

# MELEAH LYDEN

*Multimedia Journalist*

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WHATEVER

## EXPERIENCE

### 11ALIVE NEWS MULTI-PLATFORM PRODUCER

*11Alive News | July 2022 - present*

- Coordinated crews and broke stories simultaneously. Responsible for breaking news coverage. Developed news stories for digital and broadcast platforms.
- Daily use of social media mining tools, Pacer, LexisNexis, police scanners, government meeting agendas and more to discover content.
- Worked to develop sources and relationships within the community.
- Liaison for NBC, CNN and other stations.
- Organized and planned events. Participated in editorial meetings.
- Led and inspired all teams to work together for a great newscast.

### WUFT NEWS REPORTER

*WUFT News | May 2019 - May 2022*

- Reported for radio, TV and digital.
- Worked on special projects for all platforms and trained colleagues on audio storytelling along with other skills.

### FRESH TAKE FLORIDA REPORTER

*UF | August 2020 - April 2021*

- Worked with faculty to produce advanced reporting that's distributed to leading news organizations across Florida and beyond. Articles were published in The Associated Press, U.S. News & World Report and more.

### THE REWIND PODCAST HOST AND PRODUCER

*WUFT News | January 2022 - May 2022*

- Found and interviewed reporters about the stories they wrote.
- One of the rotating hosts. Wrote script and produced 30-minute episode to air on Sundays.
- Worked on social media engagement to promote each episode.

### FIRST AT FIVE CO-ANCHOR

*WUFT News | January 2022 - May 2022*

- Worked as a co-anchor for WUFT's TV newscast. Went solo for newscasts when needed.

### RADIO PRODUCER & ANCHOR

*WUFT News | August 2019 - May 2022*

- Local NPR All Things Considered producer and anchor. Back-up producer and anchor for NPR's Morning Edition. Trained new reporters and producers.

### THE POINT PODCAST HOST AND PRODUCER

*WUFT News | May 2021 - December 2021*

- Daily podcast correlated with WUFT's roundup newsletter. Produced a seven-minute podcast under deadline.

### FOUR DAYS, FIVE MURDERS PODCAST

*WUFT News | January 2020 - August 2020*

- Interviewed 11 loved ones of the 1990 murder victims at the height of the pandemic.
- Wrote two articles on the subject and contributed reporting, photos and video for a documentary. Responsible for episode 4 of the series. Contributed reporting to other episodes.

### NEWS IN 90 PRODUCER AND ANCHOR

*WUFT News | August 2019 - March 2020*

- Created 90 second news briefs to air on WRUF-TV in Alachua and Marion County. The content is also published on WUFT.org and YouTube. Developed editing, writing and presentation skills.

### THE ALLIGATOR STAFF WRITER

*The Independent Florida Alligator | May 2019 - August 2019*

- Worked as a news assistant at The Independent Florida Alligator. Wrote one to three stories per week.

## AWARDS

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### SPJ FLORIDA SUNSHINE STATE AWARDS 2022

- Won College Journalist of the Year. Placed 3rd in the professional category for best radio newscast.

### FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCAST JOURNALISTS

- In the 2021 College Contest, I won best radio reporter, best cultural/historical radio feature and best audio newscast.
- A team project I worked on also won first place in the best public affairs category for television.

### NATIONAL STUDENT MURROW AWARD 2022

- A team project I worked on received a National Student Murrow Award for Excellence in Video Hard News.

### NBS-AERHO 2021-2022 COMPETITION

- First place nationally in the audio newscast category for an episode of WUFT's The Point Podcast.
- Honorable mention in the audio feature segment category.

### 2021-22 HEARST JOURNALISM AWARDS

- Seventh place in Audio News/Features competition. Placed 18th in the Multimedia Narrative Video Storytelling competition and 12th in Multimedia Innovation and Audience Engagement.

### SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS REGION 3 MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2020

- Finalist in Online and Radio News Reporting
- Team project of Four Days, Five Murders was the winner in the podcast division.

### SPJ FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT 2021

- Selected as SPJ Florida's Molly Turner Broadcast Scholarship Recipient

## LEADERSHIP

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### FRESH TAKE FLORIDA TEACHING ASSISTANT

*UF | January 2022 - May 2022*

- Guided students in their reporting and acted as a resource. Helped edit stories when needed.
- Searched and evaluated story ideas, kept track of bills during the legislative session and more.

### SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS FLORIDA BOARD MEMBER

*SPJ Florida | September 2021- August 2022*

- Served on the board of directors for the Society of Professional Journalists Florida Pro Chapter.

### JOURNALISM & COMMUNICATIONS AMBASSADOR

*UF | September 2019 - May 2022*

- Served as a representative of UF's college of journalism and communications.

### SUMMER MEDIA INSTITUTE TEACHING ASSISTANT

*UF | July 2021*

- Served as a teaching assistant for the Feature Writing/Newsriting section of the program.
- Lectured about using empathy and compassion throughout the reporting process.

### FRESHMAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL'S DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL MARKETING

*UF's Bob Graham Center for Public Service | June 2020 - May 2021*

- Captured the council's experiences and published it. Responsible for the branding of the organization

## EDUCATION

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### UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Graduated summa cum laude on April 28, 2022

- Bachelor of Science in Telecommunication News.

## JOURNALISM REFERENCES

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- **Ted Bridis** (UF journalism professor)
  - Email: tbridis@ufl.edu
  - Phone: 352-294-1543
- **Harrison Hove** (UF journalism professor)
  - Email: hchove@ufl.edu
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- **Ryan Vasquez** (UF's Multimedia News Manager)
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