

# CHRISTOPHER M. ZALUSKI

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## EDUCATION

### **Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.**

- Master of Fine Arts, Documentary Film – May 2013
- Emphasis in Entrepreneurship Education

### **Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C.**

- Bachelor of Science, Communication – May 2008 (Summa Cum Laude)
- Majors: Journalism & Electronic Media/Broadcasting

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Wake Forest University**

Winston-Salem, N.C.

- Adjunct Instructor, Department of Communication – Spring 2014 - Present  
Teach *Introduction to Digital Communications* covering basic video and audio production as well as multimedia and web design. Have also taught *Entrepreneurship in Social Media*, which discussed entrepreneurial principles in light of a connected society.
- Adjunct Instructor, Journalism Department – Spring 2014 - Present  
Teach *Interactive Digital Media* course discussing theories of multimedia storytelling, basic video and audio production skills, and web publishing technologies.
- Faculty Adviser, Wrought Iron Productions – Summer 2013 - Summer 2014  
Advised a staff of 30 students involved in an on-campus video production company and conducted workshops.

### **Elon University**

Elon, N.C.

- Adjunct Instructor, School of Communications – Spring 2013  
Taught two *Digital Media Convergence* classes covering the basics in visual storytelling, photography, web design, graphic design, and video/audio production. The course is prerequisite for all Communications majors.

### **Ben Franklin Transatlantic Fellowship Institute**

Winston-Salem, N.C.

- Instructor – Summer 2012 & Summer 2013  
Taught the course *Documentary Film and Media in Society* to a group of 68 international high school students.
- Mentor – Summer 2011  
Taught technical skills such as videography and editing to a group of 25 international high school students during a two-week Documentary Film camp.

### **Guest Lecturer**

Various Locations

- Wake Forest University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences – Spring 2013  
Taught a month-long shortcourse in Web Design Basics for interested graduate students.
- Wake Forest University, Journalism Dept. – Fall 2012  
Taught three classes about multimedia journalism in the following subjects: *Beat Reporting*, *Sports Reporting*, and *Introduction to Journalism*.
- Appalachian State University, Communication Dept. – Fall 2012

Taught two sessions as a guest lecturer in the following classes: *Exploring the Documentary Form* and *Advanced Video Production*. Also screened film, *Wagonmasters*, as part of library screening series.

## **Wake Forest University**

Winston-Salem, N.C.

### •Teaching Assistant, Communication Dept. – Fall 2011

Served as a teaching assistant for 20 undergraduate students in filmmaker Peter Gilbert's *Visual Storytelling* course. Organized and taught additional out-of-class sessions on video editing and Final Cut Pro.

## **Wake Forest University, Documentary Film Program**

Winston-Salem, N.C.

### •Bootcamp Instructor – Summer 2011

Taught technical skills such as videography, editing, and lighting during a two-day bootcamp to graduate students entering the Documentary Film Program.

## **RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

### **Teach For America**

Asheville, N.C. – Summer 2014 - Present

#### •Director, Video Operations

Manage all of the non-profit's video production endeavors as well as the daily management of four video producers; Planned, budgeted, and implemented all video content for Teach For America's 25th Anniversary Celebration in February 2016; Manage the national YouTube channel, optimize all video content, and strategize for future video content.

### **CMZ Productions/Honest Eye Productions**

Asheville, N.C. – Spring 2012 - Present

#### •Founder and Director

Produce numerous freelance projects ranging from non-profit, education, commercial, and documentary film; Projects have received Official Selection in more than 30 national film festivals.

### **Wrought Iron Productions**

Winston-Salem, N.C. – Spring 2012 - Summer 2013

#### •Director and Founder

Director of production company whose mission is to provide affordable, high-quality video production services solely for the Wake Forest University community. Oversaw a staff of 25 videographers, editors and producers.

### **The Roanoke Times**

Roanoke, Va. – Spring 2009 - Summer 2010

#### •Multimedia Producer

Shot and edited news and feature videos, designed interactive Flash graphics, wrote, reported and edited articles, created specialty Web pages, maintained daily updates on Roanoke.com and worked with a variety of Web 2.0 applications.

### **St. Louis Post-Dispatch**

St. Louis, Mo. – Fall 2008

#### •Multimedia Intern

Produced feature and breaking news videos, updated STLtoday.com's "Multimedia" and "Interact" sections on a daily basis and helped design stand-alone Web pages.

