

NeEddra James CRITICAL THEORIST / INVESTIGATIVE MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

San Francisco Bay Area

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Critical theorist, investigative journalist, and multimedia producer. Reporting and research span algorithmic governance, policing, neurodiversity, interpersonal neurobiology, cultural production, earth jurisprudence, and the political economy of carceral systems. Developer of Ontological Recursion Analysis (ORA), a methodology for revealing how asymmetrical power dynamics naturalize themselves through recursive self-validation.

FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (2007)

Whitney Museum Independent Study Program (2005–06)

Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (2002)

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (1999)

EDUCATION

Master of Journalism (MJ), Audio Production | UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism (expected, 2026)

Concentration in audio production, technology and science reporting. AI Interpretability Reading Group participant (BIDS).

Master of Arts, History of Consciousness | UC Santa Cruz (2008)

Committee: Angela Y. Davis, Donna Haraway, Gina Dent. Critical theory, feminist theory, media theory. Ford Foundation Fellow.

Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies, *cum laude* | Bowdoin College (2001)

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow. African American religious and political traditions, moral philosophy, black feminist thought.

RADIO & VIDEO

“Medicine Music” | Audio Documentary (MJ Thesis) | In Production

Audio documentary reported from inside Flow Lounge, a weekly hip-hop cipher in Berkeley funded entirely by street canvassing. Examines collective sound practices as survival infrastructure and tracks whether a space built on voluntary care can sustain itself as it expands to new cities. MJ capstone thesis; companion piece to animated explainer “What Is Entrainment?”

“What Is Entrainment?” | Animated News Explainer (MJ Thesis) | In Production

Visual explainer translating neuroscience and critical theory for general audiences. Demonstrates how nervous systems synchronize to rhythmic patterns and how that mechanism operates across social, institutional, and political scales. MJ capstone thesis; companion piece to Medicine Music.

The Radio Show | KALX 90.7 FM, UC Berkeley | Airdate: Ongoing

Creator, host, and executive producer of 10-episode live interview-driven bi-weekly political news analysis show. Covers immigration enforcement, AI governance, complex trauma, federal policy, defense tech, and community resilience. Full editorial and production responsibility from ideation through broadcast.

“The Business of Never Letting Go” | Crosscurrents, KALW 91.7 FM | Airdate: Nov 3, 2025

Produced and reported 17-minute investigative feature examining the grief technology industry through venture capital logic, dark design patterns, and the ontological implications of digitizing the dead. Interviews: Eugenia Kuyda (Replika founder), Tamara Kneese (Data & Society), Bridget Sumser (psychotherapist), Wendy Liu (Abolish Silicon Valley). Editor-designated calling card piece.

The Stakes Explained | BAYMADE Podcast, KALW 91.7 FM | Airdate: June 19, 2025

Reporter for flagship UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism multi-platform explainer series about Trump Administration executive orders. Two published episodes, one forthcoming with public radio, podcast, video, and social media distribution.

“Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation” with Michael Mark Cohen (American Studies, UC Berkeley)

“Authoritarianism” with John A. Powell (Othering & Belonging Institute, UC Berkeley)

Forthcoming (2026): “Imagining Futures Beyond Resistance” with Mia Birdsong (author, How We Show Up)

“Neuroqueering” | KALX 90.7 FM | North Gate Radio | UC Berkeley Journalism | Airdate: May 15, 2025

Long-form interview excerpt with Dr. Nick Walker, author, Neuroqueer Heresies, exploring the neurodiversity movement, binary disruption, and neuroqueering as praxis.

“Celina’s Starting to Forget” | North Gate Radio / UC Berkeley Journalism | Airdate: May 1, 2025

Produced and reported intimate six-minute investigative feature exposing estrogen oscillation as the leading driver of memory loss in perimenopausal ADHD women. Interview with leading researcher Dr. Jeanette Wasserstein.

“State of Mind” Host & Reporter | North Gate Radio / UC Berkeley Journalism | Airdate: Dec 26, 2024

Show host and reporter of 30-minute news magazine on mental health care in America. Led editorial framing, scripting and reported segments examining systemic gaps in the U.S. mental health system.

PRINT PUBLICATIONS

“How the “Big Beautiful Bill” scales domination,” NeEddra James, Jun 30, 2025

“Follow the money: Who profits from building the infrastructure of domination?” NeEddra James, Jul 1, 2025

“When the weather is the warning,” NeEddra James, Jul 6, 2025

“Oakland Hills neighbors alerted each other through group chats, used hoses to put out fires as area burned,” Oakland North, Oct 20, 2024.

