

GWEN SISSON



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SKILLS SUMMARY:

Experience working in the areas of newspaper and magazine writing, page layout and design. Working knowledge of QuarkExpress, Photoshop, Microsoft Publisher and InDesign.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Sisson Publishing, Inc. | Stewart, MS | Current

ROLE: Freelance Writer/Photographer

- Articles published in *Mississippi Magazine*, *Birds and Blooms* magazine and area newspapers

First Baptist Church | Eupora, MS | Sept. 2012 - Current

ROLE: Ministry Assistant

- Produce weekly newsletter in addition to Sunday and Wednesday bulletins
- Create press releases, designing ads, developing a logo, a marketing plan, a welcome kit, etc.
- Fostering a sense of community by managing the Facebook Group, Twitter account and other internal/external marketing

North Mississippi Christian Family | 2006-2008; Relaunching 2016

ROLE: Owner/Publisher

- Solely responsible for page design, layout, writing and assigning stories, organizing advertising, designing ads if necessary, organizing contributing writers, and sending pages to press on deadline

Starkville Daily News | Starkville, MS | Oct. 2008-Oct. 2012

ROLE: Lifestyles Editor

- Wrote and designed for two feature sections, and one news section each week and provided event coverage daily, as applicable
- Won several Mississippi Press Association Awards for articles, photos and section design, including First Place Lifestyles section for our division
- Trained news staff to work with InDesign and Photoshop

The Winona Times | Winona, MS | Sept. 2000-Sept. 2008

ROLES: Production Editor/Reporting

- Won several awards for feature stories and photos, ad design and special section design from The Mississippi Press Association

The Daily Sentinel Star | Grenada, MS | Aug. 1998 - Dec. 2000

ROLE: Local Government/Education Reporter

The Meridian Star | Meridian, MS | Feb. 1997- Jan. 1998

ROLE: Education/Religion Reporter

EDUCATION:

The University of Mississippi | Oxford, MS | Graduated Dec. 1996

Bachelor's degree in Journalism

- Worked as a contributing writer for *The Daily Mississippian*