

ELLA HEYDENFELDT

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EDUCATION 2022-2025	UC SANTA BARBARA B.A. in Environmental Studies, Minor in Professional Writing, June 2025 - Relevant coursework: Environmental Policy, Environmental Law, Advanced Reporting WILDLANDS FIELD STUDIES Island Ecosystem Field Study, 2023 - Studied the Flora, Fauna, and history of Aotearoa while backpacking through the country. - Went on to backpack around Australia and Southeast Asia.	Santa Barbara, CA New Zealand
EXPERIENCE 2025-Present	THE SANTA BARBARA INDEPENDENT News Reporter - Full-time reporter covering breaking news, environment, education, and local politics for a readership of 300,000+. - Report from the field, interviewing an array of people and taking photographs. - Contribute to the Arts & Culture section with human-interest features and arts coverage. Intern - Wrote 15 news and opinion pieces on current events and local social issues. - Pitched original op-ed ideas and collaborated with editors to refine arguments and ensure clarity and impact.	Santa Barbara, CA
2025-Present	LOCAL MONTECITO Bartender/Server - Bartending and serving in an upscale restaurant, specializing in craft cocktails. - Extreme multitasker: serving up to 250 guests a night, strong customer service and communication skills.	Montecito, CA
2023-Present	ELLAS GREEN INKWELL Founder - Establish and maintain a website dedicated to environmental issues, travel, and life for a growing readership which is currently at 20 frequent readers. - Create compelling and informative content covering solo travel, sustainability, and the unique perspective of a young adult in the contemporary era, including publishing over 13 articles.	CA, USA
2022-2025	EXCURSION CLUB Board Member, Staff - Planned & executed overnight trips, teaching beginners a variety of outdoor skills including backpacking, climbing, and outdoor safety techniques offered to 1300+ students. - Ensured accurate tracking of gear by maintaining & organizing an extensive gear checkout system, working closely with Isla Vista Parks & Recreation to secure two portable units to store the gear.	Goleta, CA
2023	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY TRAILS COUNCIL Intern Collaborated with the Executive Director on initiatives, including creating informational blog posts and promotional materials for social media.	Santa Barbara, CA
CERTIFICATIONS & HONORS	- College of Letters and Science Honors Program, Dean's Highest Honors List - Outstanding Academic Achievement Award— top 20% of class - Wilderness First Responder - PADI Open Water Certification, Scientific Research Diver - Conducted Research out at the Channel Islands under UCSB's Miller Lab	
ADDITIONAL	- Technical Skills: Google Suite, Microsoft Excel, Adobe, Wix, and Social Media Digital Marketing - Interests: Marathon and trail running, ceramics/pottery, outdoor everything, spanish/french	