“Family of Patriots.” In Shock and Awe: War on Words, edited by Bregje van Eekelen, Jennifer González, Bettina Stötzer, and Anna Tsing. Feminisms and Global War Project, Institute for Advanced Feminist Research. New Pacific Press, 2004.

SELECTED ARTICLES, ESSAYS AND LONGFORM WORK

“Necrowealth: Megan Greenwell’s Bad Company and private equity’s appetite for profitable loss” | Essay/Book Review | Nov 9, 2025

Review of Megan Greenwell’s *Bad Company: How Private Equity Strips Wealth from the Working Class* examining leveraged buyouts as recursive extraction operations. Introduces “necrowealth” — accumulation through predictable premature death rendered profitable — through the Toys R Us case, tracing how bankruptcy resets the debt cycle, distributed complicity implicates workers’ own pension funds, and private equity executes the same debt-loading function as colonial extraction.

“Maybe It’s Been Estrogen All Along” | Health Journalism | May 9, 2025

Reported 2000 word investigative feature on perimenopausal ADHD examining how diagnostic frameworks built around male presentations rendered women invisible for forty years. Interviews with leading researchers (Dr. Sandra Kooij, Dr. Jeanette Wasserstein, Dr. Gabrielle Anderson) and women navigating the intersection.

BOOKS & LONG-FORM

The Cost of Being: A Metabolic Critique of Sovereignty in the Age of Machine Learning | Manuscript in Progress

Book-length theoretical work developing the Logic Operating System (LOS) framework and Ontological Recursion Analysis. Traces how domination operates as a metabolic compression algorithm executing across grammar, finance, computation, and governance.

The Quant Trilogy | Speculative Fiction | Manuscript In Progress

Three-book speculative fiction series extending the LOS framework 250 years into the future. Set in a sealed biodome powered by a quantum mineral whose fragility is the source of its power, the trilogy narrativizes how extraction infrastructure formats labor, class, language, and resistance across generations. Companion work to The Cost of Being.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Producer / Director | In Utero Podcast, Kavli Center for Ethics, Science, and the Public (NHGRI-funded)

2025–2026

Producer and director of podcast exploring prenatal genetic technologies at the intersection of ethics, science, and public understanding. Managed production pipeline, editorial direction, and stakeholder coordination for the National Human Genome Research Institute–funded project.

Reporting Intern | KALW 91.7 FM, San Francisco Public Radio

Summer 2025

Produced investigative and feature reporting for Crosscurrents and Bay Area Headlines. Published six stories covering federal deregulation of public lands and National Park Service workforce cuts, childcare crisis and county policy responses, immigrant child protections in federal custody (source: Neha Desai, National Center for Youth Law), Medicaid cuts to Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, Job Corps federal shutdown and court injunction, and park access equity. Developed sources across Bay Area civil rights, immigration, and public health communities.

Senior Producer | The LeaderLab Podcast by LifeLabs Learning

2020–2022

Stewarded 104% podcast audience growth. Managed full production cycle for leadership development content. Coordinated cross-functional teams across editorial, design, and distribution. Developed audience engagement strategies and analytics frameworks.

Learning Experience Designer & Facilitator | Challenge Day / Learners Guild / Enjoy Technology, Inc.

2010–2019

Designed and facilitated experiential learning programs across education, technology, and workforce development. Challenge Day: direct work with youth navigating structural violence, designing conditions for encounters across social identities. Learners Guild: learning

experience design for software engineering education, social and emotional learning curriculum development, cohort facilitation and assessment design. Enjoy Technology: Sonos and Magic Leap SME, instructional design for workforce development.

Lecturer, Summer Session | University of California, Santa Cruz

2007

Taught African Diaspora Studies and Race and Museums in the US. Designed curriculum and led undergraduate courses examining racial formation, cultural production, and institutional representation.

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

Research: Investigative primary-source research (OSINT), federal procurement analysis (USA Spending.gov), SEC filings, court records, qualitative interviewing, community-embedded research, cross-domain structural pattern recognition, policy analysis.

Production: Audio production and editing, radio hosting and live broadcast, podcast production, visual/animated explainers, longform narrative writing, public speaking, workshop facilitation, event production.

Domains: AI governance, geopolitics, algorithmic accountability, technology policy, immigration enforcement, civil rights, surveillance systems, digital rights, public interest technology, critical infrastructure analysis, youth development, women's health, media analysis.

Technical: AI literacy, ontology software analysis, interpretability critique, federal data systems, content management systems, audience analytics.