

KAT DE JESUS CHUA

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

2016 - 2020

Bachelor of Arts in Data Science
Minor in Russian Literature

WORK EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist

Warner Bros. Discovery

Sep 2020 – Nov 2025

- Surveyed emerging computer vision research, prototyped and benchmarked open-source models, and fine-tuned best models for increasing the resolution of archival television content; Developed a deep learning pipeline in Microsoft Azure that achieved vendor-comparable quality at lower cost.
- Built XGBoost sales forecasting models for DC Comics, reducing prediction error by 43.5% versus legacy manual processes and informing biannual comic greenlighting decisions.
- Partnered with Product and Data Engineering teams to build next-gen prediction models across regions (US, APAC, EMEA), improving content recommendations for HBO Max streaming subscribers.
- Led natural language processing analysis (sentiment analysis, topic modeling, term frequency) of thousands of employee exit survey responses; Delivered quarterly retention insights to HR leadership.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Chicago Documenter

[City Bureau](#)

Jan 2025 – Present

- Created [accurate, detailed, publicly available records](#) of Chicago government meetings, neighborhood councils, and pretrial detention hearings, as part of the 3,700+ member [Documenters network](#)

Volunteer Developer & Data Journalist

[Data Liberation Project](#) (run by [MuckRock](#) and [Big Local News](#))

Jan 2024 – Present

- Built Python data-scraping and cleansing pipelines to create machine-readable archives of [TSA complaint data](#) and [Texas air-permit emissions data](#), enabling journalists to rapidly investigate trends.
- Wrote an explainer on the [TSA's removal of complaint data](#) from its website in early 2025.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Fiction Submissions Reader

[Another Chicago Magazine](#)

Aug 2026 – Present

- Reviewed and evaluated fiction submissions for the literary magazine, providing feedback on voice, style, and narrative strength; committed ~2 hours per week during reading periods.

Fiction Submissions Reader

[Same Faces Collective](#)

Jul 2025 – Jul 2026

- Reviewed and evaluated fiction submissions for literary quality and adherence to theme; committed ~4 hours per week during reading periods.

SKILLS

Data Analysis & Visualization: Python (NumPy, pandas, scikit-learn, statsmodels, seaborn), R (ggplot2, threejs, forecast, dplyr, tidyverse, data.table), SQL (Snowflake, BigQuery), Jupyter, Git, Databricks, Tableau

Applied AI & ML: Deep learning, LLMs, AI-assisted coding tools (Github Copilot, Claude Code), XGBoost, Microsoft Azure, AWS, classification & regression models, feature engineering, model training and fine-tuning, evaluation metrics

Project & Collaboration: Cross-functional collaboration, project management, stakeholder communication, presentations to non-technical audiences

Writing & Editorial: Narrative data storytelling, technical writing, copy editing, fiction evaluation

AWARDS

[Gary Marx Fellow](#), Investigative Reporters & Editors (2025). Fellowship for promising early-career journalists. Attended the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting (NICAR) conference, receiving hands-on training in data journalism and investigative reporting techniques.

[Pushcart Prize](#) Nominee (2024). Prize honors outstanding literary works published by independent presses. Nominated for short story "The Last Dinner Party," published by [Same Faces Collective](#).

PUBLICATIONS

- "The Last Dinner Party." *Same Faces Collective* Issue 16, "Re:Vision." Fiction.
- "The Proposal." [Missed Connections: Microfiction from Asia](#). Flash fiction.
- "The fiesta away from home." [Philippines Graphic](#) Volume 26. Poetry.

CLASSES & CONFERENCES

StoryStudio Chicago – "Creative Writing Essentials" Jul 2025 – Aug 2025

- Completed a creative writing course taught by author Sarah Terez Rosenblum, including intensive workshops. Produced weekly writing and reading assignments and contributed to in-depth discussions of craft and narrative technique.

Investigative Reporters & Editors Inc.'s NICAR Conference Mar 2025

- Attended the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting conference in Minneapolis, MN, sponsored by the Gary Marx Scholarship from IRE. Gained hands-on exposure to data journalism, including data analysis applications in reporting, writing data-driven stories, and foundational investigative journalism techniques.

The Writer's Grotto – "Write Short Stories Like the Masters" Nov 2022 – Dec 2022

- Completed a fiction workshop taught by author Jenny Bitner. Wrote and workshopped an original short story, provided and received weekly peer feedback, and submitted reading-response assignments on selected short stories.