

Lyla S. Taguma

NEUROSCIENCE GRADUATE · ASPIRING FULL-STACK SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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Curious by nature. Advocate of interdisciplinary collaboration and open-source software.

Possesses a discerning eye for aesthetics and attentiveness to detail.

Passionate about crafting seamless digital experiences and practising UI design with improved accessibility.

Thrilled to apply my skills & knowledge to address real-world problems in a creative and innovative environment.

Projects & Volunteering

Next.js Web-Application Personal Portfolio Website

2024

Vercel & React.js

London, UK

- Built a portfolio (<https://lysts.vercel.app/>) in Next.js to learn the latest React.js optimisations using TypeScript, CSS, Framer Motion, Resend, and more. Includes a contact form, a simplistic interface, and subtle animations.

Complete 2024 Web Development Bootcamp Full-Stack Development Course by Dr. Angela Yu

2023 - 2024

Udemy Platform

London (remote), UK

- Practised full-stack engineering tools: CSS Bootstrap, React.js, JavaScript/TypeScript logic, design concepts, SQL/PostgreSQL, authentication, firebase, Git/GitHub, Postman/REST/APIs, and Bash. Certification received.

Undergraduate Research *Oestrous Cycle Dependent Modulation of Cortical & Hippocampal Formation Activity*

2023

The Rocheft Lab, Centre for Discovery Brain Sciences

Edinburgh, UK

- Drove analysis and visualisation of brain activity data obtained using cutting-edge neural recording techniques in mice using Python. Collaborated & presented with professional neuroscientists, informaticians, technicians.

Game Development & Design Artist Role

2022 – 2023

Independent Groups (*Ludum Dare*, *itch.io*)

Edinburgh, UK

- Teamed up with UX/UI/sound designers and game programmers, globally. Gained familiarity with FMOD and Unity. Used Procreate & Adobe Illustrator for art. Advised storyline and UX/UI changes to elevate product.

Treasurer (Executive Committee Board Member) & Librarian

2020 – 2023

Edinburgh University String & Chamber Orchestra

Edinburgh, UK

- Analysed and managed finances (e.g., tour expenses); brought a society out of debt during COVID-19, raising annual revenue by 6-fold over the last 3 years. Organised, distributed, and archived music score libraries.

HP Mars Home Planet Competition, Global Shortlist Qualifiers

2018

Hewlett Packard

Japan

- Conceptualised, designed, and nationally presented sustainable and energy-efficient transportation solutions for human life envisioned on Mars, in collaboration with Kaisei Academy (KIA) & Toshima-gaoka Academy.

Education

Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences, Neuroscience Honours

2019 – 2023

The University of Edinburgh, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine

Edinburgh, UK

- Certified in animal care and surgery. Explored biomedicine, biology, biochemistry, and anatomy/development.

Middle & High School Diploma, Academic Merit Award, AP Scholar Award

2011 – 2019

The International School of the Sacred Heart

Tokyo, Japan

- Advanced Placement in English Language & Composition, Calculus AB and Calculus BC, French Language, Chemistry, and Biology.

Employment Experience

Freelance Artist & Composer

- 2019 – 2024 **Self-employed Service** (remote) International
- Provided interface design ideas & graphical elements (e.g. favicons). Currently working on artwork for a podcast on addiction science and a start-up in protein research based in Seattle, Washington.
 - Composed, recorded, and mixed for a film track commission for Bournemouth filmmakers using Reaper.

Academic & Fine Arts Tutor

- 2018 – 2022 **Self-employed Service** Japan & UK
- Covered a wide range of academics & music for youths with personalised action plans or violin/music lessons.

Instructor & Teaching Assistant for Tokyo Metro

- 2018 – 2022 **Tokyo Metro** Tokyo, Japan
- Created interactive guidance sessions and educational films engaging Tokyo Metro employees in preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Resolved nuanced English translation issues, improving customer satisfaction.

Financial Advisor, Marketing, & Personal Assistant

- 2019 – 2020 **Tokyo Sinfonia, Internship** Tokyo, Japan
- Evaluated and identified financial shortcomings and long-term budgeting solutions. Secured sponsorships and strategised marketing via press conferences and social media. Tailed conductor in apprenticeship.

Translator & Editor

- 2016 **BNN, Inc. Publishing Company** Tokyo, Japan
- Proofread & translated 100 artist profiles for an illustration showcase book (English & Japanese).

Other Experiences

- **Concertmistress, Co-leader, Soloist, & Member of** Edinburgh University String, Chamber, & Symphony Orchestras (2019 - 2023), KPASSP Honour Orchestra & Choir (2015 - 2019), Show Choir (2015 - 2019, Chicago Festival of Gold), Vocal Ensemble (Maastricht International Choral Competition 2019), Tokyo Junior Philharmonic (2011 - 2014)
- **National Competition Winner in Violin Performance** (Silver Place, AJAA 2015), Gala Concert Performer Qualifier
- **Customer Service & Translator** for International Diners Club Card Ginza Lounge (2019)
- **Translator & Description Curator** for Art Exhibitions (2016 - 2019)

Skill Summary

Languages

English	<i>native proficiency</i>
Japanese	<i>native proficiency</i>
French	<i>conversational, reading & writing proficiency</i>

Hard & Soft Skills

(+2/3 years of experience)

Data manipulation, analysis, and visualisation (Python, R, MATLAB, Excel, & SQL)
Statistics, hypothesis testing, mathematics, & scientific figure-making (Inkscape)
Design & 2D Art (Adobe Illustrator & Procreate)
Web-development: HTML/CSS, JS/TS (Node.js, Next/React.js)
Terminal & Git/GitHub workflow
Figma, Miro, & Notion for product design and prototyping projects

Current Endeavours

- Self-learning data structures and algorithmic paradigms for modelling computational problems
- Expanding React.js portfolio website design to archive past projects
- Setting up an open-source application with a software engineer colleague
- Experimenting with **Langchain API**
- Optimising terminal-first workflow & blog-building with Pelican & GitHub

References available upon request.