

Niko McCarty

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EDUCATION	New York University , New York, NY M.A. in Journalism; Science, Health & Environmental Reporting California Institute of Technology , Pasadena, CA M.S. Bioengineering Imperial College London , London, UK MRes Systems and Synthetic Biology; Fulbright Scholar University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA B.S. Biochemistry, Honors (3.94/4.00); Phi Beta Kappa	09/2020-present 09/2018-05/2020 09/2017-09/2018 08/2013-05/2017
WRITING EXPERIENCE	Data Reporter, Spectrum (New York, NY) Using Python and front-end technologies to uncover and tell engaging stories about autism on the staff of this editorially independent news outlet funded by the Simons Foundation. Freelance Science Journalist Writing about genetic engineering, biotechnology, and ethics, with published work in <i>Scientific American</i> , <i>The Counter</i> , <i>Forbes</i> , and elsewhere. Intern, Spectrum (New York, NY) (link) Reporting on autism and neurotechnologies, 30 hours per week. Intern, Retraction Watch (New York, NY) (link) Writing regular posts for this online blog on academic misconduct, 15 hours per week. Managing Editor, Scienceline (New York, NY) (link) Reporting on science and technology. Monitoring site analytics, occasional section editing, and top edits for this digital magazine. Cell Crunch (New York, NY) (link) Writing a weekly newsletter on biotechnology research for 5,000 readers; production on Substack. SynBioBeta.com (Pleasant Hill, CA) (link) Covering everything from synthetic indigo to yeast-made silk, DNA synthesis and carbon recycling with microbes. Several articles syndicated in Forbes and GreenBiz.	07/2021-present 01/2019-present 05/2021-07/2021 01/2021-05/2021 11/2020-05/2021 08/2020-07/2021 01/2019-04/2020
PRIOR RESEARCH	California Institute of Technology, Rob Phillips Lab (link) Single-molecule biophysics and next-generation sequencing in <i>E. coli</i> . Imperial College, Rodrigo Ledesma-Amaro & Tom Ellis Labs (link) CRISPR-based tools and synthetic biology research in yeast. Co-Founder/Co-Leader, Iowa Synthetic Biology Laboratory (link) Leading the first synthetic biology laboratory in eastern Iowa; recruiting students and faculty mentors, fundraising \$17,000, and entering the 2017 iGEM competition. University of Iowa, E. Dale Abel Lab (link) Using immunoblotting, transgenic mice, and histology to study the link between impaired insulin signaling and heart failure.	04/2019-05/2020 12/2017-09/2018 12/2016-08/2017 09/2013-08/2017
ACADEMIC PAPERS	Published research, including peer-reviewed articles on CRISPR technologies, microbial communities, and cardiovascular medicine, can be found on my Google Scholar .	
RELEVANT SKILLS	JavaScript for interactive visuals (D3.js), Python (NumPy, Pandas, Plotnine, sk-learn), web scraping, HTML, Sass/CSS, Adobe (Illustrator, Audition, basic Photoshop, basic After Effects). View my work on Observable , GitHub , and my visualization website .	
SELECTED HONORS	Rennie Taylor/Alton Blakeslee Fellowship , CASW (link) Arthur Carter Fellowship , New York University Centenary Prize for MRes Systems and Synthetic Biology Matthew Barzun Prize for Youth Engagement (link) US-UK Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar , Imperial College London (link) Barry Goldwater Scholar (link)	2020 2020 2018 2018 2017 2016