

Albert W. Zhou

EDUCATION

Princeton University , Princeton, NJ A.B. in Molecular Biology, <i>magna cum laude</i> ; Certificate in Music Performance (viola) Awards: Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, elected to Sigma Xi	Sep. 2020 – May 2024
Royal College of Music , London, United Kingdom Study abroad program for music performance	Sep. 2022 – Dec. 2022
South Pasadena High School , South Pasadena, CA High school diploma	Aug. 2016 – June 2020

EMPLOYMENT AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

Chamber Music Coach Intern, Pasadena Conservatory of Music , Pasadena, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coach youth chamber music groupsAssist with program administration and planning	Oct. 2024 – present
Assistant Instructor, Adult String Ensembles, Pasadena Conservatory of Music <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coach adult string ensembles consisting of adult students of varying levelsLead viola sectionals	Sep. 2024 – present
Lab Manager & Functional Genetic Technician, Parker Lab, California Institute of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop tools for transgenesis in <i>Dalotia coriaria</i>Create transgenic <i>D. coriaria</i> linesManage <i>D. coriaria</i> and <i>Drosophila</i> culturesMentor high school student on an independent projectOversee day-to-day lab operations (from June 2025)	June 2024 – present
Freelance Musician , Pasadena, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none">Perform at donor receptions and similar eventsPerform in local orchestras, including Pasadena Symphony	
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Chemistry, Princeton University , Princeton, NJ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted with weekly discussion sectionsEvaluated written assignmentsContributed to weekly problem setsLed exam review sessions and office hours	Sep. 2023 – May 2024
Undergraduate researcher, Gavis Lab, Princeton University <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigated the function of the <i>Zn72D</i> gene in <i>Drosophila</i> germline developmentPerformed core molecular biology techniquesAdapted to unexpected results through troubleshooting and designing new experimentsPresented updates at lab meetings	Feb. 2023 – May 2024
Ophthalmic Technician Intern, Retina Eye Specialists , South Pasadena, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none">Communicated with patients about appointments and prescriptionsAssisted physician by working up patients and performing optical coherence tomography	May 2022 – Sep. 2022
Laboratory assistant, Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology, Univ. of So. Calif. , CA	June 2021 – Aug. 2021

Public Services Captain & Assistant, Mendel Music Library, Princeton University

Feb. 2021 – May 2024

- Managed circulation desk and answered reference questions
- Assisted with stacks maintenance, with a primary responsibility for shelving
- Uploaded, mapped, and published digitized music collections
- Trained new public services and digital collections student employees

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Bapat RA, Aghazadeh M, Ji Y, Evans D, Bauer AE, **Zhou AW**, Liang T, Zhang H, Hacia J, Zhou Y, Paine ML (2025)
Development and characterization of *Odam-IRES*Cre: an ameloblast maturation stage specific Cre driver line.
Lab Animal (in review)

Zhou AW (2024) The RNA-binding protein Zn72D contributes to *oskar* function and germline development. Senior thesis advised by Elizabeth R. Gavis

Zhou AW, Lee KY, Gavis ER (2023) The RNA-binding protein Zn72D in germline development. MolBio Summer Research Program Poster Session

SERVICE

Tutor, School on Wheels, Los Angeles, CA Apr. 2025 – present

Music Ambassador, Huntington Hospital, Pasadena, CA Sep. 2024 – present

Research Volunteer, SEMILLA Research, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Sylmar, CA Aug. 2024 – present

Emergency Department Volunteer, Los Angeles General Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA Aug. 2024 – present

Viola Section Coach, Trenton Arts at Princeton, Princeton, NJ Sep. 2023 – May 2024

- Led sectionals and provided guidance for Trenton high school students passionate about music
- Featured in TAP fifth anniversary documentary

Care Ambassador, Emergency Department, Princeton Medical Center, Plainsboro, NJ Jan. 2023 – Apr. 2023

Care Ambassador, Telemetry Unit, Princeton Medical Center, Plainsboro, NJ Jan. 2022 – Apr. 2022

Violin Teacher, Trenton Arts at Princeton, Princeton, NJ Sep. 2021 – May 2024

- Taught free private lessons for Trenton high school students

LEADERSHIP

Principal Violist, Princeton University Orchestra Sep. 2023 – May 2024

- Served as coordinator between conductor, other principal players, and section members

President, Opus Chamber Music, Princeton University May 2023 – May 2024

- Oversaw and delegated officer board responsibilities
- Coordinated and planned concerts, auditions, and day-to-day operations for a smooth member experience
- Served as liaison to university, music department, and other external parties
- Implemented member feedback mechanisms
- Fostered collaborations with peer groups at Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania

Publicity Chair, Opus Chamber Music, Princeton University May 2022 – May 2023

ACTIVITIES

Violist and Music Librarian, Vicente Chamber Orchestra, Santa Monica, CA	June 2024 – present
Violist, Opus Chamber Music, Princeton, NJ	Sep. 2021 – May 2024
Violist, Princeton University Orchestra, Princeton, NJ	Sep. 2020 – May 2024