

## CAREER PROFILE

**Janice S. Ellis, Ph.D.**  
**Award-Winning Author**  
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### I. EDUCATION

**Ph.D.** Communication Arts, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Primary areas of specialization are in the theory and practice of public communication, public persuasion, and shaping public opinion. Extensive research has also been conducted in the areas of organizational and interpersonal communication. In completing the doctoral thesis, special research was conducted at Yale University where the papers of Walter Lippmann (regarded as one of the foremost columnists in the 20<sup>th</sup> century) are archived. Interviews with **Eric Sevareid**, *CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite*; **James Reston**, columnist for the *New York Times*; and **Marquis Childs**, columnist for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* were also conducted. Advocacy journalism as a genre of discourse and the role of the political columnist in shaping public opinion and impacting public policy are thoroughly examined in the doctoral thesis. (Degree conferred in 1981)

**M. A.** Political Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Emphasis on government and governing, leadership styles of political leaders, demographic analysis relative to voting behavior, political socialization, and the history of the development of American political thought. (Degree, 1974)

**M. A.** Communication Arts, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Study of the theory and practice of public persuasion in social movements with a focus on the Civil Rights Movement and Women's Liberation Movement. (Degree, 1972)

**B. A.** Speech, Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi. Substantial course work in mathematics. (1970)

Extensive seminar training in Municipal Budgeting. Emphasis on Program and Performance Budgeting and the principles and techniques of Zero-Based Budgeting.

### II. CURRENT POSITION

**Award Winning Book Author, 2018—**

Book Title: [From Liberty to Magnolia: In Search of the American Dream](#)

**Writer and Columnist at [JaniceSELLis.com](http://JaniceSELLis.com), 2014 – Present.** Analyzing educational, political, socio-economic issues across race and ethnicity in the United States. A collection of past articles and books currently in progress can be found on the site.

### III. PAST POSITIONS

**Publisher and Executive Editor, USAonRace.com, (originally launched as USARiseUp.com), 2007—2014.** USAonRace™ is an educational online magazine and website about race and ethnicity. The mission of USAonRace™ is to help bridge racial, ethnic and cultural divisions in American society. The publication and website seek to inform, educate, enlighten, entertain, and inspire its readers. [www.usaonrace.com](http://www.usaonrace.com) is published by USAonRace, Inc. The website has interactive forums and dialogues to foster sustained conversations on timely topics about race and ethnicity. In 2012, USAonRace, Inc. launched the **RaceReport**, [www.racereport.com](http://www.racereport.com), a news aggregator, which compiles race relations news and events across the United States and around the world. Both magazines are accessible online.

**Founder and CEO, USA Youth Institute on Race and Ethnicity, Inc, 2011—2014.**

The mission of the USA Youth Institute on Race and Ethnicity, [www.youthonrace.org](http://www.youthonrace.org), is to assist parents and educators in building an awareness and understanding of race and ethnic diversity among children and students. The institute, a 501(c)3 corporation, will assist in developing and providing educational material for multi-media platforms and distribution; host forums, dialogues, and discussions primarily online, but will also assist in the facilitation of on-site discussions.

**President and CEO, Partnership for Children, July 2000---November 2006**

The Partnership for Children is a bi-state nonprofit education and advocacy organization serving the Greater Kansas City metropolitan area. Its mission is to work collaboratively to protect and improve the quality of life for children and youth through advocacy, research, and mobilization. As President and CEO of Partnership for Children, our organization was instrumental in sponsoring, developing and supporting legislation at the city, state and national level that impacts the quality of life for city children and youth in the areas of child care and early learning, health care, and child safety and welfare.

**President and CEO, Ellis Management Marketing Group, 1991—2000**

Founder of a full-service business consulting firm, Ellis Management Marketing Group (EMMG), to provide marketing and business services to health care organizations and other related businesses. Areas of specialization and expertise included marketing, strategic planning, organization assessment, product line analysis, and client/customer services development.