### **Poynter Institute Summer Fellowship for Young Journalists**

St. Petersburg, Fla. – Summer 2008

#### •Editor/Producer

Studied at the Poynter Institute's competitive six-week fellowship, produced news content for Poynter's Web site and acted as a copy editor/producer for a team of five covering the neighborhoods of Gulfport and Pasadena.

### ***The Appalachian***

Boone, N.C. – Fall 2004 - Spring 2008

- Associate Editor for Online Operations

Maintained and contributed multimedia presentations for paper's Web site, updated site weekly, edited audio and video and managed an online staff. Earned an "All American" rating, the top ranking in the Associated Collegiate Press.

- Associate Editor for Editorial Content

Managed a 30-person writing staff, led workshops for staff, edited articles and oversaw content of paper.

- Sports Editor/Sports Reporter/Graphic Designer

Wrote and edited stories weekly, managed sports desk and designed print pages.

### ***Statesville Record & Landmark***

Statesville, N.C. – Fall 2007

- Sports Reporter

Worked as high school football reporter and covered local football games on deadline.

### ***WASU-FM***

Boone, N.C. – Fall 2004 - Spring 2006

- DJ & Sports Announcer

On-field sports announcer for 2004 Appalachian State football games. Had a two-hour weekly radio show.

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

### **University Film and Video Association Conference**

Chapman University (Orange, CA )

- Filmmaker Screening – Summer 2013

Screened the film *Wagonmasters* as part of the UFVA conference and received peer feedback.

- Panel Presentation – Summer 2013

Presented on a panel that discussed *Entrepreneurship Education in Nonfiction Filmmaking: Surviving as a Storyteller in the Digital Age*.

### **Rekindling the American Dream Symposium**

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, N.C. )

- Filmmaker Screening – Fall 2012

Screened the film *Wagonmasters* as part of the one-day Rekindling the American Dream Symposium.

### **Where Are You From Symposium**

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, N.C. )

- Presenter – Spring 2012

Presented a session on video editing and video theory as it pertains to capturing a story during the inaugural *Where Are You From Symposium*.

## **AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

- Webby Award "Public Service & Advocacy" Channel (finalist) – 2015

- Best Documentary, *Our State Magazine* (Finalist) – 2013

- College Television Awards (Documentary Film, 2nd Place) – 2013

- Broadcast Education Association, Festival of Media Arts (Best of Festival, 1st Place) – 2013
- Best Documentary, Carolina Film and Video Festival – 2013
- New Orleans Film Festival Pitch Perfect Competition (1st Place) – 2011
- Virginia Press Association (1st place, Multimedia News Report) – 2010
- Online News Association: Knight Award for Public Service (finalist) – 2010
- The Roanoke Times' Online Innovation Award (1st place) – 2010
- American Association for Sunday and Features Editors (1st place, multimedia storytelling) – 2010
- American Association for Sunday and Features Editors (1st place, multimedia storytelling) – 2009
- Virginia Press Association (2nd place, Multimedia News and Sports Reporting) – 2009
- Virginia Press Association (3rd place, Video Presentation) – 2009
- National Broadcasting Society "Video Documentary Program" finalist – 2008
- Official Selection, Poynter Institute for Media Studies' Summer Fellowship for Young Journalists – 2008

## FILMOGRAPHY

### ***Shipping Home* (2016)**

- Co-Director

*Shipping Home* is a short, longitudinal documentary that follows a young couple as they attempt to realize their dream of affordable housing by building a home from shipping containers. *This film is just starting the festival circuit.*

- Screenings:

Official Selection, RiverRun International Film Festival – 2016

Official Selection, Great Lakes Environmental Film Festival – 2016

### ***Ignite* (2015)**

- Director

*Ignite* is a short documentary about Asheville, N.C. artist Ron Killian, who is attempting to create a new art medium using fire and canvas.

- Screenings:

Official Selection, Cucalorus Film Festival – 2015

Official Selection, New Belgium Brewery Clips + Beer 23-City Film Tour – 2015

### ***The Orange Shop* (2014)**

- Co-Director

*The Orange Shop* is a short documentary commissioned by the Southern Foodways Alliance about the last family roadside fruit stand with a grove and packing house in Citra, Florida. The Southern Foodways Alliance "documents, studies, and explores the diverse food cultures of the changing American South" and is housed at the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

## ***The Duke of Rougemont* (2013)**

### •Director

*The Duke of Rougemont* is a short documentary that explores the eccentric hobbies of artist, storyteller and craftsman Stacey Harris, who recently built a Dukes of Hazzard museum in his backyard.

