

Nichaela Shaheen

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Experience

Community Impact

Houston, TX

Montgomery County Government Reporter

Jun 2024 – Present

- Cover Montgomery County Commissioners Court and city councils across the region, translating local policy and spending decisions into clear daily coverage
- Build source networks with elected officials, staff and residents to break agenda-driven stories, produce accountability coverage and explain how decisions affect readers
- Report a steady mix of breaking news, previews, recaps and enterprise stories on government, elections, development, transportation, public safety and local business
- Use public records, agenda packets, budgets and data to add context, strengthen sourcing and make complex civic issues accessible across digital and print formats

KTSW-FM 89.9

San Marcos, TX

Audio News Reporter & Host

Feb 2024 – May 2024

- Hosted and produced newscasts, conducting interviews and curating soundbites under tight deadlines
- Collaborated on program content and digital packages, increasing audience engagement by 14%

Representative Todd Hunter, Texas Capitol

Austin, TX

Legislative Aide

Aug 2023 – May 2024

- Drafted policy briefs and supported communications and public engagement initiatives
- Coordinated outreach events enhancing constituent relationships and public image

The University Star

San Marcos, TX

Managing Editor

May 2023 – May 2024

- Led 100+ reporters, editors and photographers while managing daily newsroom operations, editing workflow and editorial quality
- Expanded audience by prioritizing breaking news, civic coverage and longform accountability storytelling

News Editor

Aug 2022 – May 2023

- Assigned, edited and reported breaking news while verifying facts quickly and shaping coverage for digital publication

Education

Texas State University

San Marcos, TX

B.A. in Mass Communication, Minor in Business Administration

May 2024

Del Mar College

Corpus Christi, TX

A.A. in Public Relations and Advertising

Aug 2022

Skills

- **Reporting:** Local government, politics, accountability, breaking news, enterprise, AP Style, public records/FOIA, copy editing
- **Digital/Visuals:** CMS, Flourish, WordPress, Adobe Creative Cloud, Google Workspace, HTML, data-informed storytelling
- **Broadcast:** On-air hosting, audio editing, live and recorded production, Adobe Audition
- **Languages:** English, Spanish, Hindi, American Sign Language

Leadership & Engagement

IRE (Investigative Reporters and Editors)

National Organization

Member

2023 – 2024

Foghorn News

Del Mar College

Editor-in-Chief

Jan 2022 – Jun 2022

Vocal Viking's Speech and Debate Team

Del Mar College

Captain

Nov 2021 – May 2022

Awards

- Community Impact Reporter of the Year (2025)
- College Broadcasters, Inc. Best Hard News Reporting (2nd, 2024)
- Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Division 1 Audio Feature Reporting (1st, 2024)
- College Media Association Division 1 Best Breaking News Story (3rd, 2024)
- Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Photojournalist of the Year (3rd, 2023)
- Del Mar College Hall of Fame (2022)

References

- **Matt Stephens**, Former Managing Editor, Community Impact — 512-297-9246
- **Laura Krantz**, Director, The University Star — LauraKrantz@txstate.edu, 903-570-4829