

# ERIN HASSANZADEH

CURIOUS COMMUNICATOR, CULTURE CULTIVATOR, COMMUNITY CONNECTOR

## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

### **Drake University, Des Moines, IA**

**Graduation:** May 2014 **GPA:** 3.82

**B.A., magna cum laude** in Journalism and Mass Communication

**B.A., magna cum laude** in Sociology

### **Foreign Study**

(January 2012-May 2012)

**Richmond University, Rome, Italy**

## AWARDS AND SKILLS

- **US State Department/Fulbright Grantee**  
July 2014-August 2016  
Selected from 270 applicants for flagship international exchange program to represent US State Department and increase diplomatic relations with foreign governments
- **Drake University/Tapscott Reporting Award**  
May 2014  
*"Recognizes one student whose journalism work reflects curiosity, accuracy, integrity, humanity, public accountability, and aggressive reporting."*
- **Iowa Broadcast News Association/First Place Public Affairs Reporting**  
May 2013  
Selected from dozens of statewide nominees for piece on state of Iowa education reform
- **Social media management**  
Built following from 0 to 5,000 users in 1.5 years on multiple platforms
- **Event hosting**  
Host of Omaha Fashion Week, the nation's fifth largest fashion event

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Hearst/KETV Anchor, Reporter**  
January 2017-Present  
-Own storytelling process from idea generation to final broadcast daily  
-Pitch story possibilities, track down sources and conduct interviews  
-Construct concise, polished pieces in under four hours for viewing population of 935,000  
-Cultivate relationships with politicians, non-profits, businesses and influencers to expose original, thought-provoking stories  
-Create social media content driving station's highest growth rate, highest interaction rate and 110,000+ monthly organic video views  
-Top-performing social accounts among 77 monitored Omaha reporters
- **US State Department/Fulbright Korea Grantee**  
July 2014-August 2016  
-Created 10 original lesson plans weekly for 300 Korean students across four grade levels for implementation alongside Korean co-teacher  
-Founded interactive after-school American culture club for 20 students  
-Planned and implemented winter camp for 50 students that included cooking, acting, video making and English conversation practice  
-Engaged with Korean community through host family, language learning, community service and Fulbright cultural ambassador events
- **10 Magazine/Features Writer**  
September 2015-December 2016  
-Wrote original articles for Seoul-based publication with 200,000 global views per month  
-Developed understanding of local community to profile change-makers
- **Hearst/KCCI Reporter**  
October 2013-June 2014  
-Uncovered compelling, exclusive stories for State's leading news outlet  
-Reduced complicated concepts down to two-minute daily reports  
-Communicated vision and story objective to videographer during shoots and interviews to ensure engaging, visual final product
- **ABC/Presidential Debate Production Intern**  
January 2012  
-Curated unconventional live-shot ideas and locations for national broadcast with more than 7.5 million viewers

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- **Girls Inc. of Omaha/Mentor**  
July 2018-Present  
-Launched monthly media club for middle school students
- **Empathy for a Better World Foundation/North Korean Defector Mentor**  
August 2014 - August 2016  
-Created personal bonds with defectors despite cultural sensitivities during weekly one-on-one sessions focused on cultural exchange  
-Built deeper understanding of North Korean defection process