Rewa Clark Bush

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EDUCATION

Expected 2030 PhD, Astronomy

Yale University, New Haven, CT

2024 Master of Arts, Astronomy

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT Planetary Science concentration.

2022 Associate in Science, Math

Associate in Science, Physics

Associate in Science, Astronomy

Associate in Science, Liberal Arts-Interdisciplinary Studies

Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA High Honors.

2016 Bachelor of Arts, English

Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

Phi Beta Kappa Honors. Environmental Studies minor. Postcolonial Anglophone Literatures capstone.

RESEARCH

2025 **OSTEM Intern,** Planetary Science Division, NASA Ames Research Center

Advisor: Natasha Batalha

Ran cloud-free atmospheric models of exoplanet WASP-17b, a retrograde hot Jupiter observed with the *James Webb Space Telescope*. Found best fit parameters and analyzed residuals, with goal of identifying systematic shortcomings and improving PICASO modeling methods.

2023-2024 Graduate Student Researcher, Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University

Advisor: Seth Redfield

Modeling Lyman- α absorption due to 15 known local interstellar clouds that surround the Solar System. Our models predict what the Alice UV spectrograph aboard NASA's *New Horizons* spacecraft should see as it reaches the edge of the heliosphere, which we compare with *New Horizons*' first all-sky observations.

2021-2022 **Post-bacc Researcher**, Lamat Institute for Computational Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz Advisor: Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz

Investigating the characteristics of stars that have survived an encounter with a supermassive black hole. Simulating the long-term evolution of tidally disrupted stars using MESA code. By comparing theoretical deviation of disrupted vs. undisturbed stars, our findings provide observational detection strategies.

2022 Post-bacc Researcher, Plankton Monitoring Lab, Cabrillo College

Advisors: Nicole Crane, Jane Silberstein

Contributed to NOAA/NCCOS west coast plankton monitoring applied research project, increasing understanding of harmful algal blooms in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Gained experience in plankton collection and identification, microscopes, data analysis/entry, and scientific illustration.

AWARDS & HONORS

2024 **Challenge Coin**, Office of the Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park
Awarded for special achievement, dedication, and service promoting night sky education and stewardship.

- 2023 **Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Honorable Mention,** *American Astronomical Society* Honorable Mention for poster presentation award at the 241st AAS meeting in Seattle, WA.
- 2022 First Place, NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars
 Led team to victory in national engineering competition as lunar mission Project Manager.
- 2021 **Student Presentation Award**, Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science Best astrophysics research poster presented at the SACNAS National Diversity in STEM Conference.

- **PEACE Award,** Office of the President, Cabrillo College Exceptional literary work addressing legacies of colonialism on campus.
- **Student of the Month,** *Cabrillo College* Academic accomplishment and contributions to the campus and wider community.
- **Norton Writer's Prize,** W. W. Norton & Company Inc.
 National competition for outstanding academic writing by undergraduates.
- **Inducted Member,** *Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society*Breadth and depth in arts and sciences, scholarly achievement, and excellence of character.
- **National Merit Scholar Finalist,** *National Merit Scholarship Corporation* Top 3% PSAT achievement nationwide.

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2025-2030 **Teaching/Research Fellowship,** *Astronomy Department, Yale University* 5-year fully-funded stipend with tuition remission for astronomy PhD program.
- 2025-2028 **Dean's Emerging Scholar Fellowship,** *Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Yale University* 3-year monetary award in recognition of outstanding academic record and exceptional promise.
- 2022-2024 **Teaching Assistantship,** *Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University* 2-year fully-funded TA stipend with tuition remission for astronomy master's program.
 - **Travel Grant,** NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium Funded travel to 243rd AAS conference in New Orleans, LA.
 - **Travel Grant**, *Graduate Student Association*, *Wesleyan University* Funded travel to *New Horizons* Science Team Meeting in Boston, MA.
 - **FAMOUS Travel Grant,** American Astronomical Society Funded travel to 241st AAS conference in Seattle, WA.
- 2021-2022 **Lamat Research Fellowship,** Lamat Institute for Computational Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz 1.5-year fully-funded research stipend with Prof. Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz's high-energy astrophysics group.
 - Wanda Garner Non-Endowed Scholarship, Mathematics Department, Cabrillo College Academic achievement and contributions to the STEM community.
 - **Ted Bowen Memorial Endowed Scholarship,** *Physics Department, Cabrillo College* Academic achievement and contributions to the STEM community.
- 2012-2016 **John F. Oberlin Scholarship,** *Oberlin College* Four-year tuition scholarship for exceptional academic achievement.
 - **President's Public Service Fellowship,** Office of the President, Oberlin College Summer fellowship for community-engaged work in youth empowerment and leadership.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- **Talk,** 246th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society

 Imposters in the Galactic Center: The Unusual Early-Time Appearance of Tidal Disruption Remnants
- **Talk (Invited),** 45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)

 Modeling Lyman-Alpha Emission in the Local Interstellar Medium as Observed by New Horizons
- **Talk,** Astronomy Department Research Seminar, Wesleyan University
 Shadows on the Sky: Mapping New Horizons' Vision of the Local Interstellar Cloudscape
- **Talk,** New Horizons Science Team Meeting #55
 Modeling the Impact of LISM Clouds on New Horizons' Lyman-Alpha Observations
- **Poster,** 243rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society
 Evaluating New Horizons Lyman-Alpha Observations From the Edge of the Solar System for Evidence of a Local ISM Cloudscape

