

KATIE SIKORA

Photographer & Journalist

New Orleans, Louisiana
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Katie graduated with a degree in Visual Journalism from the University of Miami and worked as a Photo Editor in Door County, Wisconsin, a Media Strategist in Chicago, and as an Archivist at The National World War II Museum in New Orleans before pivoting to freelance photography and journalism with heavy focuses on the environment and music.

She is the creator of The Sexism Project, a portrait and interview series featuring stories from female-presenting music industry professionals and sex workers. In 2020, Katie co-founded Feed The Front Line NOLA to buy meals from local restaurants that were closed due to the pandemic and hire laid-off musicians and artists to deliver food to overworked area hospitals, documenting the initiative for six weeks straight. Later that year, she received a grant from the Pulitzer Center to photograph the recovery from back-to-back Hurricanes Laura and Delta in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Katie is the Associate Photo Editor at ANTIGRAVITY Magazine, owns a wedding photography side business, and loves touring with bands and musicians whenever possible. She has home bases in New Orleans, Chicago, and northern Wisconsin and is available for travel.

Professional Experience

On Site Photo Editor The Morrison Group | June 2023 - July 2023

- On-site image editing and archiving at Essence Festival
- Collecting RAW images from three assigned photographers, file naming, culling, retouching and editing, and uploading the final images onto online and hardware archives

Photo Editor & Assistant Linka Odom Photography | September 2022 - Present

- In-office editing assistant to wedding photographer Linka Odom responsible for culling all RAW images from each photo shoot as well as back-end organization and data entry
- Capturing RAW video images on requested wedding shoots

Associate Photo Editor & Contributor ANTIGRAVITY Magazine | January 2021 - Present

- Assisting in coordinating assigned and feature photo shoots
- Posting and assigning photo opportunities in Slack channel and making sure all photographers are meeting deadlines
- Collecting and editing all photo captions
- Recruiting and onboarding new photographers/contributors

Still Photographer Hardly Strictly Bluegrass | May 2021 - May 2021

- Sole still photographer on a series of six concert-length music videos shot and produced for music festival Hardly Strictly Bluegrass to serve as a virtual festival during the pandemic
- Capturing behind the scenes still imagery as well as producing and shooting portraits of each band/musician

Photojournalist Pulitzer Center & Southerly Mag | October 2020 - February 2021

- Documenting visuals for a three-part series on Hurricane Laura and Hurricane Delta recovery in southwest Louisiana with focuses on voting, education, and housing.
- Working in direct coordination/in the field with writer Carly Berlin
- Published by Southerly and supported by a grant from the Pulitzer Center

Tour Photographer Big Freedia | October 2018 - November 2018

- Shooting live music photography, portraiture, and behind the scenes imagery before, during, and after shows at home and on the road

- Responsible for culling, editing, and digital and hardware archiving of all tour images

Tour Photographer Tank & The Bangas | October 2018 - October 2019

- Shooting live music photography, portraiture, and behind the scenes imagery before, during, and after shows at home and on the road
- Responsible for culling, editing, and digital and hardware archiving of all tour images

Founder & Photojournalist The Sexism Project | May 2016 - February 2020

- Interviewed and photographed portraits of over 85 female-presenting subjects in New Orleans with regard to their experiences with sexism in their lives
- Acted as founder and president, leading a four-person team at the height of operation
- Produced a four day exhibition and concert series at Preservation Hall in the French Quarter to premiere the first installment of portraits in November 2017
- Produced and hosted other fundraising and community building events around the city

Digital Image Archivist The National WWII Museum | June 2014 - February 2016

- Responsible for scanning all physical images to digital format, creating a database entry for each image, and sorting digitized images into batches based on donor
- Helped build out a miniature photography studio in the archival lab featuring the ability to be stowed away when not in use
- Photographed all donated artifacts and updated database entries with digital imagery

Photo Editor & Photojournalist Peninsula Pulse & Door County Living | May 2012 - October 2012

- Photographed 5-10 stories per week under the direction of the Director of Photography and editors
- Worked directly with writers and artists from assigned features to ensure cohesion between the written and visual elements of the story
- Collecting of all other non-photographic or non-current imagery to accompany stories

Education

Bachelor of Science in Communications in Visual Journalism University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida | August 2008 - May 2012

Notable Clients & Publications

Ace Hotel New Orleans

Allen & Overy

Ani DiFranco

CBS Chicago

Chicago Sun-Times

Daze Between Fest

Dos Equis

Equality Illinois

Fifty Grande

Forbes

Free People

Good Beer Hunting

Ironman

Levy Restaurants

Luck Reunion

Medscape

NBC Chicago

New Orleans Film Society

NPR Presents

Preservation Hall Foundation

Solomon Group

Southern Foodways Alliance

Southern Living

The Morrison Group

Thrillist

Times-Picayaune

Trombone Shorty Foundation

Winn-Dixie

WWNO