

# Sierra Bellows

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## Education:

2004 Honours Bachelors Degree with distinction from the University of Toronto  
Major in Cinema Studies & Minors in Political Science and Psychology

## Teaching Experience:

2002-2003 University Lecture & Screening tour: “Lifecycles: a story of AIDS in Malawi” including—  
Dalhousie, StFX (HFX) and Victoria College, University of Toronto  
2002 Telling a Story with Video: Tips and Techniques  
Kennedy School of International Development, Harvard  
2002 CID Special Seminar: HIV/AIDS in Africa  
Kennedy School of International Development, Harvard

## Grants and Awards:

2005 *Bravo! Fact Grant* (\$15,000)—*Anniversary Present*  
2004 *1<sup>st</sup> Prize*—Norma Epstein Literary Competition – Short Fiction— “New Year’s Eve 1987”  
2004 *2<sup>nd</sup> Prize*—Hart House Literary Competition – Fiction – “Shift Work”  
2004 *Nominated—Best Comedy* at Canada Golden Sheaf Awards—*The Straitjacket Lottery*  
2003 *Bravo! Fact Grant* (\$17,500)—*The Straitjacket Lottery*  
2002 *Post-production Grant*—Hart House Film Board—*Skin Shallow*  
2002 *Completion Grant* (\$6,500)—NFB—*Lifecycles: a story of AIDS in Malawi*  
2001 *Completion Grant* (\$11,000)—UNAIDS—*Lifecycles: a story of AIDS in Malawi*

## Film Work:

2004-2005 Producer—  
“*Anniversary Present*” 7 minute comedy  
Dir. Doug Karr, Human Scale Productions  
Commissioned: Bravo!

2004-2005 Administrative Assistant & Receptionist—  
Flashcut Editing, Toronto  
Post-production house for television advertising

2001-2005 Sound person & Offline Editor  
Human Scale Productions  
Video work for various corporate clients

2003-2004 Producer, Co-Editor & Original Story—  
“*The Straitjacket Lottery*” 22 minute comedy  
Dir. Doug Karr, Human Scale Productions  
Commissioned: Bravo!, CBC Television

2000-2004 Sound, Co-Director, & Co-Editor—  
“*Lifecycles: A story of AIDS in Malawi*” 47 minute Documentary  
Funding: UNAIDS, The National Film Board of Canada  
Sold – LinkTV (National US broadcaster based in San Francisco)

2002 Sound—  
*Speech by Archbishop Desmond Tutu*  
Client: The Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge MA

- 2001 Sound & Interviewer—  
 “*Starter Pack*” 22 minute Documentary  
 Client: Kennedy School, Harvard University
- 2001 Voice-over, Interviewer, Co-Director & Co- Editor—  
 “*Malawian Orphanages*” 10 minute Fundraising Film  
 Client: Rotary Club International

Publication:

Now Magazine, Toronto

- 2005-10-13 Creative Non-Fiction: “Window Dancing”  
 2004-11-11 Travel piece: “Thumbs out on the 401”

The Hart House Review, Toronto

- 2004 Short Fiction: “Shift Work”

Common People, Toronto

- 2004 Short Fiction: “Love letter to a chemist”

The Independent Weekly, Toronto

- 2002-06-13 Back page: “Images not captured by the lens”  
 2002-10-10 Art Review: “High art of prank calls”  
 2004-01-08 Back page: “Are lesbian’s smarter?”  
 2004-04-01 Back page: “The fattest hair model”

St. Lawrence & Downtown Community Bulletin, Toronto

- 2002-11-01 Profile: “Filmmaking in Africa”

The Hill Times, Ottawa

- 1992-03-17 Theatre Review: “*A Promise is a Promise* is good. I promise”

Other Work Experience:

- 2000-2001 Project Assistant—  
 Grant to Support the Education Sector—Canadian Int’l Development Agency  
 Responsibilities: employee management, general office correspondence, setting print runs, working with Malawian government partners, national school book and school enrolment data collection, advising Canadian CIDA office, designing public awareness campaign, and creating national book distribution plan.  
 Project Scope: \$15 million dollar project providing school books to 3.1 million primary school students in Malawi.
- 1997 Office/Research Assistant—  
 Midwifery Collective of Ottawa  
 Responsibilities: designing Epi-info database, data entry, organizing office, managing volunteers, office correspondence, scheduling, and admitting clients.

Volunteer work and other activities:

- 2004-2005 Facilitating women’s writing group, Toronto  
 2003-2004 Volunteering for Toronto Rogers Cable’s “Goldhawk Live”  
 2003 Community Outreach for Hotdocs on the University of Toronto campus

Sojourns and Journeys

- Experience living in: Canada, Malawi, Philippines, and Sri Lanka  
 Travel in: Belize, England, France, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Nepal,  
 South Africa, US, and Zimbabwe