

Miya Zhao

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EDUCATION

- Yale University** *B.S. Statistics and Data Science & Certificate in Programming* **August 2023 - [Present]**
- *Coursework:* Data Exploration & Analysis, Probability Theory, Theory of Statistics, Data Analysis, Linear Models, Computational Linguistics, Intro to Computer Science, Social Psychology, Research Inquiry & Presentation
- London School of Economics and Political Science** **June 2025 - August 2025**
- *Coursework:* Computational Methods in Financial Mathematics, Introduction to Data Science & Machine Learning

EXPERIENCE

- Yale International Genetically Engineered Machine/ Farren Isaacs Lab** **Dec 2024 – [Present]**
- President | Wet Lab Lead | Student Researcher*
- Designed and implemented research protocols for novel protein functionalization through non-standard amino acid incorporation (L-asparaginase), bridging technical development with real-world applications
 - Lead team to the 2025 Paris iGEM Jamboree where Yale won its first gold medal in 15 years
 - Developed integrated human practices strategy (“You Are What You Fund Project”), sparking global conversations (across 4 continents and 7 countries) on science funding and public trust
 - Managed \$48K+ budget; secured \$10K+ in-kind industry partnerships (Abcam, NEB, Twist Biosciences, IDT) through pitching and negotiation
 - Built a prototype modeling tool leveraging logistic regression to optimize experimental workflows
- Yale Asian American Cultural Center** **Aug 2024 – [Present]**
- Undergraduate Student Coordinator | Historical, Artistic, and Cultural Resources Team*
- Planned and executed high-impact events (300+ attendees), strengthening community engagement across Yale’s pan-Asian student population
 - Designed and launched a new student arts space, overseeing end-to-end rollout from concept to opening event
 - Facilitated partnerships with other Yale cultural centers, improving cross-community collaboration and programming

LEADERSHIP/ACTIVITIES

- Chinese American Students Association** **Sep 2023 - [Present]**
- President | Cultural Chair*
- Directed one of Yale’s largest student organizations (900+ members, \$10K+ budget), overseeing strategic planning, programming, and board operations
 - Managed 25 board members, leading weekly leadership meetings and delivering 20+ events each semester
 - Spearheaded cultural showcases (300+ attendees) including Hot Pot Night, Mid-Autumn Festival, and CASA Showcase
 - Negotiated sponsorships with corporations and individuals, strengthening external partnerships and funding sustainability
- Yale Hunger and Homelessness Action Project** **Sep 2023 - [Present]**
- FAST Digital Marketing Lead | Digital Team Designer*
- Directed digital strategy for Yale’s largest fundraising initiative, raising \$33K+ for New Haven communities experiencing housing and food insecurity
 - Led a creative team to produce marketing campaigns that drove 2,700+ sign-ups (largest participation since pre-COVID)
 - Designed multimedia and branding assets to optimize reach and user engagement
- Yale Computer Society** **Sep 2025 - [Present]**
- Catalyst Mentee*
- Created a series of web design projects on React under the mentorship of the Yale Computer Society

SKILLS

Technical: R, Python, React, Prism, Adobe Creative Cloud, Canva, Molecular Biology Wet Lab Skills
Certifications: Microsoft Office Specialist (Excel, PowerPoint, Word), CITI Program BioSafety, WorkKeys Platinum Level
Languages: English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (intermediate), Spanish (intermediate), Fuzhou dialect (conversational)