

Will Wright

cell: 612-227-1387 wrig0358@umn.edu WrightsWords.com
1536 LaSalle Avenue # 207 Minneapolis, MN 55403

Journalism Experience

KFAI Fresh Air radio, Minneapolis - independent public radio station **Jan. 2008 – present**
Reporter and Producer – news department

Filed stories including one on the dedication of Gordon Parks High School, personalizing the story through the hardships of a graduating senior. Her experience typified chances given to at-risk students. Another story shed light on non-Muslims reflecting on their participation in Ramadan fasting. Still another debunked myths about the differences between the lives of the blind and those of sighted.

University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Office of the Cowles Professor of Journalism, Diversity & Equality Catherine Squires

Manager and Editor – high school public radio project **Sept. 2008 – Dec. 2008**
Managed the editorial and technical aspects of teaching teens to produce stories for public radio. Lead instructor within a group of three who taught practical lessons in small groups.

Research Assistant – high school public radio project **May 2008 – Aug. 2008**
Researched and designed a pilot project to introduce public radio storytelling to high school students. Researched methods and best practices for training students to file essays.

National Public Radio, Washington, DC **Sept. 2007 – Dec. 2007**
Intern - *Tell Me More* program

Researched, pitched story ideas. Pre-interviewed and booked guests and studio time. Co-wrote segment scripts, followed through after pitches sessions, through pre-interviews, booking and script writing to studio. Reported about African-American Republicans for *Intern Edition*.

Insight News - Twin Cities African-American community newspaper **May 2007**
Wrote analysis of African-American film trends. Also wrote criticism of an anti-racist activist's speech.

The Christian Science Monitor **April 2001**
Wrote commentary, "Defining Myself Outside the Box." Prof. Marie Howland, University of Maryland – College Park chose this as suggested reading for her "Diversity in the City" course. The byline is under former name of William Hickstein.

Education

University of Minnesota - Anticipated Graduation: spring 2010 **Minneapolis, Minnesota**
Bachelor of Arts – major: communication studies **MAJOR GPA 3.69**

Skills

- Experience writing, producing reporter packages and hosting conversation programs for radio and television
- Great story sense and understanding of placement
- Software: ENPS, ProTools, Audacity, Dalet, Dreamweaver
- Impressive French language skills
- Highly-skilled in digital audio editing
- Can cut two-ways
- Great writing and voicing skills
- Great research skills

Professional and preparatory organizations

Arlington High School, mentored students competing for best Public Service Ad award **2009**

Twin Cities Black Journalists, non-voting student board member **2008 - 2009**

PRISM, a group for communication students of color and their allies, at the University of MN **2008**

As president, volunteered to lead, rebuild the group after it lapsed. Designed the PRISM website. Created and edited web-based magazine, "spectrum."