

## Samantha Noland Curriculum Vitae

Samantha Noland

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### **EDUCATION:**

**American University**, School of Communication | Class of 2025

**MFA**, Film and Media Arts

Concentration in Arts and Entertainment

**BA, Cornell University**, College of Arts and Sciences | Class of 2021

**Major:** American Studies & Performing and Media Arts | **Minor:** Literatures in English

**GPA:** 4.1/4.3 | Phi Beta Kappa

**The Holton-Arms School:** Graduated with Highest Honors | Class of 2017

### **PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE:**

*Writer, Director, Producer, “People-Pleaser”* 2024

- Anticipated Capstone project coming fall 2024.
- A personal exploration of people-pleasing and the need to find one’s own voice.

*Writer, Director, Producer, “Park Bench Philosophy”* 2024

- Wrote and directed this short fiction film centering on two strangers meeting and discussing the meaning of life, death, and the existence of God.

*Director, Writer, and Editor, [Hot Rocks and Pretty Trash: Living off the Grid on Capitol Hill](#)* 2023

- Tells the story of Judy K living off the grid on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.
- Finalist for People’s Choice award, **Kino Film Festival**

*Production Assistant, Rorschach Theatre Company* 2023

- Shot videos for the projections for shown in *Angel Number 9*.

*Producer, Director, Writer, Film Theory Project* 2023

- Coordinated the production of seven different short films for film theory class.
- Co-wrote the script, hosted the film shoot, created a schedule for production.

*Actor, Director, Cornell Department of Performing Arts* 2019-2021

- Dean Wreen in *Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England* by Madeleine George
- Andrea Fleytas / Arleen Weise in *Spill* by Leigh Fondakowski
- Directed a short play as part of *Festival 24*, the 24-hour play-fest.
- Constructed and painted sets; created scenic design and costuming for productions.

## WORK EXPERIENCE:

*Communications Intern, Jewish Democratic Council of America* 2021

- Designed, researched, and wrote a ten-page [voting rights toolkit](#) which was distributed to at least 25,000 partners
- Edited [recruitment video](#) for fellowship.

*Legislative Intern, Senator Van Hollen's Capitol Hill Office* 2019

- Acted as a rapid response team for the Senator by answering phone calls from constituents on key issues of the day including gun reform, healthcare, and immigration.
- Conducted legislative research and attended briefings and hearings on the hill on pertinent issues such as immigration, cybersecurity, healthcare, and foreign affairs.

*Intern, American Jewish Committee (AJC)* 2019-2020

- Attended events at think tanks in DC and reported back with memos.
- Conducted research on important policy issues relating to the Middle East and Israel.
- Planned events and important projects.

*Intern, Running Start* 2017

- Worked closely with the staff of the Washington D.C. bipartisan non-profit that trains young women to run for political office.
- Acted as an executive assistant to the President Susannah Wellford.
- Facilitated leadership training, wrote grants, planned events, called Congressional offices, kept organizational calendars, wrote emails, and created spreadsheets.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE:

*President, Graduate Leadership Council (GLC)* 2023-2024

- Represents the entire graduate community to the AU administration.
- Plans and executes large-scale events and manages a budget of nearly 40K.
- Attends the AU Board of Trustees Meetings.
- Serves on the finish line committee for fundraising.

*Director of Programming, Graduate Leadership Council (GLC)* 2022-2023

- Planned events for the entire graduate student body.

*Participant, Running Start Next Step Leadership Cohort* 2024

- Member of a high-level leadership program learning to run for political office.

*Alumnae Board Member, Holton-Arms School* 2022-2025

- Works to increase participation, fundraising, and connectedness to the school.

*Shabbat Cluster Coordinator, Edlavitch Jewish Community Center of Washington, DC* 2022-2024

- Organizes and hosts shabbat dinners for young professionals once per month.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

*Teaching & Research Assistant, Professor Kylos Brannon* 2022-2024

- **Teaching Assistant**, Visual Literacy and Digital Media Literacy Classes at American University

- Produces the School of Communications Visions Awards, the premiere student film awards ceremony.

*Teaching Assistant, Holton-Arms School* 2023-2024

- Works with ninth graders on their production of *Romeo and Juliet* as part of MELO (May Experiential Learning Opportunity)

*Inclusion Facilitator, Imagination Stage* 2014-2017

- Worked with students with disabilities in theater, dance, and music courses.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

*Participant, Los Angeles Career Intensive* 2024

- Was selected as part of a competitive application process to attend the LA Intensive.
- Will network with industry professionals and AU Alumni.

*Participant, Classroom in the Wild Trip* 2023

- Shot footage for mini documentaries on sustainability in Shenandoah Valley; published article [on SOC website](#).

*Singer (Alto 2), American University Chorus* 2022-2024

- Performs in two concerts per year as part of the chorus.

## AWARDS:

- **CSI Award of Excellence, Spring 2024:** This award from the Division of Student Affairs honors a student who has demonstrated excellence in leadership in a CSI recognized board or council through membership development, academic achievement, and outstanding contributions to campus life.
- **Nominated for AU Visions Awards, 2023/2024:** best graduate short fiction screenplay for “Second Chances” and “The Great Divide”, best documentary script for “The Culinary Lineage of a Jewish Mother”, New Media Category for mashup “Becoming a White Woman”, a short animation called “Little Child”, and video essay entitled “Women Directors and the Academy Awards.”
- **Art History Award, Spring 2017,** Holton-Arms School
- **Best Actor Award, 2015** Folger Shakespeare Theater Competition

## PUBLISHED WORK:

- [Article published](#) in US News and World Report on being on financial aid at a private school (2017).

## SKILLS:

- Editing, Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Suite, Canva, Graphic Design.
- Social Media, Public Speaking, Team management, Leadership, Event Planning.
- Languages: Hebrew and French beginner level.
- Research skills: collected data and wrote two thirty-page policy research papers.