Blake Byer

July 3, 2024

Education

Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience   December 2025

University of Kentucky
Minors in Biology, Computer Science, and Mathematics
3.95 GPA

Experience

SURE Scholar   June 2024 - Present

University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill

SURE Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill. I am studying rare lysosomal storage diseases at the intersection of infectious and neurodegenerative diseases.

Research Assistant   August 2023 - Present

University of Kentucky

Research Assistant at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. I research polygenic risk scores for Alzheimer's disease and statistical fine-mapping for GWAS loci prioritization.

Research Assistant   January 2023 - August 2023

University of Kentucky

Research Assistant at the Sports Medicine Research Institute at the University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences. I contributed to a pilot study that tested wireless motion capture and force-plate insoles for gait retraining in military personnel.

Presentations

Summer Student Symposium   July 2024

University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill
Lysosomal storage diseases are not protective against severe COVID-19 infection. Clustering analysis shows the lysosome is implicated in Parkinson's disease.

Great Lakes Bioinformatics Conference   May 2024

University of Pittsburgh

Averaging polygenic risk scores derived from multiple genome-wide association studies increases predictive accuracy for Alzheimer's disease.

Selected Publications

1. Averaging polygenic risk scores derived from multiple genome-wide association studies increases predictive accuracy for Alzheimer's disease. Manuscript in preparation.

2. Clustering analysis shows the lysosome is implicated in Parkinson's disease. Manuscript in preparation.