Rami Daud

I help communication teams use AI *without losing the human in the story.*

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SUMMARY

Photographer and visual storyteller with more than 20 years behind the camera, four of them at NASA Glenn Research Center. At Kent State I test AI tools against the communications team's editorial standards before anyone relies on them, then turn what I learn into guides and workshops so colleagues can make the same calls. Twenty years of deciding what is true in a picture shapes how I judge these tools.

Experience

08/2019 to present

Senior Photographer

University Communications and Marketing · Kent State University

- Photography, video, audio and motion graphics for the university's strategic priorities, produced with designers, writers and marketing strategists.
- Serves as the team's informal AI lead: evaluates tools for real assignments, writes the guidance, and keeps a person at every approval step.
- Runs the team's digital asset workflow across PhotoShelter for Brands, Airtable and Lightroom Classic.
- Supervises and mentors student photographers.
- Kent State Works portrait series earned a 2026 CASE Circle of Excellence Bronze.

07/2015 to 08/2019

Photographer IV / Digital Imaging Specialist

NASA Glenn Research Center · Cleveland, Ohio

- Photography and multimedia for Artemis, SpaceX and Commercial Crew hardware testing and for research and engineering programs.
- Helped plan and execute coverage of the 2017 Eclipse Across America initiative, part of NASA TV's coast-to-coast broadcast.
- One of NASA's representatives producing content for Instagram's IGTV during its beta.
- Seven photographs selected as NASA Image of the Day; team work recognized with NASA Honor and Significant Achievement awards.

01/2003 to present

Owner and Photographer

Rami Daud Photography Inc.

- Freelance assignments for the Associated Press, AFP, Cleveland Magazine and The Toledo Blade.

AI PRACTICE

2026 · FIELD GUIDE

Prompt to Publish
How these tools work, how to direct and verify them, and when to put them down.

2026 · WORKSHOP KIT

Checking AI-generated quotes
A 90-minute session for communications staff, built on a four-point editorial standard.

06/2026 · PANEL

UPAA Symposium
AI and university photography, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

ONGOING · DEVLOG

Midlife Survivors
A public log of evaluating AI tools by building a browser game with them.

WRITING

Framing the Cosmos
Substack on how iconic space photographs shape public understanding of science.

EDUCATION

IN PROGRESS

MS, Emerging Media and Technology
Kent State University. Research on photography and the public understanding of science.

05/2026

Bachelor of Integrated Studies
Kent State University

TOOLS

Lightroom Classic · Photoshop · DaVinci Resolve Studio · PhotoShelter for Brands · Airtable · Claude · Granola

Recognition

2026	**CASE Circle of Excellence, Bronze** · Photography: Portraits · Kent State Works series	CASE
2020	**Silver ADDY, Still Photography (Color)** · Portrait of President Todd Diacon for Kent State Magazine	American Advertising Awards
2019	**Center Operations Directorate Peer Achievement Award** · Sustained commitment to excellence	NASA Glenn
2019	**2018 NASA Videographer of the Year (Team), 2nd place** · Production category · "For the Benefit of All"	NASA
2018	**NASA Honor Award for Group Achievement** · Public and education engagement for NASA TV's 2017 solar eclipse event	NASA
2018	**NASA Significant Achievement Award** · Reinventing the Wheel, social media project on shape memory alloy research	NASA
2018	**Grand Award for Electronic Media** · Reinventing the Wheel	APEX Awards
2018	**Communicator Award of Excellence, Digital** · Reinventing the Wheel	Communicator Awards · AIVA
2017	**Award of Excellence, Social Media** · Baseball in the Ballistic Impact Lab · photography and video	APEX Awards
2017	**Award of Excellence, Social Media** · Meet the Makers web series	APEX Awards
2016	**Award of Excellence, Social Media** · #BeAnAstronaut series	APEX Awards

NASA Image of the Day

Seven photographs made at NASA Glenn Research Center were featured on NASA.gov.

01 A Celestial Diamond Ring: Nature's Gift to Humanity
02 Electric Propulsion Testing at NASA Glenn
03 Aircraft Propulsion Model in NASA Wind Tunnel
04 Super Blood Moon Lunar Eclipse
05 NASA Blasts Orion Service Module with Giant Horns
06 Evaluating the Noise of Future Aircraft
07 Probing the Plume

Earlier experience

08/2012 TO 08/2015

Event Specialist and Photographer
The Standard, Wedding and Events Group, Pittsburgh. Documentary and location-lit portrait coverage.

2006 TO 2011

Newspaper photography
Youngstown Vindicator and Medina County Gazette. News, sports and features in stills and video; built a multimedia site featured by the NPPA.

2007 TO 2008

Assistant to the University Photographer
Kent State University. Asset management, film scanning, retouching and archive metadata.

Publication

J. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE: REPORTS · 37 · 2021

The Nelson stone tool cache, North-Central Ohio, U.S.A.: Assessing its cultural affiliation

Co-author on a study of 164 bifaces from a cache found in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

Team honors

Kent State UCM campaigns I contributed to have earned Educational Advertising Awards, including Best of Show for the Student Viewbook.