

# Samantha Chery

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## MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE

*Independent Journalist*

*March 2026-Present*

- Interviewed 22 sources on camera over three days, including [Maryland Gov. Wes Moore](#) and Georgia politician Keisha Lance Bottoms, while covering the Excelerate HER leadership summit for The Root on [social media](#) and on the outlet's [website](#).
- Wrote a 1,500-word cover story for the Daughters of the American Revolution's new digital magazine after reporting on and interviewing attendees of the DAR's America 250 celebration featuring Patti LaBelle.

**The Washington Post**, Washington, D.C.

*April 2023-April 2026*

*Breaking News Reporter, Features*

- Wrote a daily story on topics including food, internet culture, arts and entertainment, media, politics and fashion.
- Wrote stories that explained the internet frenzy surrounding [Keith Lee's Atlanta dining experience](#) and how TikToks of "food" made out of paper gained popularity.
- Tracked the status of [90+ Sean "Diddy" Combs sexual assault lawsuits](#) and co-anchored trial live-update coverage, earning 100,000+ pageviews daily and multiple [front-page](#) stories.
- Led writers and actors strike coverage, including two [front-page](#) pieces and multiple TV and radio interviews.

*Multiplatform Editor, Features*

*October 2022-March 2023*

- Produced weekly features for The Post's [gender and identity](#) section.
- Nominated for a GLAAD Media Award for explaining the importance of "[mother](#)" in the LGBTQ+ ballroom scene.
- Reported on the first-ever makeup-free [Miss England](#) pageant finalist and her skin positivity activist supporters; it was the most-read story on Apple News for October 19, 2022, earning 1.5 million pageviews.
- Brainstormed headlines and curated stories for Lily Lines, a twice-weekly newsletter that covered women and LGBTQ+ news with 90,000+ subscribers.
- Prepared captions and alt text for up to eight daily [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) posts and a daily [Instagram](#) post.

*Features Intern*

*June 2022-September 2022*

- Wrote two Style stories a week, a mix of [breaking news](#) and [longer-form](#) features; stories focused on food, pop culture, arts and entertainment, lifestyle and books.
- Curated social media posts and newsletters for The Lily, a Post product focused on women and LGBTQ+ news.
- Produced a front-page breaking news story about [R. Kelly's](#) 30-year racketeering and sex trafficking sentence.
- Contextualized [pigtail-wearing servers](#) getting more in tips, [snackleboxes](#), a [protest](#) against a Christian university's anti-LGBTQ+ policies and the rise of [female powerlifters](#).

**ESPN's Andscape**, Gainesville, FL

March 2022-June 2022

Freelance Reporter

- Wrote a feature on a line dance group, a fraternity step team and a majorette competition team for the second volume of "The Black Gaze," Andscape's photo series on the Black experience.
- Coordinated with a photographer to visually capture the essence of each group's rehearsals and performances.

**Atrium Magazine**, Gainesville, FL

January 2021-April 2022

Managing Editor

- Co-launched the University of Florida's inaugural print magazine and website for narrative nonfiction storytelling, collaborating with 40+ writers, photographers and designers to produce stories of significance to Floridians.
- Wrote a long-form narrative profile about a politician and funeral embalmer leading the effort to honor local lynching victims.

**South Florida Sun Sentinel**, Deerfield Beach, FL

June 2021-August 2021

Features/Entertainment Intern

- Pitched and wrote two features a week covering South Florida's restaurant scene and food trends.
- Scooped source-derived stories about a pie-making pastor and polarized emotions about mukbangs.
- Produced four front-page stories explaining South Floridians' return to movie theaters during the pandemic, increased menu prices, local reactions to the Haitian president's assassination and the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.
- Interviewed celebrities including singer Natasha Bedingfield, "iCarly" star Reed Alexander and TikToker "Haitian Papi."

**The Independent Florida Alligator & WUFT**, Gainesville, FL

May 2020-February 2021

Food Reporter

- Wrote a feature on Gainesville's Black food truck owners that became one of WUFT's most-read stories of 2021.
- Tracked proposed regulatory changes for the stone crab industry, explaining its potential business impact.
- Covered food, drinks and nightlife for The Alligator's entertainment and culture section.
- Updated the Gainesville community on restaurant openings, closures and food trends.

## EDUCATION

### Bachelor of Science in Journalism

University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications

Minors in Sociology and Event Management

**Skills:** Adobe Premiere Pro • Airtable • Canva • Datawrapper • Hootsuite • LexisNexis, including CourtLink • Microsoft Excel/Google Sheets • QGIS • R (basic) • SQL

**Professional affiliations:** National Association of Black Journalists • Washington Association of Black Journalists • Online News Association • Kappa Tau Alpha