

Miya Zhao

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EDUCATION

Yale University <i>B.S. Statistics and Data Science & Certificate in Programming</i>	August 2023 - [Current]
• <i>Coursework:</i> 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
• <i>Coursework:</i> Computational Methods in Financial Mathematics, Introduction to Data Science & Machine Learning	

EXPERIENCE

Yale International Genetically Engineered Machine/ Farren Isaacs Lab	Dec 2024 – [Current]
<i>President Wet Lab Lead Student Researcher</i>	
• 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 – [Current]
<i>Undergraduate Student Coordinator Historical, Artistic, and Cultural Resources Team</i>	
• 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 Student Association	Sep 2023 - [Current]
<i>President Cultural Chair</i>	
• Directed one of Yale’s largest student organizations (900+ members, \$5K+ budget), overseeing strategic planning, programming, and board operations	
• Managed 20+ 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 - [Current]
<i>FAST Digital Marketing Lead</i>	
• 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 - [Current]
<i>Catalyst Mentee</i>	
• Created a series of projects including a personal portfolio on React under the mentorship of Yale Computer Society mentors	

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)