

My internship at the Boston Globe opened my eyes and my mind to the possibilities of my Cinema and Media Studies major and the flexibility and diversity of journalism. It helped me think more critically about my own writing and examine different areas of writing, particularly more journalistic writing.

This summer, I had the amazing opportunity to work at the Boston Globe for 3 months. My position was as an intern in the Living/Arts section of the newspaper. I was initially nervous as I had never worked at any newspaper publication, and most of my writing experience leaned toward personal essays and film analysis. Right away, however, I noticed how welcoming everyone at the Globe was. They would always make it clear that they were here to help and guide me through this process. I was one of the few undergraduates in the program, and I was certainly the one with the least experience. Despite this, everyone I encountered at the Globe was willing to help and did not see my lack of experience as a hindrance, but an opportunity for a fresh perspective.

At the Boston Globe, I was not tasked with busywork. Instead, I was encouraged to pitch my own ideas for articles and speak out if I thought there were any improvements to be made to the Living/Arts section. I was first asked to create new types of articles that the section could run, researching and coming up with my own ideas of what the readership of the Globe would be interested in. I then wrote my first article, covering the Nantucket Film Festival. It was fascinating to be able to get access to press releases and choose which films to highlight based on their reception at previous festivals, the actors starring in them, or how well known the makers of the films are. This threw me into the world of journalistic film writing and I conducted my first professional interview with the director of the Nantucket Film Festival.

I worked closely with my mentor and editor Brooke Hauser on all my articles, as well as the head of the Living/Arts department Veronica Chao. Brooke helped me immeasurably throughout my time at the Globe and I would not be as proud of my work as I am without her. My second article was an interview of Leslie Manville, an actress starring in an upcoming film. It was an amazing opportunity to get to speak to her and a huge responsibility. It was nerve wracking preparing for the interview, but it went extremely well and I was so excited to share all that we had talked about with the readers of the Globe.

Amazingly, I was able to pitch a movie review and publish it for the Globe. "Bodies Bodies Bodies" was a film I had been highly anticipating and getting the opportunity to see it before it was officially released was incredible. I worked closely with one of the Globe's premier movie reviewers Mark Feeney. He readily helped me work on mock reviews and gave me tips as I had never written a professional review before. I felt so proud to talk about the movie to other people because I was able to point to my review as a reason why they should see it.

I am most proud of my article concerning Nollywood. I came to the idea in conjunction with my editor Brooke Hauser and worked on it as a larger project over the course of most of the three months I worked at the Boston Globe. It was an essay that was deeply personal and important to me. I felt honored to be able to speak about my country Nigeria's film industry and my mother in the newspaper. It was hard to be so personal on such a public platform, but it helped me grow, not only as a writer, but a person. It was an irreplaceable experience working at the Globe, and it changed me for the better. I got to write about films and the film industry for 3 months, which is all I have ever wanted to do. It is an internship I will always cherish and remember.