

Candace Y.A. Montague

Freelance Journalist

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Profile

Mid-career journalist with over 15 years of experience reporting on health, race, and social inequities. Known for community-centered, accountability-driven reporting that examines how policy and systemic disparities shape everyday life, particularly for Black communities. Award-winning freelance reporter with a strong track record of long-form features and public-interest journalism.

Selected Reporting (Health, Race & Equity)

- *GOP Medicaid Plan Could Reshape Care for Black Americans* — Capital B News
- *Toxic Chemicals Found in Synthetic Braiding Hair Raise Health Concerns* — Capital B News
- *How Doulas Could Help Prevent Harm During Childbirth* — STAT News
- *How a 2005 Law Puts Unhoused, First-Time Expectant Mothers in Uncomfortable Spaces* — The DC Line
- *Life After Death: As Homicides Rise in D.C., Parents Reflect on Open Wounds* — Washington City Paper
- *The District's Opioid Crisis Has Endured Since the 1960s* — Washington City Paper

Black Maternal & Infant Health Series (Washington City Paper) 2024

- *"We Were Here": Black Infant Loss in D.C., Part I*
- *Black Infant Loss in D.C. Part II: The Stillbirth Crisis*
- *Black Infant Loss in D.C. Part III: Where Do We Go From Here?*

Professional Experience

Capital B News — Contributor

March 2025–Present

- Pitch and report on national health and policy issues impacting Black communities
- Conduct in-depth interviews and produce long-form accountability journalism
- Collaborate with editors to shape investigative and explanatory features

The 51st (Washington, D.C.) — Contributor

November 2024–Present

- Report on local health and equity issues affecting D.C. residents
- Develop enterprise stories grounded in community voices and data

Washington City Paper — Contributor

October 2017–Present

- Produce long-form feature stories focused on health disparities and social justice
- Conduct on-the-ground reporting and enterprise storytelling

Black AIDS Institute — Blogger

September 2011–June 2018

- Reported on HIV/AIDS issues impacting Black communities
- Conducted interviews, research, and fact-checking for digital content

Capital Community News (East of the River Magazine) — Health Reporter

July 2011–2018

- Covered health and social justice issues in underserved D.C. communities
- Attended events, conducted interviews, and produced community-focused reporting

Awards & Fellowships

- **Dateline Award for Excellence in Local Journalism (Winner)** — Society of Professional Journalists, DC Chapter “We Were Here” series (2024)
- **National Fellow** — Center for Health Journalism (2023)
- **Diversity Fellow** — Investigative Reporters & Editors Conference (2022)
- **Dateline Award Finalist** — Society of Professional Journalists, DC Chapter (2021)

- **NABJ Award, Single Feature Story (Winner)** — National Association of Black Journalists “Life After Death”
 - **Sigma Delta Chi Award for Excellence in Journalism (2020)** “Life After Death”
 - **POZ 100 Women** — POZ Magazine (2017)
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Professional Affiliations

- Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting
 - National Association of Black Journalists
 - Washington Association of Black Journalists (Former Executive Secretary)
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Leadership & Service

- Editor, Opinions — Street Sense Media (2022–Present)
 - Board Member / Editorial Board — Greater Greater Washington (2021–2024)
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Education

Trinity University, Washington, D.C.

M.S., Community Health Education

Lincoln University (PA)

B.S., Elementary Education

Skills

- Investigative & enterprise reporting
- Health and policy reporting
- Interviewing and source development
- FOIA and public records research
- Community-centered reporting
- Moderating panels and public discussions