

CHARLI RENKEN

Writer and Media Specialist

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 Chicago, IL

 charlirenken.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chicago Reader
2023 - Present

Social Media Engagement Associate and Staff Writer

I manage the publication's social media accounts, designing graphics, writing copy, and utilizing best practices to drive reader engagement and click-through rates using Sprout Social, Canva, Google Analytics, and other tools. I also write articles and a monthly column, covering the local performing arts scene and other topics.

Self Employed
2014 - Present

Freelance Writer and Content Creator

I've held a variety of freelance roles over the past decade: copywriter, journalist, social media manager, graphic designer, live performance producer, etc. I'm known for my excellent work ethic, positive attitude, and high engagement results.

Built In
2021 - 2022

News Reporter

I wrote 2-3 breaking news stories (500-100 words) per day and ten quarterly features (1000-2000 words) about venture capital and the tech industry, optimizing articles for SEO and promoting on social media.

Fandom Forward
2018 - 2021

Resource Coordinator and Writer

I wrote curriculum for fan activism toolkits (50-70 pages) and Medium articles (500-1000 words) on assignment and was promoted to Coordinator after a year where I was a project manager and editor for the resource program.

Secret Media
Network/Fever
2019-2020

Secret Chicago Editor in Chief

I was the founding editor of Secret Media Network's Chicago publication. I helped launch the new market, managed our editorial calendar, wrote most of the publications' articles, created sponsored content, and ran all social media accounts, growing the publication's following to 86K with a 1.5-2M reach in just six months.

EDUCATION

Santa Fe University
of Art and Design
2014-2017

Bachelors of Arts in Creative Writing and Literature

I graduated a semester early with a 3.89 GPA.

SKILLS

Personal

Organizational Skills
Time Management
Empathetic Listening
Critical Thinking
Clear Communication
Leadership

Professional

Wordpress
Copywriting
Digital Marketing
Sprout Social, Buffer
Graphic Design (Canva and Adobe InDesign)
Content Creation