CURRICULUM VITAE

KeShawn Ivory

EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

PhD in Astrophysics

• Fisk University, Nashville, TN

August 2021

Anticipated: 2026

M.S. in Physics

• Rice University, Houston TX

December 2018

B.A. in Astronomy and French Studies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

• National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX

Advisor: Professor Kat Barger

May 2016 - August 2016

• Examined gaseous behavior in nearby galaxies to trace ionizing radiation using the Interactive Data Language and wrote up the results informally using LaTeX.

• Banneker and Aztlán Institutes Summer Internship

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA

Advisor: Professor Charlie Conroy

June 2017 – August 2017

- Explored the methodology of a Python data pipeline designed to obtain stellar parameters from spectra and spectral energy distributions in the context of Markov Chain Monte Carlo processes and Bayesian statistics.
- Read social justice-related content and attended social justice discussions in order to consider ways to diversify and decolonize astronomy and all of science and academia.

• Graduate Research Assistant

Fisk-Vanderbilt Masters to PhD Bridge Program, Nashville, TN

August 2019 - June 2021

Advisor: Dr. Andreas Berlind

• Developed a probabilistic algorithm to determine dark matter halo mass and galaxy group membership.

• Graduate Research Assistant

Department of Physics and Astronomy, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

August 2021 -

Advisor: Professor Kelly Holley-Bockelmann

• Developing a method to predict massive black hole merger coalescence times using orbital properties of satellite galaxies hosting black holes.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

• Rice University, Houston, TX

August 2016 - May 2018

Teaching Assistant- "Stars, Galaxies & the Universe"

- Graded weekly problem sets as well as a science-writing analysis assignment,
- Led a weekly office hour and also met with students upon request
- Rice University, Houston, TX

May 2017

Advisor- Young Owls Leadership Program

- Served as an advisor to a group of high school sophomores during a rigorous live-in program on Rice's campus intended to teach college preparation.
- Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Spring 2022/Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant - "Introductory Astronomy Lab"

- Taught a class of 15-20 non-major undergraduates basic astronomy concepts and data collection
- Used rooftop observation deck for observing with telescopes throughout the semester
- Rose Park Middle School, Nashville, TN

Fall 2023/Spring 2024

Teaching Fellow - Scientist in the Classroom Partnership Program

• Leads a science lab activity for ~120 7th grade students once per week

HONORS AND AWARDS

Annie Maunder Medal (awarded to Black In Astro), Royal Astronomical Society Akunuri V. Ramayya Teaching Assistant Award, Vanderbilt University 2023

2023

CONFERENCES, TALKS, AND PANELS

• Texas Astronomy Undergraduate Research Symposium

September 2016

Baylor University in Waco, TX

• "Examining Gaseous Behavior of Galaxies and Their Environments" talk given at this conference.

• Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium

April 2017

Rice University in Houston, TX

• "Examining Gaseous Behavior of Galaxies and Their Environments" talk given at this conference.

• Texas Astronomy Undergraduate Research Symposium

October 2017

Rice University in Houston, TX

• "Optimizing Methods of Obtaining Stellar Parameters for the H3 Survey" talk given at this conference.

• 233rd meeting of the American Astronomical Society

January 2019

Seattle, WA

• Invited panelist on the "Know Your Power" panel about marginalized populations in astronomy.

• ComSciCon Atlanta

March 2020

Remote/Atlanta, GA

• Selected based on application for this regional science communication conference.

• University Research Magazine Association Conference

July 2020

Remote

• Invited panelist on the "#BlackInTheIvory" panel about Black experiences in STEM academia.

Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in Astronomy Week at UChicago

August 2020

Remote

• Invited panelist on the "Activism As a Junior Black Scientist" panel about pursuing activism at an early career stage.

• 240th meeting of the American Astronomical Society

June 2022

Pasadena, CA

• Moderated a panel on behalf of the Committee on the Status of Minorities entitled "After the 2020 World-Wide Protests: Progress and Failures of Implementing Substantial Change in Astronomy"

COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Remote
March 2018 -

Site Visit Oversight Committee Member- American Astronomical Society

 Attends biweekly teleconferences at which documentation and protocol are discussed for AAS sponsored site visits for the purpose of evaluating departmental climate with regard to marginalized groups.

• Remote July 2020 -

Committee on the Status of Minorities Member - American Astronomical Society

 Attends bi-monthly meetings, as well as maintaining presence at scientific conferences on behalf of the CSMA.

• Remote June 2021 -

Events Co-Director - Black In Astro

- Coordinates online meetings and webinars particularly during Black Space Week
- Attends regular meetings of the Black In Astro executive board year round for the purpose of uniting the Black community across space-related fields.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

• Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

- October 2019 February 2020
- Assisted Dr. Erika Grundstrom in the operation of the Fisk-Vanderbilt Traveling Planetarium delivering shows to Metro Nashville elementary school students
- Metro Nashville Public Schools, Nashville, TN

May 2020 - June 2020

- Scripted and presented video content guiding Metro Nashville Public Schools students through an astronomy citizen science project as part of an online course called "Beyond The Solar System"
- Adventure Science Center, Nashville, TN

June 2022 - August 2022

 Conceptualized, scripted, and presented a planetarium show for an adults-only Star Trek theme night at Sudekum Planetarium

SKILLS

- French- speak, write, read, and listen fluently
- Coding Languages- Python, MATLAB

PUBLICATIONS

• "Sloan Digital Sky Survey IV: Mapping the Milky Way, Nearby Galaxies, and the Distant Universe", Michael R. Blanton and 362 coauthors including **KeShawn Ivory**, 2017, AJ, 154, 28