

Claire Finley

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Ph.D. Astronomy, The University of Texas at Austin Advisor: Dr. Brendan P. Bowler	August 2023 – Present
B.S. Astronomy and Astrophysics, Villanova University <i>Minors in Physics and Art History</i> GPA: 3.67 (cum laude)	August 2019 – May 2023

Experience

The University of Texas at Austin Graduate Research Assistant	<i>Austin, TX</i> August 2023 – Present
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center OSTEM Summer Intern	<i>Greenbelt, MD</i> June 2022 – August 2022
Green Bank Observatory & National Radio Astronomy Observatory Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)	<i>Green Bank, WV</i> June 2021 – August 2021
Villanova University Teaching Assistant Undergraduate Research Assistant Public Observatory Attendant	<i>Villanova, PA</i> January 2021 – May 2023 January 2020 – May 2021 August 2019 – March 2020
Adler Planetarium Citizen Science and Space Visualization Intern	<i>Chicago, IL</i> June 2018 – August 2018

Research Interests

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- Formation and evolution of giant planets with direct imaging
 - Jointly constraining planetary accretion processes and circumplanetary disk properties

Awards and Honors

Jason A. Cardelli Memorial Award for Undergraduate Research	April 2023
Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society	February 2023
John Mather Nobel Scholarship	July 2022
Certificate of Achievement in Ethical Leadership	November 2020

Presentations

Parent Volatile Composition of Jupiter-Family Comet 41P/Tuttle-Giacobini-Kresák as Measured with Keck NIRSPEC <i>Claire Finley</i> , Adam J. McKay, et al. Division for Planetary Sciences Meeting #54, Talk ID 101.04 🔗	October 2023
Investigating Triggered Star Formation in Bright-Rimmed Cloud SFO 14 <i>Claire Finley</i> , Larry Morgan American Astronomical Society Meeting #240, iPoster ID 103.10 🔗	June 2022

Leadership and Mentorship

The University of Texas at Austin

August 2023 – Present

Graduate mentor: Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship in astronoMY program

Villanova University

President: Villanova Astronomical Society

April 2022 - May 2023

Treasurer: Villanova Astronomical Society

April 2021 - April 2022

Student mentor: Astrophysics Mentorship Program

August 2020 - May 2023

Outreach

Astronomy on Tap ATX

September 2024 - Present

Host and member of leadership team

Computational Proficiency and Instrument Experience

Languages: Python, IDL, S-Lang, SigmaPlot, Swift

Instrument experience: NIRSPEC and OSIRIS at W.M. Keck Observatory; NASA IRTF iSHELL on Maunakea; 30-inch telescope at McDonald Observatory

Technical Skills: CCD imaging, photometry, spectroscopy, modeling dynamical systems, stochastic and deterministic modeling, simulated annealing, linear programming, artificial neural networks, Fourier transforms and signal processing, high-performance cluster computing