

TRACIE MCMILLAN

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Affiliations and Recent Work

1999 – Present Independent, Award-Winning Journalist and Author

- In 2012, published award-winning book, *The American Way of Eating*, a *New York Times* bestseller
- Wrote features, news, opinion and analysis pieces for a wide range of publications including *National Geographic*, *Mother Jones*, the *New York Times*, *Slate*, *National Public Radio*, the *Washington Post*, *Harper's*, *Saveur*, and the *American Prospect*; columnist for *On Earth*; blogger for *National Geographic's* food blog, *The Plate*
- Widespread speaking engagements, media commentary, and public appearances, including "The Rachel Maddow Show," SXSW, Logan Symposium on Investigative Journalism, Chautauqua Institution, and many more.

2017-18; 2014 Professor of Writing

- 2017-2018 "Food Writing: Intersectionality on Your Plate," New York University Steinhardt School of Education, Nutrition and Food Studies Department; graduate level instruction
- 2014 "Writing About Inequality," Wesleyan University Koepfel Journalism Fellow; undergraduate instruction

2013 – Present Committee Member, James Beard Journalism Awards

- Helped to administer prominent prize for writing about food, helping steer awards towards transparency, accountability, and inclusion

2012 – 2013 Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellows, University of Michigan

- Spent academic year on fellowship at university campus in class of 16 journalists
- Participated in fellowship exchange and life, and represented fellowship to prestigious visitors, funders, and international hosts during extensive travel with fellowship.

2011 – Present Senior Fellow, Institute for Investigative Journalism Brandeis University

- Participated in collaborative community of journalists specializing in investigative and social-issue reporting.

2000-2005 Managing Editor, *City Limits* magazine

- Managed independent, award-winning monthly magazine covering politics and policy in New York City, and regularly reported news and award-winning features

Books

2012 Author, *The American Way of Eating* (Scribner)

- Published *New York Times* bestseller, *The American Way of Eating: Going Undercover at Walmart, Applebee's, Farm Fields and The Dinner Table*, a first-person, undercover investigative book about America's food system. Reporting ranged from undercover jobs across food system to in-depth reporting of the social, political and historical context of the American food system and low-wage labor market;
- Extensive use of DocumentCloud to organize research coming from three different assistants across the country;

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- Widely recognized for its reporting and writing, including:
 - Winner, [Sidney Hillman Award](#)
 - Winner, [Books for a Better Life Award](#)
 - Finalist, [James Beard Journalism Awards](#)
 - Finalist, [Investigative Reporters and Editors Awards](#)
 - Finalist, [International Association of Culinary Professionals Book Awards](#).
- Select Impact
 - Used to frame *Congressional Quarterly's* 2012 report on farm bill, distributed to stakeholders, legislators, advocates and public officials;
 - Used in successful community efforts to resist the construction of a new Walmart in Watertown, MA;
 - Inspired Betti Wiggins, school food director for Detroit Public Schools, to raise starting wage for her division from minimum wage to \$10 an hour;
 - Widely taught across disciplines at universities and colleges across the country, often as a common read.

2013-2016 Contributor, Various Anthologies

- 2016 *The Dirt*, anthology of best work published by the Food and Environment Reporting Network
- 2014 *Local Food Environments*, definitive collection of academic work on food issues
- 2014 *The Detroit Anthology*, anthology of Detroit writers and observers
- 2013 *Best Food Writing 2013*, annual anthology of best food writing in U.S.

Awards and Recognition

James Beard Journalism Award (2013)

- [Winner, "As Common As Dirt,"](#) *The American Prospect*
- Finalist twice previously; highlighted as a notable finalist by *The New Yorker*

Book awards (2013)

- The five awards I received for *The American Way of Eating* are listed under "Books"

Whole Living magazine: Food Visionary (2012)

- Named a leading "Food Visionary" in prominent consumer magazine

Mesa Refuge Residency (2011)

- Awarded residency for writers addressing issues of social justice

Fund for Investigative Journalism (2010)

- Awarded grant to pursue reporting on farm labor and completion of book

James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism (2006)

- Won national prize for journalism measuring business, governmental and social affairs against the common good, for a feature series on poverty issues, ["Getting By."](#)

Livingston Award for Young Journalists (2006)

- Finalist, for ["Getting By"](#)

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Wesleyan Writer's Conference (2006)

- Recipient of Jon Davidoff Scholarship, awarded to journalists of unusual promise

Harry Chapin Media Award (2005)

- Won national prize rewarding outstanding coverage of poverty and hunger issues, for "[The Action Diet](#)" (*City Limits*, July/August 2004) and its accompanying data project, "[Where to Grab a Bite in NYC](#)"; was finalist twice previous, for "[Market Babies](#)" (*City Limits*, January 2003), and "[The Great Training Robbery](#)" (*City Limits*, 2002)
- **Impact:** *The Action Diet* included the first analysis of food access in New York and developed a metric that is now in wide use to measure whether neighborhoods has sufficient access to healthy food, and led Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez to introduce legislation encouraging bodega owners to stock healthy food.

Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism (2004)

- Honorable mention for national prize rewarding outstanding coverage of issues facing children and families, for "[Market Babies](#)" (*City Limits*, January 2003), which chronicled the ways the rise of home-based child care under the Giuliani administration's welfare reforms failed to live up to its promises

University of Maryland Journalism Fellowships (2004)

- Fellow in program helping journalists examine how social policies affect children

Education

- 1994-1999 New York University, B.A.
- Magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa

Language

- Conversational Spanish