**Director of Marketing, Marion Merrell Dow, 1987—1991**

Primary responsibilities included developing and implementing a nationwide marketing and communications plan for pharmaceutical products in a changing healthcare environment. Managed an in-house staff and national accounts sales team and was responsible for multi-millions of dollars of annual revenues.

**President and CEO of Milwaukee Community Health Plan, Inc., 1984 - 1986**

Developed, from inception, a health maintenance organization (HMO) comprised of community health centers and group practice providers to serve Medicaid and private pay members. During the first 1½ years of operation: Grew subscriber base from 0 - 15,000 members; Generated revenues of \$8.5 Million; Assembled a talented staff of 40.

**IV. OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Columnist, [JaniceSEllis.com](http://JaniceSEllis.com), January 2014 --**

**Cause and Civility, online commentary for [USAonRace.com](http://USAonRace.com), August 2009 -- 2014**

**Editorial Writer and Contributing Columnist, [USAonRace.Com](http://USAonRace.Com), June 2008 -- 2014**

**Contributing Columnist, [The Kansas City Star](http://The Kansas City Star), January 2000 - 2004**

**Contributing Columnist, [The Kansas City Call](http://The Kansas City Call), 1991, February 2002 - 2007**

**Contributing Columnist, [The Kansas City Globe](http://The Kansas City Globe), January 1989 -2007**

**Contributing Columnist, [The Missouri State Post](http://The Missouri State Post), January 1999**

**Columnist, [The Milwaukee Community Journal](http://The Milwaukee Community Journal), October 1983 - 1986**

**Contributing Columnist, [The Milwaukee Business Journal](http://The Milwaukee Business Journal), June 1985 - 1986**

**News Analyst/Commentator, WISN Radio, Milwaukee, WI, 1974 - 1976**

Analyzed local, state and national issues of public interest, wrote and delivered a three-minute broadcast daily covering those issues.

**Staff Consultant/Budget Specialist, Mayor of Milwaukee, WI, 1976-1984**

Developed a municipal budgeting system that gained national and international recognition and was adopted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities as a model for other municipalities to adopt.

Wrote and delivered speeches; drafted legislation and policy statements for the Mayor's office.

## V. OTHER NOTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- A. **Candidate for mayor of Kansas City, MO** in 1999, was a candidate in a field of seven, losing the primary election by a very small margin, about 1%; and in February 2007, finished 6<sup>th</sup> in a field of 12 in the primary election.
- B. January 2000—December 2002, developed and produced a 60-second radio educational program, "***Building a Better Financial Future***," which aired AM & PM drive time on two of the top three Arbitration rated radio stations serving the metropolitan area of Kansas City.
- C. April 1985. Founder of **REACH FOR THE STARS**, a teen pregnancy prevention program with volunteer role models. The program focused on developing self-esteem, and career development. It received national attention and was featured in five (5) national publications, national and local television and radio programs. (***ABC Good Morning America, Time Magazine, Reader's Digest, Christian Science Monitor***), After its inception, requests to start similar programs were received from 107 cities across the country.
- D. Developed a new budget system for the city of Milwaukee. ADAP (Allocation/Decision-Accountability/Performance) is a budget system that uniquely combines performance and program budgeting with aspects of zero-base budgeting. It received national and international attention and was presented at an international symposium in Bonn, West Germany. In 1982, authored the article published by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities, and distributed to municipalities 30,000 population and over. Assisted with the development of major city programs and city legislation.

