Career Paths and Desired Skills

Journalism, arts and media are exciting and fast-changing disciplines that include publishing, visual arts, non-fiction and fiction work, music and theatre performance and production, filmmaking, sketch and stand-up comedy, screenwriting, creative advertising, architectural design, and so much more. There are few clear and straight paths in journalism, arts, and media – one must forge one’s own.

The typical skills desired will vary greatly between disciplines. What do they all prize? The importance of unique, personal expression of one’s passions.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Desired Skills</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FILMMAKER</strong></td>
<td>• Creativity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filmmakers bring their visions to life on</td>
<td>• Camera work</td>
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<td>the screens. UCIJAM sustains a network of</td>
<td>• Project management</td>
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<td>contacts in the film and television</td>
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<td>industries to provide advice and guidance.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Attention to detail</td>
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<td>• Leadership skills</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ENTERTAINMENT AGENT</strong></td>
<td>• Problem solving</td>
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<td>Entertainment agents help guide clients</td>
<td>• Strategic critical thinking</td>
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<td>in their careers, develop business, form</td>
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<td>partnerships and develop projects.</td>
<td>• Quantitative ability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Interpersonal skills</td>
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<td><strong>INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST</strong></td>
<td>• Strong communicator</td>
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<td>Journalists bring the world to light,</td>
<td>• Data analytics</td>
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<td>through stories they follow or are</td>
<td>• Writing skills</td>
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<td>assigned to follow.</td>
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<td><strong>PUBLISHING EXECUTIVE</strong></td>
<td>• Marketer of ideas</td>
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<td>Publishing executives help bring books</td>
<td>• Organization</td>
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<td>and other intellectual properties to</td>
<td>• Writing skills</td>
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<td>market.</td>
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There are many other career paths UChicago students have successfully pursued, including:

- Animator
- Theatre Director
- Gallery Director
- Podcast Host
BUILDING EXPERIENCE FOR CAREERS IN JAM

Career Advancement offers a number of events and resources to help prepare you for a career in the fast-changing fields of journalism, arts, and media:

EXPLORE

- Career exploration workshops across Journalism, Arts, and Media featuring industry experts and recent alumni
- Treks and site visits to top employers in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York.
- Recruiting workshops providing a roadmap of career exploration, skill development and interview prep for specific fields including publishing, journalism, art curation, design, and more.

ENGAGE

- Coaching from our Program Director with 25 years of experience across journalism, arts, and media
- Yearly JAMfest. Including professional development seminars on technical skills and strategies for success in the workplace
- Online skill-building training through industry leading platforms Lynda.com

APPLY

- Networking resources to access the deep network of alumni spanning industries and locations including the WISR platform
- Interview skill development and practice options through Career Advancement mock interviews
- Timelines: Unlike consulting or business roles, there are no recruiting timelines in journalism, arts, and media. Opportunities arise year-round. However, the earlier one looks for internships, the better (major newspapers, for instance, hire in early fall)

REPRESENTATIVE EMPLOYERS

**Journalism**
The New York Times
Chicago Tribune
Sun Times
Washington Post
The Point Magazine

**Arts**
MCA
MOMA
Graham Foundation
White Cube Gallery
Renaissance Society

**Media**
Wong Doody Advertising
Bain Media Consulting
Digital Kitchen
Vice Media
Random House

**Film/TV**
Paramount
A24
Netflix
Entertainment One
FX Networks

Kassim Husain (AB ’18)
- Internship: Paramount Pictures
- Full-Time role with Marc Evans (AB ’83), former President of Paramount Pictures

Sydnee Johnson (AB ’18)
- Internship: Red Wagon Pictures
- Internship: Netflix’s “One Day at a Time” with Norman Lear