

UC COMBO

University of Chicago COMputational Biology Outreach

Spring Newsletter 2024

Next event:
June 14th!

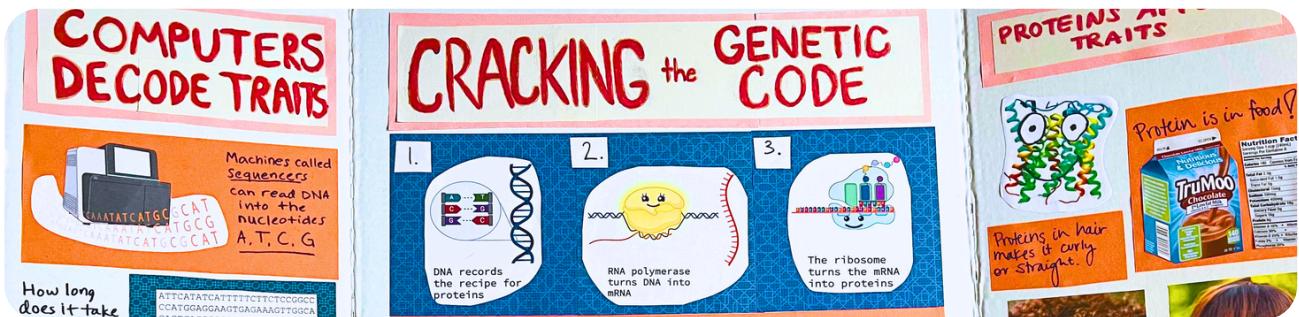
Visit our
website!

Upcoming Event: University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center Summer Program

When? 9–11am, June 14th. Where? UChicago campus.

We are looking forward to teaching at the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center Summer Program on June 14th.

Reach out at uccomppbio@gmail.com if you would like to get involved!



Pritzker STEM Fest

We were thrilled to participate in the Pritzker STEM Fest, an exciting science fair for elementary school students. Our table featured **hands-on activities** that introduced young learners to the world of computational biology. It was wonderful to see the students' enthusiasm as they engaged with interactive displays!

🎓 Expand Your Horizons Symposium

We had a fantastic day running workshops at **Expand Your Horizons**, an annual one-day symposium in Chicago for middle school girls to explore the many exciting opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers. Our **Cracking the Genetic Code** workshop was a hit! Students learned key ideas about the genetic code and created secret code bracelets using a codon table. They also discovered whether they are super tasters!

When asked for feedback on what could be improved, students enthusiastically replied: "Nothing!", "I liked it all!", "Nothing, it was perfect!"

Know a Chicago-area school that might be interested in holding a workshop? Feel free to reach out at uccompbio@gmail.com

Intro to GWAS at Lindblom Math and Science Academy

In April, we brought our **Intro to GWAS** workshop to **Lindblom Math and Science Academy**! Students worked on identifying variants associated with disease risk while practicing key statistical concepts and learning to code in Python.



Thanks to all our volunteers for making the quarter so successful!

"My favorite part was bonding with the computational biologists and learning from them!"

Feedback from a Student and Lindblom Math and Science Academy

The scientific content team has been cooking up some workshops...

Aside from perfecting our current portfolio of workshops, our scientific content team is busy developing an exciting new workshop on **phylogenetics**. Stay tuned for more updates and reach out if you would like to get involved in content development!

Connect with Us!

You can visit our [website](#) or contact our team to learn more about the workshops we offer. We are always happy to hear from you and discuss potential collaborations. Feel free to reach out to us at uccompbio@gmail.com.

Stay Connected!

Don't miss out on our future newsletters! Sign up on our website and be the first to hear about our upcoming workshops and events.

[Visit our website!](#)



Who are we?

We are a group of **UChicago researchers** who aim to make **programming and computational biology accessible and exciting for middle and high school students in the Chicago area**. Our **hands-on tutorials** are designed to be engaging, with a focus on **real-world biological examples** that bring the subject to life.

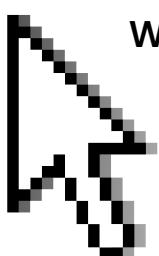
We gather bi-weekly to **plan workshops and events**, although we also welcome **day-of volunteers** who solely participate in teaching the workshops. Our workshops not only teach **Python programming** but also introduce young people to **diverse careers in the Sciences**.

Why should I get involved?

- 👉 **Make a Positive Impact:** share your knowledge and passion with local students in our workshops.
- 🔍 **Develop new skills:** learn from the experience of teaching children, or getting involved in workshop design and organizational roles.
- 🤝 **Build Connections:** Become part of a supportive community dedicated to making education exciting and accessible.

Who can join?

We welcome volunteers from a range of academic backgrounds and career stages. Although most of our team comprises BSD graduate students and postdocs, we welcome members from other divisions and levels. Feel free to reach out for more information!



Want to know more, or interested in joining the team? Reach out at uccomppbio@gmail.com or

Visit our website!