## VI. RECOGNITIONS

1. **Award Winning Author of *From Liberty to Magnolia: In Search of the American Dream***, Independent Press Award for Race Relations, May 2020; The New York City Big Book Award, July 2019; The Chanticleer International Journey Award for Nonfiction, April 2019; The Gold Award for Nonfiction from the National Association of Non Fiction Authors, May 2018.
2. **SILVER BEAVER AWARD**, November 2003, for distinguished service to youth, Boys Scouts of America, Heart of America Council highest honor
3. **CAREER FOCUS**, November 1998
4. **"Kansas City 100 Most Influential" Award**, Kansas City Globe, 1996
5. **CAREER FOCUS**, November/December 1989
6. **"Black Achiever in Industry Award,"** Kansas City, KCLC, 1989
7. **MILWAUKEE MAGAZINE**, "The 86 Most Interesting People in Milwaukee," January 1986
8. **ABC'S GOOD MORNING AMERICA**, February 1986
9. **JET MAGAZINE**, March 1986
10. **READER'S DIGEST**, April 1986
11. **HOSPITAL'S MAGAZINE**, April 1986
12. **ESSENCE MAGAZINE**, "In the News," May 1986
13. **BLACK ENTERPRISE MAGAZINE**, "In the News," May 1986
14. **WOMEN IN COMMUNICATIONS**, Headliner Award for Service to the Community, June 1986
15. **ESQUIRE MAGAZINE**, "Men and Women Under Forty Who Are Changing the Nation," December 1986
16. **WITI-TV 6**, Jefferson Award Nominee, 1986

17. **TIME MAGAZINE**, December 9, 1985
18. **THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR**, December 1985

## VII. PUBLICATIONS

1. **RaceReport.com™, 2012** – an online news aggregator covering race relations, racism and discrimination news and events across the United States and around the world.
2. **YouthOnRace.org™, 2011--2014**—an online educational magazine to assist educators and parents to improve understanding across race, culture and ethnicity at the high school level.
3. **USAonRace.com™ (formerly RiseUp™, the Sunday magazine insert for newspapers, and USARiseUp.com™, the online counterpart) 2008-2014** – an online magazine dedicated to improving and increasing understanding across racial and ethnic groups.
4. **Compliance Monitor**, 1995 - 1998, a bi-monthly publication on Disease Management
5. **Rx Dialogue**, 1993-1995, A Quarterly publication on Managing the Drug Benefit
6. Series of articles written for **Pharmaceutical Representative 1994**
  - “Maximizing Physician Calls in Managed Care”
  - “What Is an IMS”
  - “You Are in the Contract Selling Business Now”
  - “How Formularies Impact Your Sales”
4. “Drugs As a Cost-Efficient Resource,” **Medical Interface**, September 1988 Reprinted, 1992  
**Product Management Today**
5. “Making a Match with Managed Health Care,” **Pharmaceutical Executive**, August 1988

## VIII. COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Currently: Member of the Board of Directors, Madam President Camp; Member of the Board of Directors, AltCap Community Development Financial Institution; Member of the Board of Directors, Community Capital Fund; Member of the National Coalition of Dialogue and Deliberation, Washington, D.C., the American Sociological Association, National Communication Association, American Association for Public Opinion Research, the National Association of Black Journalists, the National Association of Professional Women. Immediate past Chairman of the Advisory Board, CHARACTERplus Education, Greater Kansas City Metropolitan areas, working with school districts to incorporate character education programs; Served on the national board of Voices for America’s Children, Washington, D.C. a national child advocacy organization; Member of the Mayor of Kansas City Project Rise Advisory Board.

Past appointments include: the Women’s Leadership Council of Greater Kansas City United Way; Mayor of Kansas City Collaborative on Education Improvement; Prep-KC Regional School Reform Initiative; Aspen Roundtable on Education to Get it Right; Mayor of Kansas City Commission on Violent Crime; Partners in Quality for Early Learning; Maternal and Child Health Coalition; Greater Kansas City Women’s Political Caucus; Kansas City Affiliate Susan G. Komen Foundation; Friends of the Zoo; Alliance for Children & Families; Alliance of United Way Agencies; Children’s Peace Pavilion; Partnership for Children; Governor’s (under Governor Bob Holden) K-16 Task Force to Close the Education Achievement Gap, and Member of the Missouri State Board of Accountancy.