

CHRIS RICHARD

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I've been a print and radio journalist for 28 years. I believe in the traditions of my work: investigation and storytelling as public service; skepticism, but also the struggle to understand.

I am in love with the English language. I know when a story sings.

One of the things I like most about reporting is that it is not a profession requiring official certification but a trade, with no license beyond the First Amendment. That means anybody can set out to do it. But the standards are high: discerning and explaining truths, and continuing that rigorous examination every day. I am answerable to the story and to the public interest.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Freelance Reporter | Oct. 2009 - Present

Cover Southern California trends and breaking news with an emphasis on environmental issues.

Publications include: ***The California Report, The Christian Science Monitor, Marketplace, VOA, The California Health Report.*** Awarded a **Fund for Investigative Journalism Grant**, June 2014.

Recent Projects:

Relaxed Rules at Center of Debate Over Underground Fuel Leaks:

about a new policy that would end cleanup efforts at hundreds of gasoline spills.

L.A. Battery Recycling Plant Showers Communities in Lead Dust:

about efforts to curtail lead contamination in East Los Angeles.

In Hinkley, Toxic Legacy Sets the Stage for a Ghost Town:

about the slow demise of the desert community made famous by the movie "Erin Brockovich."

The Press-Enterprise, Staff Writer | Dec. 2004 - Oct. 2009

Work included extensive reporting on city efforts to turn back a violent crime rate that made San Bernardino among the most dangerous cities in the state. Stories featured multimedia production and GIS mapping.

Freelance Reporter and Editor | 1998 - 2004

- ***NPR, BBC, PRI, VOA, The California Report, The Weather Notebook, KPCC-FM:*** Covered Southern California issues and breaking news.
- ***The Christian Science Monitor* and *Monitor Radio:*** Covered California politics, criminal justice and technology.
- ***Marketplace:*** Helped set daily coverage. Edited reporters in bureaus nationwide. **National Press Foundation Fellow.** Regular story contributor, 2000-2004. Fill-in news and night editor, 1998-2000.
- ***ACFNewsource/The Osgood File:*** Conducted interviews and wrote scripts for Charles Osgood's program on the ***CBS Radio Network.***

KPFK-FM, Freelance Reporter | 1992 - 1998

Covered government, immigration and prisons for a public radio station in the Pacifica Network. Initiated training sessions for the reporting staff. **Radio and Television News Association Golden Mike Award in Investigative Journalism** for a four-part series on HIV and AIDS in the prison system.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California, 1990

Masters Degree. **Fellow, Center for International Journalism.** The course of study was conducted in Los Angeles and Mexico City. While in Mexico, reported on economic and political issues for the ***Fort Worth Star-Telegram, San Francisco Chronicle*** and ***Copley News Service.***

Harvard University, 1982

A.B. Cum Laude in English and American Literature and Language.

CIVIC

Volunteer crew member for the Los Angeles Maritime Institute's **TopSail Youth Program**, providing sail training for at-risk youth aboard twin brigantine-rigged tall ships.