

Melissa Walsh

Writer

melissa@powerplaycommunications.com

Summary

Master wordsmith, publishing guru, history nerd, and proud Motor City girl. I love to read, play hockey, and sail.

Experience

Staff Writer at Grosse Pointe News

2017 - Present

Reporting news from Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Woods.

Independent Writer, Editor & Consultant at Powerplay Communications

August 2010 - Present

Services:

- * Business & marketing communications
- * Content Marketing
- * Content strategy
- * Structured authoring & single-source publishing
- * Model-Based systems engineering documentation
- * Proposal development
- * Marketing collateral production
- * News, features & press release writing
- * Reference and report writing
- * Website planning & copywriting
- * Ghostwriting

Documentation Specialist at LG Chem Power Inc

June 2015 - August 2017 (2 years 3 months)

Support the business goals of LG Chem Power Inc. (LGCPI) in project management:

- *Supported risk mitigation by establishing a requirements integration baseline for timing and scope of internal and external product and program requirements.
- * Reported status of requirements integration and validation.
- * Served as ISO 26262 Functional Safety documentation lead for an automotive hybrid-electric battery management system.

* Identified single-source methods and model-based, structured-authoring strategy for improving elicitation, development, and reuse of automotive technical design specification content.

Logistics Engineer at Navistar Defense

November 2011 - July 2012 (9 months)

Analyzed engineering technical data for modification and mission-equipment enhancements of the MaxxPro MRAP family of vehicles, assessing designs for U.S. Army Two-Level Maintenance (organic) maintainability and sustainability.

Senior Logistics Engineer/Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) Manager at General Dynamics Land Systems

July 2007 - October 2010 (3 years 4 months)

Developed plans, schedules and budgets for a ground combat vehicle logistics program, including operator training and vehicle service and repair. Assessed engineering change packages for impacts to the vehicle operator and field mechanic. Communicated the scope of effort to logistics department leads. Tracked execution status of logistics activities; reported status to GDLS executive management and the USG.

Marketing Specialist

2005 - 2007 (3 years)

Prepared business and marketing communications packages for the development, promotion, launch and sustainment of Techstream — the wireless, PC-based automotive service tool and program used in all North American Toyota and Lexus dealerships.

Writer & Editor

1999 - 2006 (8 years)

Contributed essays and articles for publication in various forms of print and electronic media, including biographical sketches, marketing copy, editorial columns and news and features articles. Served as Managing Editor of Michigan House Calls Magazine. Authored *The Rookie Hockey Mom: How to Play the Game's Toughest Position* (Lyons Press, 2005). Served as a technical consultant to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's Bi3 project, undertaking the conversion of more than 80,000 legacy and active contractual documents into XML-based elements for data management.

Staff Writer at Grosse Pointe News

2001 - 2002 (2 years)

Reported education and library news; contributed columns and features.

Social Studies Teacher at Cornerstone Schools

2000 - 2001 (2 years)

Taught world history, American history and geography at Cornerstone Middle School.

Middle School Teacher - Latin & French at University Liggett School

1999 - 2001 (3 years)

Taught Latin at ULS Middle School for the 1999/2000 school year. Taught French for ULS Summer School in 2000 and 2001. Also tutored students.

Project Editor at Gale Group

1993 - 1999 (7 years)

Managed publishing activities for Gale print products, CD-ROMs and reference databases. Prepared production schedules and P&Ls. Honed competencies in open-source technologies for content/data management. Oversaw manuscript development by contracting and providing direction to writers and copyeditors.

Office Assistant at Wayne State University

1990 - 1992 (3 years)

Assisted international students with INS documentation, WSU registration requirements, and housing information.

Education

Hope College

BA, International Studies, 1985 - 1989

Activities and Societies: * 1987 - Spent the spring term traveling through southern European countries, pursuing studies in Mediterranean culture and history. * 1988 - Spent the summer working in Oostende and Liege, Belgium. * 1988 - Spent a semester studying at the University of Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. * 1989 - Spent a semester studying at the Institute for European Studies in Vienna, Austria.

L'Anse Creuse High School

Oakland Community College

Applied Engineering/Commercial Truck Service Technology, 2009 - 2009

Macomb Community College

Applied Engineering/Automotive Service Technology, 2007 - 2009

Wayne State University

Theoretical Linguistics, 1990 - 1993

Activities and Societies: * Summer of 1991 - Studied generative grammar, taught by Wycliffe linguists/translators at the University of North Dakota. * Summer of 1992 - Participated in project in Costa Rica.

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[Contact Melissa on LinkedIn](#)