- **Talk,** Astronomy Department Research Seminar, Wesleyan University
 Black Hole Survival Guide: Finding Stars that Endure Partial Tidal Disruption
- **Poster,** 241st Meeting of the American Astronomical Society
 Black Hole Survival Guide: Finding Stars that Endure Partial Tidal Disruption
- **Talk,** 11th Annual Lamat Astrophysics Research Symposium, University of California, Santa Cruz Black Hole Survival Guide: Finding Stars that Endure Partial Tidal Disruption
- **Poster,** Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CUWiP) Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- **Talk (Invited),** Latinx United at Cabrillo for Engineering and Science (LUCES), Cabrillo College Star, Interrupted: Meeting a Black Hole and Living to Tell the Tale
- **Poster,** National Diversity in STEM (NDiSTEM) Conference, SACNAS Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- **Talk,** 10th Annual Lamat Astrophysics Research Symposium, University of California, Santa Cruz Star, Interrupted: Meeting a Black Hole and Living to Tell the Tale

STEM OUTREACH

- **Preparing Your Research Talk,** *University of California, Santa Cruz*Led 2-week workshop on science communication for Lamat Institute summer astrophysics students.
- **Slugs & Steins Lecture,** *University of California, Santa Cruz*Public lecture entitled "The Lamat Institute: Re-Imagining Leadership and Mentorship in Astronomy."
- **Community Engagement Volunteer,** *Comm. for the Protection of Astronomy and the Space Environment, AAS* Assisted with outreach regarding issues of satellite constellations, light pollution, and space debris.
- **Star-gay-zing,** *Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University*Spearheaded first annual Pride month event, including lectures, planetarium, telescope observing, and discussions to promote LGBTQ+ belonging in astronomy. Procured funding from city Pride Commission.
- **Science Saturdays,** *Wesleyan University*Assisted with on-campus STEM experience for elementary-age youth.
- 2019-2022 **Women in Science and Engineering Club,** *Cabrillo College*Events Coordinator (2021-22) providing opportunities for gender minorities in STEM. Collaborated with Indigenous Students Club to engage hundreds of students/faculty across campus re: decolonizing science.
 - **Picture a Scientist,** STEM Colloquium, Cabrillo College Organized and moderated a panel of scientists addressing harassment in STEM with Title IX Office.
 - **Bulletins From the Basin,** *Big Basin Redwoods State Park*Filmed Junior Ranger programs and educational media on natural science topics. 28,000+ views.
 - **Youth Coordinator,** Children & Teen Services, Oberlin Public Library
 Mentored and tutored low-income, at-promise youth weekly at drop-in technology center.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Astronomy Intern,** *Scientists-in-Parks, National Park Service*Led telescope programs and gave public astronomy / light pollution talks at Joshua Tree National Park, reaching hundreds of visitors each week. Assisted with endangered species monitoring and data collection.
- 2022-2024 **Astronomy Public Outreach,** Van Vleck Observatory, Wesleyan University
 Hosted weekly public observing nights: giving science talks, operating Digitalis planetarium, historic 20" refractor telescope, and 8" and 24" reflector telescopes. Trained new workers on telescope operations.
- 2022-2024 **Teaching Assistant,** Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University
 Courses: ASTR 211 Observational Astronomy (majors). ASTR 155 Introduction to Astrophysics (majors). ASTR 105 Exploring the Cosmos (non-majors) x2. Duties: lead weekly labs, observing sessions, office hours, grading, guest lecture.

2019-2021 Interpretive Senior Park Aide, California State Parks

Designed and led public programs and NGSS-aligned fieldtrips for 100s of students annually. Filmed original educational media on historical and natural science topics (28,000+ views), collected wildlife data, habitat restoration, managed volunteers, graphic design, opened/closed visitor centers, staffed giftshops.

2019-2020 Math & English Tutor, Learning HUB, Cabrillo College

Provided tutoring in mathematics from Pre-Algebra through Calculus for first-generation college students. Assisted students with essay editing, grammar, time management, and metacognitive awareness. Fostered inclusive, welcoming learning environment. Completed tutor training course.

2016-2019 Program Associate, Djerassi Resident Artists Program

Coordinated daily program operations for artists-in-residence at remote mountain retreat. Managed volunteer docents, land art installation program, in-house photography, and archives. Led guided art hikes and assisted with public events (e.g., open house, art auction, workshops) for 1,000 visitors annually.

2012-2016 Library Assistant, Clarence Ward Art Library, Oberlin College

Assisted patrons with research questions at Circulation Desk. Managed rare book purchases and maintained Special Collections, processed acquisitions, curated displays and blog.

SKILLS

Languages English (native), French (advanced)

Technical Python for scientific computing, MESA, Inkscape, telescope/astrograph operation

Certifications Wilderness First Responder, National Outdoor Leadership School, 2018-2026

Ham Radio Technician License, American Radio Relay League, 2018

Social Justice Mediation & Facilitation, Yeworkwah Belachew Center for Dialogue, 2014

MEDIA & PRESS

2024 Lamat Institute: Re-Imagining Leadership and Mentorship in Astronomy, UC Santa Cruz (Lecture)

2023 Van Vleck Observatory Opens its Doors for Community Outreach, Wesleyan University (Article)

2021 Lamat Fellow Rewa Clark Bush Receives Presentation Award, Lamat Institute (Article)

2020 Norton Writer's Prize: A Loss Beyond Words, W. W. Norton & Company Inc. (Essay)

2020 Big Basin Was Home to California's First Female Park Ranger, The Lily (Article)

2015 President's Public Service Fellows Present Summer Successes, Oberlin College (Article)