

FROM THE DESK OF

MACIEJ DURAJ

My name is Maciej Duraj and I am a Chico State journalism (news-ed bachelors) graduate with a passion in reporting, technology, and the Web. I am looking for positions in writing, reporting, public relations or online media. I have written various stories ranging from human interest to investigative reporting, however most of my career I focused on tech coverage and have professional experience since 2010. Some of the media and publications I contributed to include Forbes, Pluralsight (formerly Trainsignal), UBM Techweb (now Information Week), PC World/Macworld/TechHive (part of IDG network), Tech Times, Apple Magazine, TouchArcade and Appadvice.com.

I generally focus on emerging technology and applications. However, I also covered social networking, marketing, enterprise along with B2B computing, the IT sector, online education, and other topics. News and feature stories are my bread and butter, but have done previews, reviews of software and hardware like smartphones, interviews and event coverage, how-to guides, and more. From time to time I also write press releases about new iPhone apps as well as other topics, such as robotic innovation, for various PR firms.

I also have extensive experience in a variety of writing such as newsroom AP style, and am familiar with SEO tactics (took eLearning courses on LinkedIn's platform), WordPress and other CMS, as well as basic HTML. I have experience in the traditional newsroom as well as the startup scene (I completed a writing internship at Palo Alto Weekly in spring '10 and worked with various startups in-house). I also have access to both Mac and Windows platforms and my computing skills include Microsoft Word, Excel, Photoshop, Audacity, PowerPoint, video editing and digital-film production.

I was originally born in Poland and came to the U.S. when I was a 9. Most of my relatives are still in Poland and I often visit them. I speak and write Polish fluently and I know some German and Spanish. My grandmother is a retired librarian from Poland and when I was a young boy I went to visit her daily from a school across the street. This began my interest in the written word and coverage that gets to the bottom of an issue objectively. Libraries are constantly changing as information systems and programs are improving.

I enjoy reading about historical battles such as the Eastern Front during world war 2 (books such as Stalingrad by Anthony Beevor) as well as fantasy novels, which include the obvious: Tolkien's works. I also enjoy gaming and

retro or indy games in particular. This is a reason why much of my graphic design, illustrations and even story telling skills draw inspirations from games I grew up playing as a kid and would love to work within this industry.

Ever since trying a journalism class in Pasadena City College I fell in love with the field of the written word and in my ability to present information from thought to paper. Learning, exploring, and finding out about different cultures have always been fascinating to me and I think that comes from my multicultural background. I really enjoy the art of interviewing and sitting with someone to get their take on particular issues.

I am constantly working on learning new skills alongside improving what I am already familiar with. Lately, my focus is getting better at video production and using desktop apps (Illustrator and Photoshop along with others) for graphic design. Even though writing is my main strength and storytelling as well as capturing an audience, I like to refer myself as a multimedia content creator as I love working with new media and using various skills together into a complete multimedia package.

We should always strive to look at things from various points of views. Journalists and writers have always been vital to society but this is especially true today in this fast-paced and changing landscape. However, I am a multimedia journalist and graphic design as well as art are my passions and things I am continuing to improve as skillsets. With today's high-tech world, computer skills are also a must and multimedia is a vital part of our lives. I hope you will consider me for the position and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely, Maciej Duraj