**SETH P. SHAW**

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Undergraduate | University of Tennessee Knoxville | [sshaw33@vols.utk.edu](mailto:sshaw33@vols.utk.edu) | (629) 221-1960

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated student with over 5 years of research experiencespanning animal and plant study systems. Three years of involvement in non-profit work focusing on education outreach and fundraising. **Passionate about the physiological and behavioral mechanisms animals use to respond to environmental change.**

EDUCATION

**2022 - Current** **B.S. (Honors) Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Minor in Statistics.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth P. Derryberry. Honors Thesis: Effects of elevated temperature on male–male behavior in zebra finches. Anticipated Graduation year: 2026. GPA: 3.93

**2018 - 2022** **International Baccalaureate Diploma.** Hillsboro High School*.* Nashville, TN

**2016–2020** **Diploma from the School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt (SSMV).** Nashville, TN. 4-year co-curricular program with research based interdisciplinary STEM curriculum at Vanderbilt University

SKILLS

**Field and Lab:** Bird banding and handling (2yr). Avian husbandry (2yr). Behavioral sampling & scoring (2 yr). FLIR thermal image analysis (1 yr). Experience with Respirometry (1 season). Performing statistical analysis in R (2 yrs). Preparing & cataloguing Herbarium specimens (1 yr).

**Outreach:** Created and taught grade-school biology educational content (2yrs, Ape Initiative). Fundraising experience (1 yr, Ape Initiative). Advertising at engagement fairs (Naturalist Club).

**Leadership:** Training Avian Care Technicians (1yr). Developed care protocol and advised on zebra finch thermal project (1 season). Organizing expert-led hikes (Naturalist Club).

**Proposal Writing:** Total secured as lead author ($2,250). Experience writing research and animal care protocols (UTK).

PUBLICATIONS

**2022Shaw, S. P.** (2022). Bonobo (Pan paniscus) Behaviors Exhibited in a Prosocial Choice Task. Young Scientist. Vanderbilt

GRANTS

**2025** **University of Tennessee – Undergraduate Research Travel Grant. ($500)**

**2025** **University of Tennessee – Advanced Undergraduate Research Activity. ($1,750)**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**2025** **Shaw SP,** Empson T, Derryberry EP. “The effect of temperature on male zebra finch *Taeniopygia castanotis* social interactions” Animal Behavior Conference 2025; Bloomington, IN. Abstract No: 49.

MENTORSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**2025 - Current** Naturalist Club Co-Leader. University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK). Club sponsor: Dr. Laura Russo.

**2025 - Current** Assist in creating K-12 biological educational content. Advisor: Dr. Sarah Huneycutt.

**2025** Volunteer, Darwin Day, University of Tennessee – Knoxville.

**2024** Volunteer for a week-long STEM camp for high school students at the Ape Cognition & Conservation Initiative (Ape Initiative) in Des Moines, IA.

**2023** Volunteer for a week-long STEM camp for high school students at the Ape Initiative in Des Moines, IA.

**2022** Fundraiser for the Ape Initiative making and selling bonobo-themed soaps, IA.

**2022** Collaborated to create educational content aimed at middle school students for the Ape Initiative, IA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**2025 - Current** **Thermoregulatory plasticity in birds.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Advisors: Dr. Juan D. Zuluaga, Dr. Elizabeth P. Derryberry (PI)

**2025 - Current** **Effects of elevated temperature on male–male behavior in zebra finches.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Co-authors: Dr. Juan D. Zuluaga, Tara Empson, & Dr. Elizabeth P. Derryberry.

**2025** **Sheldon Lab Internship.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). PI: Dr. Kimberly Sheldon.

**2024 & 2025** **Derryberry Lab Tree Swallow Fieldwork.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Mentor: Emmy James.

**2024** **Downey Lab Cow Behavior Internship.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). PI: Dr. Blair Downey

**2023** **Blum Lab Greenhouse Internship.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). PI: Dr. Mike Blum, Manager: Haley Kodak

**2021- 2022** **The Prosociality of Bonobo (*Pan paniscus*) Behaviors Exhibited in a Prosocial Choice Task**. Vanderbilt University. Advisor: Dr. Sarah Huneycutt.

**2020** **Effects of Microplastics on the Growth and Germination of Sedimented Rooted Macrophytes.** Vanderbilt University. Advisors: Dr. Angela Eeds, Dr. Nathan Haag, & Dr. Menton Deweese.

**2019** **The Effect of Substrate on Bacteria Cultures Present in (*Orconectus placidus*) enclosures.** Vanderbilt University. Advisors: Dr. Angela Eeds, Dr. Nathan Haag, & Dr. Menton Deweese.

**2019** **Effect of Audio and Visual Latency on the P-300 Value.** Vanderbilt University. Advisors: Dr. Angela Eeds, Dr. Nathan Haag, & Dr. Menton Deweese.

**2019** **An analysis of Yellow Tang (*Zebrasoma flavenscens*) Feeding behavior in an aquarium.** Vanderbilt University. Advisors: Dr. Angela Eeds, Dr. Nathan Haag, & Dr. Menton Deweese.

WORK EXPERIENCE

**2025 - Current** **Herbarium Technician.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Manager: Garret Billings.

**2024 - 2025** **Derryberry Lab Avian Care Technician.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Manager: Sasha Ewing.

**2024** **Starbucks Barista, Aramark.** University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK). Supervisor: Brianna Felty.

**2023** **Ambassador at Jeni’s Ice Cream.** Nashville, TN.Manager: Katie Corbett.

**2021-2023** **Baker at Crumbl Cookies.** Nashville, TN.Manager: Kelsey Maoriano