

CONTACT

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LINKED IN
linkedin.com/in/heyjames

SKILLS

7 YEARS TELEVISION HOST

15 YEARS STAGE ACTOR

20 YEARS WEB DESIGNER

2 YEARS ENGLISH TEACHER

9 YEARS WRITER

22 YEARS MS OFFICE

17 YEARS PHOTOSHOP

8 YEARS MYSQL

6 YEARS MARKETING

THE "DAY JOB" 9/2008 - 11/2016

To allow for the pursuit of higher education and writing advancement, my day job had been as a senior programmer and database admin at ThinkHR in Pleasanton, CA.

JAMES | KOPONEN

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

California State University East Bay: Writing Instructor, 9/2008 – 6/2009

Taught freshmen students the essential elements in writing college-level essays, stressing a focus in critical thinking and analyzing assumptions. Constructed classes that centered around reading published works and having students write on various assigned criteria. Taught current MLA formatting techniques using proper research and citation strategies. Focused on students finding a personal voice and developing essays which avoid plagiarism.

MARKETING EXPERIENCE

Designed and built dozens of websites, using raw HTML (later WordPress) for a plethora of clients, while incorporating SEO strategies and strong marketing content for optimum ROI success. Provided CMS on websites where applicable.

BROADCAST JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Worked and volunteered for seven years with Channel 30 Television, performing interviews and developing segments for various television shows. Hosted "Everything Local" for five years, interviewing many dozens of guests ranging for master chefs to world travelers to artists who painted pigs.

Worked as freelance writer for the Las Positas College newspaper, identifying and building human interest stories in the Tri-Valley area.

PUBLICATIONS / REGARDED WORKS

- ✓ Wrote and co-produced three Mystery Dinner Shows, performed in 2005, 2008, and 2015
- ✓ Authored numerous drama sketches for various theatre groups
- ✓ Commissioned to write a Christmas production and summer musical ("Prince of Egypt") for Neighborhood Theatre Group
- ✓ Published "Freak Show," a poem published in the 2006 edition of Occam's Razor

EDUCATION

Master's in English 9/2006 - 6/2009

Extended my investment in education to pursue and complete a master's degree in English with a 3.85 GPA. Studies included a year in a classroom teaching English composition at the university and grading student essays. Master's thesis available upon request.

Bachelor's in English 9/2003 - 6/2006

Returned to college to advance my AA degree into a BA in English. Studies included creative writing and a focus on formal structured composition, allowing greater contributions in providing clients assistance with strong and properly formatted content.

EXTRACURRICULAR

To maintain a balanced lifestyle, I participate in community theatre and occasionally do a bit part in a television show or movie. I also maintain a collection of accents, in case voiceovers are needed. Other hobbies include French, piano, martial arts (Black Belt in Kenpo) half-marathon running, foreign photography & travel, and NFL football.

Various Articles Written Over the Years

(Click on a headline to read the full article.)

The Kneel Felt Around the Nation (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=2)	Written on March 27, 2017
SUMMARY: Kaapernick and the never-ending kneeling controversy.	
KEYWORDS: politics sports nonfiction	
Apparently, They Are Tall After All (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=3)	Written on February 24, 2017
SUMMARY: Finally, some facts and figures regarding the myth behind tall leading men in Hollywood (Hint: they're mostly tall)	
KEYWORDS: hollywood nonfiction	
Dude, Where's My Office? (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=4)	Written on January 26, 2017
SUMMARY: Thoughts on the different styles of seating arrangements in office environments.	
KEYWORDS: lifestyle work	
The Vikings (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=5)	Written on January 18, 2017
SUMMARY: Television show review.	
KEYWORDS: television entertainment	
An NFL Game, A Spiked Drink, and a Broken iPhone. Summary? Not Good. (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=6)	Written on December 08, 2016
SUMMARY: A night at a Seahawks game that left me wandering alone in th city in a drunken stupor. Lessons were learned.	
KEYWORDS: nonfiction humor sports	
They Left? They Really Left! (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=7)	Written on June 24, 2016
SUMMARY: Reactions to Brexit. Analyzing both sides.	
KEYWORDS: politics brexit nonfiction	
The Art of the Scam (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=8)	Written on March 26, 2016
SUMMARY: The arduous journey of buying a new Macbook ... online.	
KEYWORDS: humor computers internet	
Heading to the Left: First Class on British Airways (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=9)	Written on February 18, 2016
SUMMARY: An indulgence in returning from London: First Class seating!	
KEYWORDS: nonfiction travel	
The Whole Tooth and Nothing But (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=10)	Written on January 23, 2016
SUMMARY: The trials and tribulations of having a tooth removed.	
KEYWORDS: humor nonfiction dental	
Quicksand and the Butterfly (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=12)	Written on February 28, 2015
SUMMARY: Myths in Non-fiction and the legend of quicksand.	
KEYWORDS: reflective nonfiction literature	
The Pumpkin Hurl! (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=14)	Written on September 14, 2013
SUMMARY: Exploring a festive holiday near Seattle.	
KEYWORDS: travel nonfiction seattle	
New Year's Eve in Paris (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=13)	Written on December 31, 2003
SUMMARY: A wild time in Paris for New Year's Eve--complete with a robbery.	
KEYWORDS: nonfiction humor travel	
Be a Modeling Superstar with Options Talent (https://www.heyjames.com/portfolio/writings.php?id=1)	Written on May 16, 2002
SUMMARY: An almost-inside look at a talent search agency.	
KEYWORDS: humor nonfiction	