

Traci Lower/aka Jessica James

Professional Summary

Award-winning author/writer with extensive background in journalism and public relations. Seeking a writing position that combines history and love of travel.

Work History

Author/Novelist

Gettysburg, PA

01/2007 - Current

Full Time 40 hrs/week

- Numerous national and international writing awards for fiction writing
- In-depth research and interviews to ensure accurate plots
- Design, format and write content for marketing materials, reports, publications, forms and other information products
- Write, edit, layout interior book copy, hire of copy editors, cover artists, and beta readers
- Collect, organize, proof metadata for 12 titles on multiple retail platforms
- Work with copy editing and development editors to enhance development and presentation of each book
- Conduct readings, signings and launch events to promote books and build audience loyalty
- Work with information management systems to store, maintain and retrieve written material including Google Suite and Dropbox

Gettysburg Times, Hanover Evening Sun - Newspaper Editor

Gettysburg, PA

01/1988 - 05/2005

Full Time 40+ hrs/week

- Laid out/designed/formatted newspaper pages
- Followed AP manual and newsroom style guides
- Edited and fact-checked reporter's stories
- Made decisions and collaborated on stories and placement
- Coordinated special section content and topics with editor and chief
- Worked with staff writers and photographers in production of content for daily newspaper
- Proofread, edited, and evaluated final copy to verify content aligned with established guidelines

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(717) 642-6836

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Skills

- 18 Years Newspaper Editor Experience
- 35 Years Freelance Writing Background
- Communications
- Editing Layout/Design of Publications
- Able to Meet Deadlines
- Marketing and Media Relations
- Publications
- Journalism
- Research
- Content development
- Grammar usage
- Proofreading
- Self-publishing experience
- Press releases

Education

Shippensburg University

Shippensburg, Pa.

Master of Arts: Communications

Magna cum laude graduate

Shippensburg University

Shippensburg, Pa.

Bachelor of Science: Public Relations/
Journalism

Garrett Community College

McHenry, Md.

Associate of Science: Veterinary
Technology

Awards

2021 RONE Best Cover Award Finalist (Sleigh Bells Ring)
2020 N.N. Light Book Heaven Awards Finalist
2020 John Esten Cooke Award for Southern Fiction
2020 InD'tale Magazine Rone Award nomination
2020 Greater Detroit RWA Booksellers Best Award Finalist
2020 HOLT Medallion Award Finalist
2019 Finalist Indie Excellence Award
2019 John Esten Cooke Award for Southern Fiction
2018 Silver Falchion Award Finalist in Suspense
2017 RONE Award for Best Cover (Deadline)
2017 IndieBRAG Medallion Winner
2016 Gold Medal Military Writers Society of America
2016 Readers' Favorite International Book Award Bronze Winner
Romance – Suspense
2016 Finalist for BOOK OF THE YEAR in Foreword Magazine's
IndieFab contest
2015 NJRW Golden Leaf Award
2014 Valley Forge Romance Writers Sheila Award Finalist
2014 John Esten Cooke Award for Southern Fiction
2014 Reader's Crown Award Finalist
2014 Next Generation Indie Award Finalist in Fiction/Religious
2013 USA "Best Books 2013" Finalist in Fiction/Religious
2012 Bronze winner Foreword Magazine Book of the Year
2011 John Esten Cooke Award for Southern Fiction
2011 USA "Best Books 2011" Finalist in Historical Fiction
2011 Next Generation Indie Award for Best Regional Fiction
2011 Next Generation Indie Finalist in Romance
2011 Next Generation Indie Finalist in Historical Fiction
2011 NABE Pinnacle Book Achievement Award
2010 Military Writers Society Award in Historical Fiction
2009 HOLT Medallion Finalist for Best Southern Theme
2008 Indie Next Generation Award for Best Regional Fiction
2008 Indie Next Generation Finalist for Best Historical Fiction
2008 IPPY Award for Best Regional Fiction
2008 ForeWord Magazine Finalist for Book of the Year in Romance

