

Devon Heinen

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I'm a journalist with more than a decade of experience. As a reporter, I cover U.S. national affairs. And I specialize in writing deeply reported, narrative long-form features.

My reporting on the U.S. Indigenous suicide epidemic as well as on the aftermath of the 2018 mass school shooting in Parkland, Florida, won me national awards in narrative feature writing from the Society for Features Journalism.

Feature writing

U.S. national affairs (2018 – 2020, 2022 – Present, freelancer)

States Newsroom (2022 – Present)

New York, NY (Remote)

- Writing a long-form feature on the U.S. opioid epidemic, with a focus on its hardest-hit state: West Virginia.
- Wrote two long-form features about far-right extremism in the U.S., with a focus on Tennessee, and on Diane Derzis, who owned the abortion clinic in the *Dobbs* Supreme Court case.

New Statesman (2018 – 2020)

New York, NY (Remote)

- Wrote two long-form features about the U.S. Indigenous suicide epidemic, with a focus on its hardest-hit state: Alaska, and the aftermath of the 2018 mass school shooting in Parkland, Florida.

Sports (2012 – 2018, freelancer or contributor)

The Atlantic (2017 – 2018)

Washington, D.C. (Remote)

- Wrote one long-form feature about military suicide and a then-Marine's use of endurance sports as his way to overcome his own struggle with potential suicide.

VICE (2015 – 2017)

New York, NY (Remote)

- Wrote five long-form and short-form features, including a piece about a family coping with the loss of a son who died from a concussion suffered during a high school football game.

Sports Illustrated (2015 – 2017)

New York, NY (Remote)

- Wrote four long-form features, including a piece about two-time Olympic gold medalist Shannon Szabados and the gender discrimination she endured while trying out for and playing on male hockey teams.

Boston Magazine (2015)

Boston, MA (Remote)

- Wrote one long-form feature about a gay teenaged lacrosse player's struggle with his sexual orientation and how he wanted to end youth homophobia.

Lacrosse Magazine (2014 – 2015)

Baltimore, MD (Remote)

- Wrote four long-form features, including a piece about a coach who was dying from Lou Gehrig's disease.

ESPN (2012 – 2014)

Bristol, CT

- First person in company history to go from Production Assistant to regular writer for ESPN.com.
- Wrote 14 long-form and short-form features for ESPN.com.

Education

Syracuse University – S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications / College of Human Ecology

B.S.: Broadcast Journalism / Sport Management (dual degree)

Awards

- 2021: Society for Features Journalism's "Excellence-in-Features Awards"
Second place, narrative storytelling (circulation: 90,000 or less) for my New Statesman feature about the U.S. Indigenous suicide epidemic.
- 2020: Society for Features Journalism's "Excellence-in-Features Awards"
Third place, narrative storytelling (circulation: 90,000 or less) for my New Statesman feature about the aftermath of the 2018 mass school shooting in Parkland, Florida.