Chirag Gokani

chiragokani@gmail.com chiragokani.org (214) 901-1208

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Dallas

B.S. Physics, Minor in Music

Class of 2021 GPA: 3.883

Honors

- Eugene McDermott Scholar One of twenty-three undergraduates selected for UTD's flagship scholarship: traveled to Santa Fe, Austin, and Washington, D.C. for leadership training; studied classical guitar in Valencia, Spain
- Collegium V Honors Student Took advanced coursework in math, political science, and liberal arts

Physics & Astronomy Experience

University of Texas at Dallas: Physics Department

Teaching Assistant

2020

- Set up and led the undergraduate lab component for Electromagnetism & Waves (PHYS 2126)
- Taught curriculum that builds up DC and elementary AC circuitry from first principles

UTD Cosmology, Relativity, and Astrophysics Group

Research Assistant

2017 - 2018

- Numerically treated the General Relativistic three-body problem of inspiraling binary black holes subject to a third perturbing black hole with hopes to explain underlying dynamics of LIGO measurements
- Cataloged stellar photometry data from Gaia to help facilitate an exoplanet survey led by citizen-scientists

Advanced Research in Thermo Fluid Systems Lab

Research Assistant

2019

- Measured and catalogued fluid properties of samples bovine and human milk
- Developed models to describe how fat globules affect the velocity-dependent viscosity of various milks

Society of Physics Students

Astronomy Committee Member

2017 - present

- o Coordinated large-scale star parties at UTD for major astronomical events, including 2018 & 2019 total lunar eclipses, 2018 opposition of Mars, and 2020 pass of NEOWISE, collaborating with the Texas Astronomical Society
- Co-led telescope training sessions, exposing community members to a variety of amateur telescopes

Presentations & Projects

- Stellar Spectroscopy, end-of-semester project for PHYS 4373 Physical Measurements Lab
- Quantum Electrodynamics, term paper for PHYS 4352 Concepts of Modern Physics
- Coriolis & Centrifugal Forces, presented at the Graduate Students in Physics Seminar on September 25th, 2020
- Pappus's Theorem, presentation for MATH 3321 Geometry, summer 2020
- Ballistic Entry: Monte Carlo Simulation, presentation for PHYS 3330 Numerical Methods, fall 2019
- Musical Physics, presented at the Graduate Students in Physics Seminar on October 5th, 2018
- Explaining the Solar Analema, an end-of-semester paper for PHYS 3380 Astronomy, fall 2018

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages: Python, HTML, IATEX (intermediate proficiency); MATLAB, SQL (elementary proficiency)
- Technologies and Frameworks: Anton Paar Rheometry & Density Interfaces, Meade and Celestron telescopes

Affiliations

- Texas Astronomical Society, 2018-present
- American Physical Society, Division of Astrophysics, Division of Gravitation, Texas Section, 2020-present

Freelance Musician

Bass guitar, piano, guitar

2016 - present

- Perform with Addis (jazz/world), Stephen Houpt (New Age/world), the C3 Big Band (contemporary jazz), the Squirrelheads (old-time), Banks and Co. (southern soul), and Strictly Tablue (electric blues)
- Studied with Russell Jackson (B.B. King), Brian Mulholland (Maynard Ferguson), and James Driscoll (Doc Severinsen); shared stage with the likes of Todd Mosby, Reggie Thomas, Jim Suhler, Steve Miller, Tony Baker, Josh Hanlon, Kelly Durbin, and Austin Zhang
- Play solo jazz piano and guitar for parties engagements and at local restaurants and bars

Custom Chimes

Acoustician 2018 - present

- Handcraft and custom-tune wind chimes and chime trees of solid-bar and tubular varieties
- All proceeds benefit charity

Helbing Jazz Initiative

Coordinator 2018 - 2019

- Coordinated jam sessions following monthly jazz masterclasses led by Stockton Helbing
- o Promoted musical dialogue between community members through the language of jazz

Recordings & Projects

- Jazz Guitar: My College Journey, 2021
- Orphan Girl, 2020
- Ode to Friends, 2020
- The Power of Small Things, 2020
- Blues in June, 2020
- Straight Eighths, 2019
- Light on the Mountain, 2019
- Strictly Tablue, 2019
- Search for Answers, 2018
- White Rock Lake, 2018

Notable Performances

- Advanced Jazz Improvisation Masterclass with Todd Mosby, Eisemann Center, January 23rd, 2020
- C3 Big Band, The Free Man, album release party, January 6th, 2020
- Addis featuring Austin Zhang, Shebelle, January 4th, 2020
- The Chirag Gokani Trio, Jonsson Performance Hall, November 21st, 2019
- Greg Waits Jazz Refugees, The Balcony Club, October 3rd, 2019
- Stephen Houpt & Chirag Gokani, The Taos Inn, July 16th, 2019
- Strictly Tablue, Poor David's Pub, album release party, May 17th, 2019
- Steve Miller, St. Mark's School of Texas, March 15th, 2015

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

IntelliChoice

Branch Manager & Instructor

2018 - present

- \circ Directed IntelliChoice SAT Summer Camp (2018-2020), valued at \$297,000/year, boosting students' SAT scores by factors of \sim 1.5 and significantly increasing college matriculation rates in the underprivileged community
- Led volunteer efforts at the Vietnamese Community Center, tutoring math weekly to underprivileged students

Richardson Public Library

Volunteer 2017 - 2019

- o Co-taught technology classes for adults and creative writing classes for children
- Assisted circulation by pulling hold items for patrons