

## Chuck Nowlen

St. Paul, Minnesota

(651) 233-0191

[chucknowlen1@gmail.com](mailto:chucknowlen1@gmail.com)

[chucknowlen.com](http://chucknowlen.com)

### EXPERIENCE BY RELEVANCE (See Work Chronology Below)

#### Media Consultant/Freelance Writer and Editor/MBA and Digital-Media Graduate Student

CAN2 Media, Minneapolis St. Paul, MN, Madison, WI, 2005-Present

Launched newsroom-management/start-up consultancy, 2005. Specialities short list: \*staff hiring, productivity, chemistry and motivation; \*optimized budgeting; \*integrated copy and production deadlines; \*social media; \*analytics; \*Schein process consultation techniques.

- Freelance writer, Tiger Oak Media (B2B, lifestyle and consumer magazines); Rivertown Multimedia, Superior Cascade Publishing and St. Paul Publishing (community weekly newspapers); DeWitt Publishing (B2B magazines); Las Vegas Weekly (alternative weekly newspaper).
- Wrote business plans for: Twin Cities Fit, a high-end fitness/health news site and magazine tailored to the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota market; Vegas True Crime, a glossy, literate theme magazine/guest book/news site tailored to the Las Vegas, Nevada market; and The Patriot, an online alternative newspaper for the Madison/Dane County, Wisconsin market.
- Streamlined production, upgraded graphics and energized staff and advertising base as interim editor and website manager, Fenderbender Magazine, a B2B monthly serving the US collision repair industry, 2007.
- Designed, coded and produced [chucknowlen.com](http://chucknowlen.com), 2009. Fully tech fluent.
- **Winner: 2015 Wisconsin Newspaper Association first-place award, "Best Business Coverage," Hudson Star-Observer; honorable mention "Best Feature," 2016.**
- Season-long case expert – on-air and background – for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's "Unsolved Season 3: The Devil You Know," a 10-part multimedia series about the 1998 murder of Father Alfred Kunz, 2019.
- Graduate student, Part-Time MBA Programs, University of Minnesota/Metropolitan State University; Web Design and Development Program, St. Paul College, 2006-2010.

#### Managing Editor

Las Vegas Weekly, Las Vegas, NV, 2000-2001

- As publication's top editor, managed alternative weekly newspaper's staff, content, production and editorial administration. Reorganized production schedule and revamped editorial product, yielding unprecedented market dominance while energizing newsroom, graphics and ad/sales teams. Managed website; supervised site upgrades. Weekly editorials. Frequent cover pieces, news stories, profiles and reviews.
- Cut freelance budget by \$6,000-\$9,000 per month, using savings to create "Rosetta Stone" Production Coordinator position and upgrade cover and inside graphics. Boosted overall bottom line by \$10,000-\$80,000 per month, reversing more than four years of red ink.
- **Winner: 2001 Western Publishing Association "Maggie" Award, "Best Consumer Tabloid." (Las Vegas Weekly, March 8-14, 2001, "Path of the Goddess.") Also 15 2001 Nevada Press Association first-place awards, including best large weekly newspaper. Individual winner: best editorial.**
- Guest lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Journalism 558, "Public, Community and Alternative Media." (Supervising professor: Jack Mitchell.)

### **Assistant City Editor/Senior Reporter**

The Capital Times, Madison, WI, 1998-2000/2003-2005

- As Assistant City Editor, managed p.m. daily newspaper's suburban/county coverage, state news, related website content and budget. Recruited and supervised freelance contributors. Copyedited stories. Page design and pagination. Coordinated Page 2 community calendar. As Senior Reporter, set newspaper's one-year byline record (459) after only 11 months on the job. Beat areas: crime; higher education; city, county and state government.
- **Winner: The Capital Times Allegratti Award for "journalism that exposes injustices in this community." (This is the newspaper's "reporter of the year" award, and I remain its only unanimous winner.)**

### **Managing Editor/Associate Editor/Contributing Editor**

Madison Magazine, Madison, WI, 1992-1996

- As publication's #2 editor, managed monthly city magazine's editorial administration and production. Revamped front-of-the-book "Our Town" grazing section and created quarterly "Health and Wellness" and "Travel" sections. Edited all copy. Monthly features, service pieces and/or columns. Frequent story and magazine PR.
- **Winner: State Bar Association of Wisconsin 1992 Wisconsin Gavel award for "Smoke a Joint and Lose Your House" (Madison Magazine 9/92), which exposed abuses of state and federal drug-seizure policies in Dane County, WI.**

### **Media Specialist**

Office of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 1988-1992

- All campus administrative, governance and diversity news, and related PR under former Chancellor and US Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala, plus "beat" PR for the university's highest-profile colleges, schools and academic departments. Served on office strategic-planning and search-and-screen committees. President-elect, Madison Academic Staff Association, 1991 (recruited May 1990).
- **Winner: University of Wisconsin System 1990 Academic Staff Professional Development Grant for one-semester job exchange with Spelman College, a historically black women's college in Atlanta, GA.**

### **Communications Consultant/Freelance Writer**

Madison, WI, 1996-1998, 2002

- Start-up communications for the Wisconsin Business Development Credit Corporation. Wrote business plan and grant proposals. Developed communications strategy. Coordinated state-agency networking, business presentations, etc.
- **Winner: State Bar Association of Wisconsin 1997 Wisconsin Golden Gavel Award for "White Justice" (Isthmus 11/14/97), which showed systematic exclusion of African Americans in Dane County, WI jury pools amid disproportionately high black arrests.**

### **OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**Instructor**, Ring's Martial Arts, Monona, WI, 2017-18, 1993-1998

Adult, teen and youth Tae Kwon Do classes. Tested and promoted students through red belt rank. (U.T.A. first-degree black belt #1-669 awarded May, 1994.) State sparring champion, 1994. State breaking champion 1990.

**Instructor**, Madison Area Technical College, Madison, WI, 1989-1990  
Creative writing workshops for adult, non-degree students.

## **EDUCATION**

Graduate:

- Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- Carlson School of Management, Part-time MBA Program, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.
- St. Paul College, Web Design and Development Program, St. Paul, MN.
- Graduate Creative Writing Program, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI.
- Metropolitan State University, MBA Program, Minneapolis, MN.
- School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.
- School of Exercise and Sport Science, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Undergraduate:

- BA-Journalism/Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.

## **WORK CHRONOLOGY**

- **2005-Present: Media Consultant/Freelance Writer and Editor/MBA and Digital-Media Graduate Student**; CAN2 Media, Minneapolis St. Paul, MN, Madison, WI.
- **2003-2005: Assistant City Editor**, The Capital Times, Madison, WI.
- **2001-2003: Business-planning Consultant/Guest Lecturer/Teaching Assistant/Freelance Writer**; University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.
- **2000-2001: Managing Editor, Las Vegas Weekly**, Las Vegas, NV.
- **1998-2000: Senior Reporter**, The Capital Times, Madison, WI.
- **1996-1998: Communications Consultant/Freelance Writer**; Madison, WI.
- **1992-1996: Managing Editor**, Madison Magazine, Madison, WI.
- **1988-1992: Media Specialist**, UW-Madison, Madison, WI