

VICTORIA IJEOMA OPARA

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[Portfolio](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

- University of Maryland, College Park || In Progress
Ph.D., Journalism Studies
- University of Maryland, College Park || May 2026
M.J., Journalism
- Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Anambra, Nigeria || July 2017
B.A., Theatre Arts

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant/Reporter

August 2024 - May 2026

Howard Centre for Investigative Journalism

College Park, Maryland

- Analyze and summarize large data sets from diverse subject areas using R Studio.
- Create graphics for investigative reports using Data Wrapper, Flourish and Adobe Illustrator based on analyzed data.

Freelance Reporter

Sept. 2024 – May 2026

College Park Here & Now

College Park, Maryland

- Wrote enterprise stories covering community issues, including [business](#) and [health](#).

Reporter

April 2021 – July 2024

International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR)

Abuja, Nigeria

- Pitched and wrote investigative stories once monthly, and at least five news stories weekly on topics including [illegal mining](#), [gender discrimination](#), and [education](#).
- Led a team of four reporters in investigating and reporting on sexual harassment of university students by lecturers or other supervisors under The ICIR's *Oga Lecturer* project.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, Computation + Journalism Symposium 2025: Using generative artificial intelligence (AI) to strengthen local reporting and storytelling
- Co-presenter, NICAR 2026: Using LLMs to improve your archives

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

- Finalist, West Africa Media Excellence Conference& Awards (WAMECA) 2025
- Finalist, Diamond Awards for Media Excellence (DAME) 2025
- Fellow, Howard Center for Investigative Reporting 2024-2026
- Recipient, WABJ Investigative Journalism Scholarship, Washington Association of Black Journalists. 2024
- Alumnus, Radio Netherlands Training Centre (RNTC). 2024