

# Scott Klein

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he/him

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Strategist, inventor, and award-winning journalist who builds strong teams and useful products for mission-driven newsrooms. Built DocumentCloud, ProPublica's news applications team, Electionland, AI at The City, and the Knight Election Hub.

## *Selected Experience*

### **Composition Collective**

Editorial Consulting | April 2026–Present

Consulting for news and mission-driven organizations on editorial strategy, product, AI, data, and innovation. Work includes advising on AI enablement, new initiatives, organizational strategy, and how technology can better support journalism.

### **Newspack / Knight Foundation**

Entrepreneur in Residence (Knight Foundation); Publisher Advocate (Newspack) | 2024–2026

Recruited by Knight Foundation as its first Entrepreneur in Residence and embedded with Newspack to help newsrooms expand capacity and strengthen infrastructure during the 2024 election cycle. Continued with Newspack, advising publishers on product and AI adoption across the network.

- Designed and led the Knight Election Hub, connecting 500+ local newsrooms with tools, data, services, and local creators for 2024 election coverage.
- Worked across publishers, funders, and product teams to align newsroom needs with practical support and shared infrastructure.
- Advised Newspack publishers on product strategy, AI experimentation, and workflow design in resource-constrained environments.
- Helped turn promising newsroom experiments into shared guidance, resources, and collaboration.

### **The City**

Chief Product Officer | 2022–2024

First product and data leader at a nonprofit newsroom serving New York City. Member of the core leadership team, responsible for product strategy, civic data products, and newsroom technology during a period of growth and organizational change.

- Led a full site replatform and product overhaul, setting roadmap priorities and managing outside engineering partners.
- Launched civic-focused data journalism and interactive news applications on public health, policing, education, and local elections.

- Conceived and edited the first AI-powered coverage audit, which analyzed 4,000+ stories and identified reporting gaps by neighborhood.
- Helped the newsroom rethink how product, data, and editorial work fit together.

## **ProPublica**

Deputy Managing Editor (Final Title) | 2008–2022

Founding leader at ProPublica, serving in progressively senior roles from launch through national expansion. Built and led teams across data reporting, interactive news, design, engineering, and product, and helped shape how investigative reporting is built, presented, and delivered.

- Led teams of up to 30 across four departments, and developed managers and senior staff who went on to leadership roles across the industry.
- Pioneered the development of large-scale news applications and public-service data products used by millions of readers and widely emulated across journalism.
- Co-created Electionland, a nationwide reporting collaboration of more than 1,000 journalists and technologists focused on barriers to voting.
- Built collaborative reporting systems and workflows that helped reporters across newsrooms work together in real time.
- Helped define modern data and collaborative journalism through writing, speaking, publishing tools, and mentoring across nonprofit and local news.

## **DocumentCloud / MuckRock**

Co-Founder, DocumentCloud; Board President, MuckRock | 2009–2011, 2018–Present

Led the creation of DocumentCloud, the open-source platform for analyzing, annotating, and publishing source documents, now part of MuckRock, where I now serve as board president.

- DocumentCloud and MuckRock are used by thousands of newsrooms and host more than 110 million pages of public records.
- As board president, help guide strategy for one of the core infrastructure organizations in investigative and accountability reporting.

## **The Data Journalism Podcast**

Co-Host | 2025-Present

Co-host of a podcast about data journalism, AI, and computational reporting.

## **Education**

Clark University, B.A. 1992, High Honors in English  
CUNY Newmark J-School, 2026, J-Lab AI Builders Cohort

## Selected Awards As Editor or Contributor

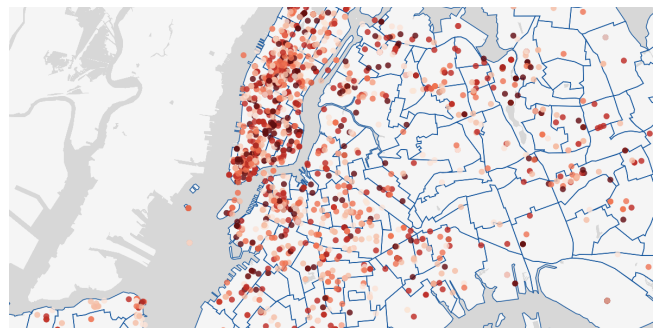
- Peabody Award (2017)
- 18 Online Journalism Awards (11 General Excellence wins; 7 finalists)
- 21 Malofiej Infographics Awards
- Global Editors Network Data Journalism Award
- Philip Meyer Award
- IRE Awards
- Knight-Batten Awards for Innovation in Journalism
- Society for News Design Digital Awards of Excellence

## Selected Projects

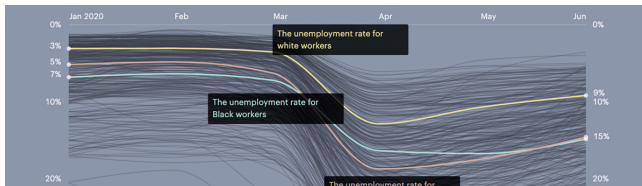
These are some projects I edited.



[Get to Know Your NYC Council District, 2023](#)



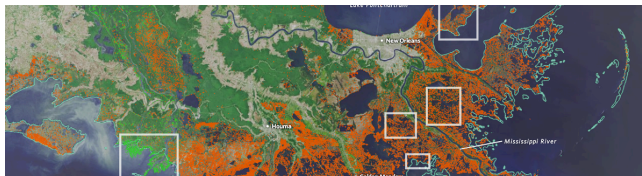
[We Asked AI to Map Our Stories. Here are the Results, 2024](#)



[What Coronavirus Job Losses Reveal About Racism in America, 2020](#)



[The Waiting Game, 2018](#)



[Losing Ground, 2014](#)



[Dollars for Docs, 2009-2019](#)

## **Selected Work**

*Though most of my journalistic work is as an editor, I occasionally get the chance to write or speak about my work. Since the beginning of 2026, I've also been writing a newsletter at [openjournalism.news](https://openjournalism.news) about open-source projects created by newsrooms.*

[Journalism Lost its Culture of Sharing. Here's How we Rebuild It](#) (with Ben Welsh), 2026

[Making Good Trouble with AI](#) (with Ben Welsh), presentation at Columbia U., 2025

[Why We Published More Than 500 Videos Taken by Parler Users of the Capitol Riot](#) (with Jeff Kao), 2021

[There's No Evidence Our Election Was Rigged](#) (with Jessica Huseman), 2016

[Infographics in the Time of Cholera](#), 2016

[Antebellum Data Journalism: Or, How Big Data Busted Abe Lincoln](#), 2015

[The Stories of Everyday Lives, Hidden in Reams of Data](#), 2015

[News Apps at ProPublica](#), from the Data Journalism Handbook, 2012

[Don't Mistake Your CMS For a Development Platform](#), 2010

[ProPublica Data/Interactive Style Guides](#), 2010

## **Selected Coverage**

*Some coverage of me or my teams' work.*

[IRE Podcast: Introducing the Knight Election Hub](#), 2024

[10 Years of Turning Documents into Data: A Q&A with DocumentCloud](#), 2019

[Electionland: The Inside Story](#), 2017

[How \(and Why\) ProPublica Got Into the Elections Game](#), 2016

[Electionland: a look at one of the largest collaborative reporting initiatives in history \(Video\)](#), 2016

[Why we use Creative Commons licenses on our stories](#), 2012