### •Awards/Screenings:

Faces of North Carolina Screening, RiverRun International Film Festival - 2016

Best Documentary Finalist, *Our State Magazine* Documentary Film Contest – 2013

## ***Wagonmasters* (2012)**

### •Co-Director

*Wagonmasters* is a documentary film about the cultural history of the station wagon in America. Also, designed website for film: <http://www.wagonmastersthemovie.com>.

### •Screenings:

Official Selection, Oxford Film Festival – 2015

Official Selection, Pittsburgh Independent Film Festival – 2014

Official Selection, Waterfront Film Festival – 2014

Official Selection, Canton Film Festival – 2013

Official Selection, Blue Whiskey Film Festival – 2013

Official Selection, Riverbend Film Festival – 2013

Official Selection, Riverrun International Film Festival – 2013

Official Selection, Carolina Film and Video Festival – 2013

Official Selection, Author's Day at Automotive Hall of Fame (Detroit, MI) – 2012

Official Selection, Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival – 2012

Official Selection, Concours d'Elegance at St. John's (Detroit, MI) – 2012

### •Awards:

College Television Awards (Documentary Film, 2nd Place) – 2013

Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts, "Best of Festival" Student Documentary (1st Place) – 2013

Best Documentary, Carolina Film and Video Festival – 2013

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Research Day (1st Place) – 2012

RiverRun International Film Festival Pitch Competition (1st Place) – 2012

New Orleans Film Festival Pitch Perfect Competition (1st Place) – 2011

### •Featured:

The film was featured nationally in *The New York Times* and *Automobile Magazine*. It was also featured on the CBS *This Saturday Morning* show. The film was purchased for distribution by PBS and Amazon.

## ***Faces of Courage: Impetus to Desegregate* (2012)**

### •Director, *Faces of Courage* series

*Impetus to Desegregate* is a short film about Wake Forest University's decision to integrate the school in 1962. The film is part of a larger series of videos (called *Faces of Courage*) that celebrate the 50th anniversary of integration and the University's inclusion efforts. To watch the series, visit: <http://facesofcourage.wfu.edu/>

### •Screenings:

Official Selection, *Films With Class (FWC)* educational community outreach program - 2013-14

Official Selection, National Black Film Festival - 2013

Official Selection, RiverRun International Film Festival - 2013

Keynote screening at University-wide Homecoming celebration hosted by the Wake Forest President and Office of Diversity and Inclusion - 2012

## ***Where Are You From? Project* (2011-13)**

### •Director

The *Where Are You From? Project* is a collection of short videos documenting where various Wake Forest University and Winston-Salem community members are from as a way to find commonalities in mobility and immigration over generations. Also designed website for series: <http://www.whereareyoufromproject.org>

•Screenings:

The *Where Are You From? Project* was officially unveiled as part of a community media launch at the World Relief headquarters in High Point, N.C. in Fall 2012.

***A Life on Display* (2010)**

•Co-Director

*A Life on Display* is a documentary short that uses animation to tell the story of Wilhelm, a polar bear at the N.C. Zoo.

***11th and Patterson* (2010)**

•Co-Director

*11th & Patterson* is a documentary short that shows the relationship between Wake Forest students and members of the Winston-Salem homeless community.

•Screenings:

Official Selection, *Community Screen* film series at the New Winston Museum in Winston-Salem, N.C.

***Highway 81: Fears, Facts and the Future* (2010)**

•Director

*Highway 81* is a documentary webisode series that explores the dangers of Virginia's Highway 81.

•Awards:

Virginia Press Association (1st place, Multimedia News Report) – 2010

American Association for Sunday and Features Editors (1st place, multimedia storytelling) – 2010

***Under 21* (2009)**

•Director

*Under 21* is a documentary webisode series that looks at the issue of underage drinking at Virginia universities as well as the Amethyst Initiative -- a movement to lower the drinking age to 18.

•Awards:

Online News Association: Knight Award for Public Service (finalist) – 2010

American Association for Sunday and Features Editors (1st place, multimedia storytelling) – 2009

***VarsityCast* (2009)**

•Director

*VarsityCast* is an online webisode series produced for *The Roanoke Times* that covered high school football.

