

# Robert S. Davis

robertsdavis@gmail.com

www.robertsdavis.net

904-305-4188

## Who I am

---

**I am a product-focused journalist** with nearly two decades of experience in newsrooms large and small. My journey has honed my journalistic skills and led me into the dynamic intersection of product and engineering. Having served as both a user and a stakeholder, I am primed to drive innovative solutions in the dynamic landscape of news and product development. My background reflects a blend of creativity, diligence, industry expertise, unwavering ethics, and a collaborative spirit.

## Experience

---

### **The Washington Post** *Washington, D.C. and St. Louis (remotely)*

#### **Senior news product editor, homepage**

*2021-now*

- Represents the newsroom in collaborations with the product and engineering teams, and helps to prioritize the roadmap for The Post's most prominent surfaces: its homepage and app.
- Develops workflows and conceives ideas for improvements to The Post's page layout and media (photo, video and audio) tools.
- Helped oversee the development of and transition to The Post's new page layout system, assisting in the prioritization of features, doing extensive user testing, and creating detailed documentation.
- Assists in devising, coordinating, and analyzing curation experiments.
- Prepares competitive analyses of The Post and other major news organizations.
- Played a pivotal role in the 2022 redesign of The Post's homepage, partnering with the product, design, and engineering teams; collaborated with senior editors to write new curation guidelines; and coached editors on the new curation and design philosophy.
- Creates and hones workflows and trainings for the Curation and Platforms team.

**Homepage  
news editor**

2016-2021

- Selected stories and wrote headlines and blurbs for the desktop and mobile homepage. Composed, edited, and sent news alerts.
- Managed The Post's 2018 and 2020 election coverage, working with editors, designers, and developers.

**News designer/  
art director**

2014-2016

- Designed Page One and projects for print and the Web.

**The Boston Globe**

**Assistant Design  
Director, News**

2013-2014

*Boston, Mass.*

- Designed Page One and projects for the daily and Sunday editions; contributed graphics and photo illustrations.
- Supervised a team of six layout editors.

**News designer/  
copy editor**

2007-2013

- Designed the daily and Sunday Metro front; edited local, national, foreign, and political news.

**The Florida  
Times-Union**

**Designer/copy editor**

2005-2007

*Jacksonville, Fla.*

- Designed, copy edited Monday tabloid and Sunday business sections; contributed reporting, photography, and graphics.

**The Business Journal**

**Assistant editor**

2003-2005

*Jacksonville, Fla.*

- Contributed reporting, photography, and graphics, as well as design and copy editing.

**The Mandarin News**

**Staff writer**

2003

*Jacksonville, Fla.*

- General assignment reporter and photographer.

## Skills

---

- Strong analytics skills and interviewing abilities.
- Excellent communicator, comfortable speaking to both junior associates and executives.
- Fluent in the language of newsrooms, product and engineering.
- Strong HTML, CSS, and Javascript skills.
- Experience with Jira and Confluence.
- Expert in the Adobe Creative Suite; learning Figma.
- Meticulous copy editing and proofreading abilities.
- Strong design, photography, and typography skills.

## Professional awards

---

### The Society for News Design

- 2016** Four awards of excellence for news design, including recognition of an individual portfolio.
- 2015** Two awards of excellence for news design.
- 2014** Three awards of excellence for news design.
- 2013** Silver Medal for news design; three awards of excellence for news design.
- 2006** Two awards of excellence for business page design.

### Florida Press Association

- 2004** First place, graphic design.

## Education

---

**University of North Florida** Bachelor of science degree in communications, print journalism.

## Moonlighting

---

- Founded and runs a neighborhood tool-sharing library.
- Volunteers at City Greens, a nonprofit market that provides affordable produce to the community.
- Volunteered with the Missouri Historical Society.
- Served as a reading tutor with Reading All-Stars in Washington, D.C.
- Cohosted a regular DJ set featuring '90s alt./indie rock at River Gods in Cambridge, Mass.