JULIAN MERCER

PODCAST PRODUCER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Podcast Producer with 7+ years producing narrative and interview shows for public media and network audio. Plans episodes, edits and mixes audio, and manages hosts, guests, and release schedules to grow listenership and hold quality high.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Producer Jan 2024 - Present
NPR, Washington, DC

- Produce a weekly interview podcast, managing booking, research, recording, and final mix for each 35-minute episode.
- Planned a 10-episode season that reached 450,000 downloads, about 30% above the prior season.
- Edit tape and script narration with the host, tightening episodes to fit slots while keeping the key moments.
- Worked with the audience team to turn each episode into short audio clips and social posts, adding about 15% to listening for every release.
- Manage a production calendar and two freelancers, releasing every episode on its scheduled date this year.

Producer Aug 2021 - Dec 2023

- Produced and mixed 90 episodes in Pro Tools, balancing dialogue, music, and ambient sound to broadcast loudness targets.
- Booked and prepped guests with briefing notes, raising the share of episodes recorded in one take.
- Reviewed listener data each month and shifted episode length and titles, lifting completion rate by about 9 points.
- Ran a short listener survey with 1,800 responses and used the results to add a recurring segment that was rated a favourite by many respondents.
- Wrote show notes and episode descriptions that improved search discovery and links from partner sites.

Associate Producer Jun 2019 - Jul 2021
iHeartMedia, New York, NY

- Edited and cleaned audio for three weekly shows, removing noise and fixing levels to a consistent standard.
- Recorded and edited promos and trailers for two shows, which helped bring in new listeners ahead of each season launch.
- Coordinated recording sessions with remote guests, testing equipment and reducing technical retakes.
- Logged tape and prepared transcripts that cut producer research time on long interviews.
- Uploaded episodes and metadata to hosting platforms and checked every feed after release.
- Maintained a shared asset library of cleared music, sound effects, and show templates that cut setup time for each new episode by about an hour.

CORE SKILLS

Audio editing | Production planning | Pro Tools | Adobe Audition | Sound design | Mixing and mastering | Guest booking | Script editing | Interviewing | Show notes | Podcast hosting platforms | Audience analytics | Remote recording | Project scheduling | Transcription tools

EDUCATION

B.A. in Radio, Television, and Film, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

CERTIFICATIONS

Avid Pro Tools Certified User | Adobe Certified Professional in Audio | AIR Audio Production Workshop Graduate