalists Association and The Yakima Herald Republic. Yakima, Washington - Oct. 1998

Covering Race Relations in Your Community.

This intensive four-day workshop on racial issues in journalism and media focused on fostering awareness, fairness and integrity reporting. The Poynter Institute St. Petersburg, Florida - Dec. 1998

Northwest National Writers Workshop.

Journalism workshops, forums and lectures aimed at honing writing and reporting skills. Sponsored by The Poynter Institute and The Oregonian. Portland, Oregon - April 1998

Northwest National Writers Workshop. Journalism workshops, forums and lectures aimed at honing writing and reporting skills. Sponsored by The Poynter Institute and The Seattle Times. Seattle, Washington - April 1996

## ***Hobbies***

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Aikido

International travel

Camping

Hiking

Cooking

Gardening

