

**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-Robot Interaction, Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Integrated Surgery I & II

**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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**Meta (Facebook)**, Menlo Park, CA *June 2021 – August 2021*  
*(Oculus) Software Engineering Intern*

- 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

**Meta (Facebook)**, Menlo Park, CA *June 2020 – August 2020*  
*(FAIAR) Software Engineering Intern*

- 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 Learning Assistant**, New Haven, CT *January 2020 – May 2020, January 2022 – May 2022*  
*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

*CPSC 470/570 Artificial Intelligence TA*

- Held weekly remote office hours, graded assignments, and attended weekly staff meetings
- Prepared and gave a course lecture and led the in-person final exam review session

**Computer Science Teaching Assistant**, Baltimore, MD  
*EN.601.490/690 Human-Computer Interaction*

*August 2022 – Present*

- Held weekly office hours, graded assignments, and facilitated in-class exercises
- Prepared and gave a course lecture regarding empirical studies in human-AI interaction

**Science and Quantitative Reasoning Tutoring Program**, New Haven, CT  
*CPSC 223 Data Structures Peer Tutor*

*November 2020 – December 2020*

- 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)

G. Ajaykumar, **K. T. Pineda**, C. Huang. (2023). *Probing Older Adults' Experiences and Preferences In Customizing In-Home Robot Assistance*. In Proceedings of the 2023 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI '23) [Submitted / Under Review]

## **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

**Johns Hopkins Computer Science Graduate Student Council**, Baltimore, MD

*April 2022 - Present*

*Social Chair*

- Organize bi-weekly social events for department members

**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

**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