

ALISON O'BRIEN

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Three-Time Emmy Award Winning Documentary and Long-Form Producer with Expertise at Content Creation, Project Management and Relationship Building. Everyone has a story that deserves to be heard.

ABOUT ME

I am a dedicated and deadline-driven project manager of staff, clients, and product, handling all details from small to large. Throughout my career as a storyteller, writer and content creator across a broad range of topics, I have fostered trusting relationships with experts, executives and interview subjects, bringing audiences important stories that matter.

SKILLS

*Research compelling stories / subjects	*Conduct extensive in-person interviews	*Manage budget
*Script shows, crafting complex narratives	*Unearth and License photos and footage	*Meet tight deadlines
*Manage staff, crew & editors	*Work with legal and fact check to ensure accuracy	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Warner Bros. Discovery / CNN - Documentary Producer – CNN, HLN, Discovery ID 2016 - 2024

At CNN, I produced 35 hours of historical, medical, psychological, and scientific documentary programming, taking each show every step from start through finish, meeting tight delivery and broadcast deadlines. Prior to broadcast, I worked with marketing and promotion teams to grow our audience, including writing companion pieces for digital and CNN.com.

Lincoln Square Productions - Freelance Documentary Producer 2016 – 2016

Researched and booked interview guests for a one-hour true-crime program, “*Adnan Syed: Innocent or Guilty*”.

Montel Williams Enterprises - Supervising Producer 2015 – 2016

Produced a 30-minute episode of the infomercial series, “*Living Well with Montel*”.

ITV STUDIOS – After the First 48 / A&E Network – Producer 2013 – 2015

Produced four one-hour episodes of true-crime stories, interviewing law enforcement, legal minds and victims’ families.

ORANGE LION PRODUCTIONS – Forever BIG / Big Ten Network – Producer 2013 - 2013

Produced four episodes of the sports series where former professional athletes talk about their present-day successes.

NBC NEWS – Rock Center with Brian Williams - Story Producer, Development Producer 2011 – 2013

Produced feature and investigative stories for the weekly news magazine. My story, “*Midnight Run*”, a look at a growing number of working families relying on food stamps to feed their children, was in the premiere episode.

CNBC - Documentary, Long-Form Producer 2005 – 2011

Produced 12 CNBC Original full-length documentaries, which were then sold for air overseas, and 12 long-form stories for *Business Nation*, our news magazine show. I am proud to say that I won CNBC’s first two Emmy Awards.

MONTEL WILLIAMS SHOW - Senior Field Producer 2000 – 2004

Produced taped pieces to supplement a live-to-tape talk show experience, managing and mentoring a four-person staff.

ABC NEWS - Breaking News Producer 1995 – 2000

Coordinated live breaking news coverage on the weekend / overnights, including the plane crash of John F. Kennedy jr.

FX, Fox Cable Networks - Field Producer 1994 – 1998

Produced both live and taped segments across the country for the daily series, *Personal FX: The Collectibles Show*.

EDUCATION

Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ

Master’s Degree in *Strategic Communication and Leadership* – graduated with honors.

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Bachelor’s degree in *Broadcast Journalism* from the Newhouse School of Public Communications.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society / Team in Training - Volunteer Marathon Coach 2007 – present
I motivate, inspire, and train first-time marathoners and veterans through months of miles and fundraising monies for cancer research.

Market Street Mission - Food Pantry and Meal Volunteer 2024 – present
I serve meals for the Mission’s residents and the outside community they serve. I bring heart and a smile.

AFS – American Foreign Service - Social Media Creation Volunteer / Student Liaison 2024 – present
I create social media campaigns to reach host families and volunteer as a liaison for foreign exchange students currently studying in the U.S. Also, on behalf of AFS, I also met with officials on Capitol Hill to ask that Department of State funding continues.

Interfaith Food Pantry - Food Pantry Volunteer 2025 – present
Sorting through and restocking the pantry perishables satisfies my need for organization while helping the food insecure.

AWARDS

Emmy Award winner *Prescriptions and Payoffs* (CNBC - Business Nation) 2007
Big Brother, Big Business (CNBC - Documentary) 2007
Field of Dreams (CNBC - Business Nation) 2008

Emmy Award nominee *The eBay Effect: Inside a Worldwide Obsession* (CNBC) 2006
Ultimate Fighting: From Blood Sport to Big Time (CNBC) 2008
Bats: The Mystery Behind Covid-19 (CNN) 2021

SELECT CREDITS

“How It Really Happened” - CNN / HLN 2016 - 2024
I produced 18 hours of the archival footage-based series focusing on moments that changed world conversation, including the 2001 Anthrax Attacks, the 1979 Iran Hostage Crisis and the Menendez Brothers.

“Violent Earth – Hurricanes” – CNN 2024
I produced one hour of the storm, science and survivor documentary, hosted by Live Schriber.

“Very Scary People” – CNN / HLN 2018 - 2024
I produced eight hours of this psychological series delving into the minds of a serial killer, including Ronnie DeFeo, jr.

“Forensic Files II” – CNN / HLN 2021 - 2023

“Something’s Killing Me” – CNN / HLN 2017 - 2019
I produced four hours of the medical series about incredible parents trying to save their children from ultra-rare diseases.

“Bedside Manner” - Rock Center with Brian Williams / NBC 2012
An investigation into patients being asked to provide pre-payment for medical treatment.

CNBC Original Documentaries – CNBC
“Business Model: Inside the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition” 2010
“Trash Inc. The Secret Life of Garbage” 2010
“Ultimate Fighting: Fistful of Dollars” 2009

“How I Made My Millions” – Business Nation / CNBC 2007 - 2009
“Life is Good”
“Reed’s Ginger Brew”
“Head Blade”

“The Dress Auction of Princess Diana” – Personal FX: The Collectibles Show” / FX Network 1997