

# Kaitlynn T. Pineda

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## EDUCATION

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**Johns Hopkins University**, Baltimore, MD

*August 2021 – Present*

*PhD Student in Computer Science*

Advisors: Chien-Ming Huang and Gregory D. Hager

Selected Coursework: Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Integrated Surgery I

**Yale University**, New Haven, CT

*August 2017 – May 2021*

*Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Certificate in Spanish*

Selected Coursework: Intelligent Robotics Laboratory (Graduate level), Building Interactive Machines, Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks and Learning Systems, Systems Programming, Digital Systems, Circuits and Systems Design, Electronics

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Yale Social Robotics Lab**, New Haven, CT

*May 2018 – July 2018, August 2019 – May 2021*

*Research Assistant (STARS I / STARS II)*

- Designed experimental structure to analyze the human sense of fairness and trust in robots
- Programmed a video game interface through Unity for participant interaction
- Designed a project to detect human uncertainty for task completions in Human-Robot Interaction settings
- Developer on the Yale *Robots for Good* project that helps children fight social isolation during COVID-19
- Conducted behavioral analysis of children with ASD using a long-term, in-home socially assistive robot
- Fully funded for four semesters and a summer of academic research via the STARS II program
- Presented at the 2018 STARS I Summer Symposium and the 2018 Yale Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Presented at the 2021 STARS II Symposium and the 2021 Pauli Murray College Mellon Forum

**Université catholique de Louvain**, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

*May 2019 – July 2019*

*Research Assistant*

- Worked with convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for biomedical image segmentation
- Trained an autoencoder to capture the morphological structure of the segmentation labels
- Regularized the CNN-based segmentation model based on the decoder learned from the priors

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Facebook**, Menlo Park, CA

*(Oculus) Software Engineering Intern*

*June 2021 – August 2021*

- On the Planck Length team within Facebook Reality Labs creating a pipeline to facilitate synthetic data generation
- Developed internal visualization tools for the verification of proposed algorithms

**Facebook**, Menlo Park, CA

*(FAIAR) Software Engineering Intern*

*June 2020 – August 2020*

- On the AI Applied Research – Conversational AI team working on dialog policy for a future product
- Developed internal testing tools for android and web-based platforms

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Computer Science Undergraduate Learning Assistant**, New Haven, CT

*January 2020 – May 2020*

*CPSC 223 Data Structures ULA*

- Held evening office hours to assist students with their programming problem sets
- Attended weekly staff meetings with the course instructor and other ULAs to discuss course material

- Held 1-1 tutoring sessions with students to review course concepts and prepare for exams

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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N. Tsoi, J. Connolly, E. Adéniran, A. Hansen, **K. T. Pineda**, T. Adamson, S. Thompson, R. Ramnauth, M. Vázquez, & B. Scassellati. (2021). *Challenges Deploying Robots During a Pandemic: An Effort to Fight Social Isolation Among Children*. In proceedings of the 2021 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI '21). March 8–11, 2021, Boulder, CO, USA.

N. Salomons, **K. T. Pineda**, A. Adéjare, & B. Scassellati. (2022). “*We Make a Great Team!*”: *Adults with Low Prior Domain Knowledge Learn more from a Peer Robot than a Tutor Robot*. In proceedings of the 2022 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI '22) (**accepted**)

## **AWARDS**

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### **Johns Hopkins Computer Science Departmental Fellowship**

August 2021 – July 2022

- Awarded to a prospective CS PhD student who has shown exceptional promise

### **Howard and Jacqueline Chertkof Endowed Fellowship**

August 2021 – July 2022

- A donor-funded award within the Whiting School of Engineering that supports graduate financial aid
- Recipients of a named fellowship have been nominated by their department

### **Science, Technology and Research Scholars (STARS) II Program**

October 2019 – May 2021

- Yale College fellowship program that supports underrepresented minority students in their professional and academic development during their final two years of undergraduate studies
- The program supports students through financial support for research, mentorship, and professional development workshops

### **Alan S. Tetelman 1958 Fellowship for International Research in the Sciences**

May 2019 - July 2019

- Yale College fellowship program that provides support for original undergraduate research projects abroad in the natural and applied sciences

### **Science, Technology and Research Scholars (STARS) I Summer Program**

May 2018 - July 2018

- Yale College fellowship program that supports first or second-year underrepresented minority students in their summer research
- The STARS I Summer program provides a stipend and scientific communication development through the class, *Scientific Research: Process and Presentation*, taken concurrently

### **Science, Technology and Research Scholars (STARS) I Program**

September 2017 - May 2018

- Yale College program that establishes community among students of color in STEM and supports first-year underrepresented minorities in STEM fields through workshops and a peer mentorship program

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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### **Yale Computer Science Departmental Student Advisory Committee**, New Haven, CT

*DSAC Board Member*

January 2020 - May 2020

- Yale CS student representative to the faculty and administration
- Held meetings with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and Department Chair during the academic year, and planned events for CS students

### **Yale Society of Women Engineers**, New Haven, CT

*Vice President*

August 2019 – May 2020

- Organized professional development and community events for undergraduate women in engineering

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT**

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### **Cientifico Latino Graduate Student Mentorship Initiative (GSMI)**

*August 2020 – May 2021*

- Mentorship program to help underrepresented students apply to graduate school through application preparation materials, one-on-one guidance, webinars, and mock-interviews

### **Cientifico Latino Graduate Student Engagement & Community (GSEC)**

*August 2021 – Present*

- Mentorship program to help underrepresented students navigate their first year of graduate school through mentorship pods, one-on-one guidance, workshops, webinars, and socials

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**Languages:** English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent)

**Skills:** Python, C, C++, Java, MATLAB, R, TensorFlow, Keras, ROS, Unity, CAD, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Verilog