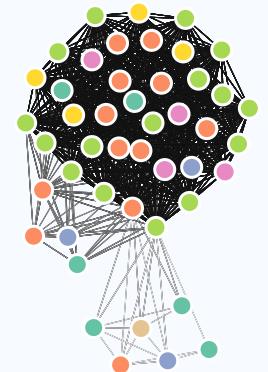


# ALEX RAJEWSKI

A bioinformatician working in human cancer genetics but with training also in plant genetics and evolution. I am an excellent science communicator to both [public](#) and [professional](#) audiences.



## EDUCATION

- Dec 2020 | 2015 ● **PhD Plant Biology**  
University of California 📍 Riverside, CA
- 2015 | 2013 ● **MS Horticulture**  
University of Georgia 📍 Athens, GA
  - Thesis: Micropropagation and Evaluation of the Genetic Population Structure of River Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*)
- 2010 | 2006 ● **BS Biochemistry, Cell, and Molecular Biology**  
Drake University 📍 Des Moines, IA

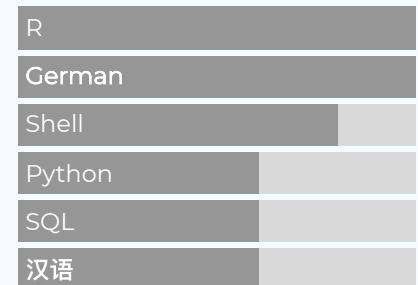
## WORK EXPERIENCE

- current | 2021 ● **Research Bioinformatician II**  
Cedars-Sinai Hospital 📍 Los Angeles, CA
  - Applied Genomics, Computation, & Translational Core
- 2020 | 2015 ● **Research Assistant**  
Dept of Botany and Plant Science 📍 University of California
  - Created and characterized CRISPR mutants for a trait validation project
  - Sequenced, assembled, and functionally annotated the genome of *Datura stramonium*
  - Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellow
  - Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Fellow
- 2015 | 2013 ● **Research Assistant**  
Dept of Horticulture 📍 University of Georgia
  - Planned and executed field studies at 3 sites both public and private
  - Established collaborations with researchers at 5 institutions
  - University-Wide Graduate Assistantship recipient

## CONTACT

- ✉ [AlexCRajewski@gmail.com](mailto:AlexCRajewski@gmail.com)
- /github/ [github.com/rajewski](https://github.com/rajewski)
- /g/ [rajewski.github.io](https://rajewski.github.io)
- /in/ [in/alexrajewski](https://in/alexrajewski)
- /tw/ [Rajewski](https://twitter.com/Rajewski)

## LANGUAGE SKILLS



The source code for this CV is available on [github.com/rajewski/resume](https://github.com/rajewski/resume).

2012  
|  
2011

- **Congress-Bundestag Fellow & Research Intern**  
Universität Rostock 📍 Germany
  - Developed plant transformation methods in lupine, pea, tobacco, and potato
  - Investigate transgenic vaccine peptides
  - Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals Fellow
  - Achieved professional fluency in German
- **Research Assistant**  
Pioneer Hi-Bred (Corteva) 📍 Johnston, IA
  - Developed SQL database to integrate phenotypic and genotypic measurements
- **Research Intern**  
North Carolina State University 📍 Raleigh, NC
  - Validated viral protein production in novel hosts
  - NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program

2011  
|  
2010

Aug  
2009  
|  
May  
2009

I have developed diverse skills including NGS data analysis, phylogenetics, R, population genetics, and Git.



## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Tools for building highly customized figures**  
Botany Conference 📍 Tucson, AZ
  - Co-taught a workshop using base R graphics for data presentation
- **Making Your Work Environment LGBTQ+ Welcoming and Affirming**  
Plant Biology Conference 📍 San Jose, CA
  - Hosted a panel discussion on LGBTQ+ representation and workplace issues
  - Recruited speakers from both academia and industry
- **California's Cornucopia (TA)**  
UCR Dept of Botany and Plant Science 📍 Riverside, CA
  - Led discussion sections for 120 students
  - Introductory, non-major course
- **Foundations of Plant Biology (TA)**  
UCR Dept of Botany and Plant Science 📍 Riverside, CA
  - Designed and led lab sections for 80 students
  - Broad, upper-division course



## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Datura Genome Reveals Duplications of Psychoactive Alkaloid Biosynthetic Genes and High Mutation Rate Following Tissue Culture**  
BMC Genomics (in review)  
**Alex Rajewski, Derreck Carter-House, Jason Stajich, and Amy Litt**

I have two first-author publications and have also collaborated on two more.