•Awards:

Virginia Press Association (2nd place, Multimedia News and Sports Reporting) – 2009

***Harvesting Wind: North Carolina's Alternative Progress* (2008)**

•Co-Director

*Harvesting Wind* is a documentary short about the North Carolina's potential for wind energy production.

•Awards:

National Broadcasting Society "Video Documentary Program" finalist – 2008

## WEB PROJECTS

***Filipino Street Art Project* (2013)**

•Web Designer

Designed website for *Filipino Street Art Project* as well as helped formulate content creation ideas as the project relates to an associated class within the Wake Forest University Communication Department.

### ***Where Are You From? Project* (2012)**

- Interactive Graphic Designer and Web Designer

Designed website for *Where Are You From? Project* as well as designed an interactive map showing where each participant in the project is from. Also included a section to allow community members to upload their videos or photos to become part of the project. (<http://www.whereareyoufromproject.org/>)

### ***Haiti Reporters* (2012)**

- Web Designer

Designed a website for a non-profit video organization in Port-au-Prince, Haiti that empowers citizens to document their communities through documentary video. (<http://www.haitireporters.info/>)

### ***Nicaragua Nexus* (2010)**

- Web Designer

Organized, designed website for Wake Forest's outreach efforts in Nicaragua. (<http://www.wfu.edu/nicaragua/>)

### ***Highway 81: Fears, Facts and the Future* (2010)**

- Interactive Graphic Designer and Web Designer

Designed interactive graphics and helped design website exploring elements of Highway 81, including safety and accident statistics. (<http://www.roanoke.com/multimedia/81/>)

- Awards:

Virginia Press Association (1st place, Multimedia News Report) – 2010

### ***Under 21* (2009)**

- Interactive Graphic Designer and Web Designer

Designed an interactive map of Virginia universities' stance of the Amethyst Initiative, as well as drinking habits among the student populations of the respective schools. ([www.roanoke.com/under21](http://www.roanoke.com/under21))

- Awards:

Online News Association: Knight Award for Public Service (finalist) – 2010

American Association for Sunday and Features Editors (1st place, multimedia storytelling) – 2009

### ***Heroin Rings of Roanoke* (2009)**

- Interactive Graphic Designer

Designed an interactive graphic about a heroin drug ring in Roanoke, Va.

- Awards:

Virginia Press Association (2nd place, Multimedia News Reporting) – 2009

### ***Crime at Roanoke Housing Projects* (2009)**

- Interactive Graphic Designer

Designed an interactive graphic about crime statistics in Roanoke, Va., housing projects.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- Extensive video/audio experience
- Final Cut Pro 7
- Final Cut Pro X
- Adobe Audition
- Adobe Premiere
- iMovie
- Adobe Creative Suite

- HTML/CSS
- FTP
- Adobe Flash
- Avid Media Composer
- Wordpress
- Edius editing software
- Web 2.0 applications



## GRANTWORK

### **National Communication Association**

Fall 2013

- Faculty Adviser

Received \$5,000 from the National Communication Association to oversee a student production team to produce the *I REMEMBER.... NCA Centennial Video Project* at the 2013 Annual NCA Convention.

### **Chambers Family Fund for Entrepreneurship**

Fall 2012

- Director, Wrought Iron Productions

Received \$8,500 from the Chambers Family Fund for Entrepreneurship to help launch Wrought Iron Productions. The Fund is sponsored by the Wake Forest University Center for Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship.

### **North Carolina Humanities Council**

Spring 2012

- Video Director and Web Designer, *Where Are You From? Project*

Received funding from the North Carolina Humanities Council to help launch a multimedia website for the Where Are You From? Project - a video series exploring experiences of migration and mobility.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### **Graduate Assistant**

Winston-Salem, N.C. – Fall 2010 - May 2013

- Graduate Assistant, Documentary Film Program

Responsible for updating the Documentary Film Program's website ([wfu.edu/documentary](http://wfu.edu/documentary)), designing posters and promotional materials, and running technical support during DFP-sponsored screenings.

### **Peer Mentor Program**

Winston-Salem, N.C. – Fall 2011 - Spring 2012

- Peer Mentor, Documentary Film Program

Served as Peer Mentor for an first-year Documentary Film Program graduate student to help with their transition into the Wake Forest University community as well as graduate school.