- 2019 ● ***in Vitro* Plant Regeneration and *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*-mediated Transformation of *Datura stramonium***  
Applications in Plant Science  
Alex Rajewski, Kevan Elkins, Ashley Henry, Joyce Van Eck, and Amy Litt
- 2019 ● **Evolution and Diversification of *FRUITFULL* Genes in Solanaceae**  
Frontiers in Plant Science  
Dinusha Maheepala, Chris Emerling, Alex Rajewski, Jenna Macon, Maya Stahl, Natalia Pabón-Mora, and Amy Litt
- 2018 ● **Classification and phylogenetic analyses of the *Arabidopsis* and tomato G-type lectin receptor kinases**  
BMC Genomics  
Marcella A. Teixeira, Alex Rajewski, Jiangman He, Olenka G. Castaneda, Amy Litt, and Isgouhi Kaloshian

## OUTREACH

- current | 2010 ● **Extension Master Gardener**  
Cooperative Extension  California, Iowa, Kansas, Georgia
- current | 2018 ● **Big Brother**  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire  Riverside, CA
- 2020 | 2016 ● **Community OUTreach Educator**  
LGBT Resource Center  University of California
- 2020 | 2017 ● **Mentor**  
Planting Science  Botanical Society
- 2018 | 2017 ● **President**  
Queer (LGBT) Graduate Student Association  University of California
- 2018 | 2017 ● **Academic Affairs Officer**  
 University of California
- 2018 | 2017 ● **Secretary**  
Botany Grad Student Assoc.  University of California
- 2018 | 2016 ● **Mentor**  
Grad Student Mentorship Program  University of California
- 2017 | 2016 ● **Member**  
Member Services Taskforce  American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) Conference
- 2016 | 2014 ● **Chair**  
Grad Student Working Group  American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) Conference
- 2015 | 2013 ● **Vice President**  
Horticulture Grad STudent Assoc.  University of Georgia

2010  
|  
2009

- President  
Beta Beta Beta

📍 Drake University

## ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Multispecies fruit transcriptomes highlight divergence across developmental and evolutionary time  
Oral presentation
- Hybrid Origin of Bamboo Population Inferred from Haplotype-Phased Amplicon sequencing  
Southern California Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics Meeting
- Identification of Conserved Regulatory Modules in Dry and Fleshy Fruit Development  
Oral presentation
- There and Back Again: When Evolution Reverses  
Three-Minute Thesis Competition
- Optimizing Tissue Culture Methods in Diverse Nightshade Species  
Poster Presentation
- Developmental Transcriptome of *Nicotiana obtusifolia*  
Poster Presentation
- Optimizing Tissue Culture Methods in Diverse Solanaceae Species  
Poster Presentation
- Evidence of Interspecific Hybridization or Incomplete Lineage Sorting in River Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*)  
Oral presentation
- A Family Divided: Evolution of Dry and Fleshy Fruit in Nightshades  
Three-Minute Thesis Competition
- Role of *FRUITFULL* in the Evolution of Fleshy Fruits: Optimizing Solanaceae Tissue Culture to Generate Stable Transgenic Knockout Lines  
Oral presentation
- *In Vitro* Comparison of Benzyladenine and *meta*-Topolin on Shoot Proliferation of River Cane, a Candidate for Wetlands Restoration  
Poster Presentation

I am an excellent science communicator with several awards for public speaking at national scientific conferences.

- 2015
- **Raising Cane: Sustainable Bamboo Restoration in the American Southeast**  
Three-Minute Thesis Competition  
• 1st Place Award at ASHS  
• Top 10 at UGA
- 2015
- **Clonal Structure, Genetic Diversity, and *in vitro* Propagation of River Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*), a candidate for use in wetlands reclamation**  
Oral presentation
- 2014
- **Disinfestation and *in vitro* Growth and Development of *Arundinaria***  
Oral presentation
- 2014
- **Sterilization and *in vitro* Growth and Development of *Arundinaria***  
Poster Presentation
- 2009
- **Comparison of the Symptoms Caused by Three Geminiviruses in a Common Host**  
Poster Presentation
- 📍 ASHS Conferencee  
University of Georgia
- 📍 Southern Region ASHS Conference
- 📍 UGA Interdisciplinary Graduate Plant and Soil Symposium
- 📍 Southern Region of North America International Plant Propagators Society Conference
- 📍 NCSU Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium  
Drake University Conference on Undergraduate Research in the Sciences