# Rewa Clark Bush

rbush@wesleyan.edu rewaclarkbush.github.io

#### EDUCATION

Expected 2024 Master of Arts, Astronomy

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT Concentration: Planetary Science

2022 Associate in Science, Physics | High Honors

Associate in Science, Math | High Honors

Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA

2016 Bachelor of Arts, English | Phi Beta Kappa Honors

Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

Minor: Environmental Studies, Capstone: Postcolonial Anglophone Literatures

#### RESEARCH

2023-Present Graduate Student Researcher, Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University

Advisor: Seth Redfield

Modeling all-sky galactic Lyman- $\alpha$  absorption due to 15 known local interstellar medium (LISM) clouds surrounding the solar system. We will predict what the Alice UV spectrograph aboard NASA's New Horizons spacecraft should see as it reaches the edge of the heliosphere, in preparation for New Horizon's upcoming first all-sky observations.

2021-Present Post-bacc Researcher, Astronomy & Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz

Advisor: Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz

Investigating the characteristics of stars that have survived tidal disruption by a supermassive black hole. Simulating the long-term evolution of tidally disrupted stars using cutting-edge stellar evolution code (MESA). By comparing theoretical deviation of disrupted vs. undisturbed stars, our findings provide observational detection strategies.

2022 Post-bacc Researcher, Plankton Monitoring Lab, Cabrillo College

Advisors: Nicole Crane, Jane Silberstein.

Contributed to NOAA/NCCOS west coast plankton monitoring applied research project, increasing understanding of harmful algal blooms in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Gained experience in plankton collection and identification, microscopes, data analysis/entry, and scientific illustration.

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**

- 2023 Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Honorable Mention, *American Astronomical Society* Honorable Mention for poster presentation award at the 241<sup>st</sup> AAS meeting in Seattle, WA.
- 2022 **First Place,** NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars

  Led team to victory in national engineering competition as lunar mission Project Manager.
- 2021 **Student Presentation Award,** Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science Best astrophysics research poster presented at the National Diversity in STEM Conference.
- 2021 **PEACE Award,** *Cabrillo College Office of the President* Exceptional literary work addressing legacies of colonialism on campus.
- 2021 **Student of the Month,** *Cabrillo College*Academic accomplishment and contributions to the campus and wider community.
- 2020 **Norton Writer's Prize,** W. W. Norton & Company Inc.
  National competition for outstanding academic writing by undergraduates. Essay.
- 2016 **Inducted Member,** *Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society*Breadth and depth in arts and sciences, scholarly achievement, and excellence of character.
- 2012 **National Merit Scholar Finalist,** *National Merit Scholarship Corporation* Top 3% PSAT achievement nationwide.

## GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2022-2024 **Teaching Assistantship,** *Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University* 2-year fully-funded TA stipend with tuition remission for astronomy master's program.
  - 2023 **Travel Grant,** NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium Funded travel to 243rd AAS conference in New Orleans, LA.
  - 2023 **Travel Grant**, *Graduate Student Association*, *Wesleyan University*Funded travel to New Horizons Science Team Meeting in Boston, MA.
  - 2023 **FAMOUS Travel Grant,** American Astronomical Society Funded travel to 241st AAS conference in Seattle, WA.
- 2021-2022 **Lamat Research Fellowship,** *University of California, Santa Cruz*1.5-year fully-funded research stipend with Prof. Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz's high-energy astrophysics group.
  - Wanda Garner Non-Endowed Scholarship, Mathematics Department, Cabrillo College Academic achievement and contributions to the STEM community.
  - 2020 **Ted Bowen Memorial Endowed Scholarship,** *Physics Department, Cabrillo College* Academic achievement and contributions to the STEM community.
- 2012-2016 **John F. Oberlin Scholarship,** *Oberlin College* Four-year tuition scholarship for exceptional academic achievement.
  - 2015 **President's Public Service Fellowship,** Office of the President, Oberlin College Summer fellowship for community-engaged work in youth empowerment and leadership.

# RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 Poster, 243<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the American Astronomical Society Evaluating New Horizons Lyman-Alpha Observations From the Edge of the Solar System for Evidence of a Local ISM Cloudscape
- 2023 **Talk,** Astronomy Department Research Seminar, Wesleyan University
  Black Hole Survival Guide: Finding Stars that Endure Partial Tidal Disruption
- 2023 **Poster,** 241<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the American Astronomical Society
  Black Hole Survival Guide: Finding Stars that Endure Partial Tidal Disruption
- 2022 **Talk,** University of California, Santa Cruz 11th Annual Lamat Astrophysics Research Symposium Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- 2022 **Poster,** Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CUWiP) Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- 2021 **Invited Talk,** Latinx United at Cabrillo for Engineering and Science (LUCES) Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- 2021 **Poster,** SACNAS National Diversity in STEM (NDiSTEM) Conference Searching for Stars Disrupted by a Supermassive Black Hole
- 2021 **Talk,** University of California, Santa Cruz 10th Annual Lamat Astrophysics Research Symposium Star, Interrupted: Meeting a Black Hole and Living to Tell the Tale

## STEM OUTREACH

- 2023-present **Community Engagement Volunteer,** Comm. for the Protection of Astronomy and the Space Environment, AAS Assist with outreach regarding issues of satellite constellations, light pollution, and space debris.
  - 2022-2024 **Astronomy Public Outreach Program,** Van Vleck Observatory, Wesleyan University
    Host weekly public observing nights: giving science talks, operating Digitalis planetarium, historic 20" refractor telescope, and 8" and 24" reflector telescopes. Train new students on telescope operations.

2023 **Star-gay-zing,** Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University

Spearheaded first annual Pride month event, including lectures, planetarium, telescope observing, and discussions to promote LGBTQ+ belonging in astronomy. Procured funding from city Pride Commission.

2023 Science Saturdays, Wesleyan University

Assisted with on-campus STEM experience for elementary-age youth.

2019-2022 Women in Science and Engineering Club, Cabrillo College

Events Coordinator (2021-22) providing opportunities for gender minorities in STEM. Collaborated with Indigenous Students Club to engage hundreds of students/faculty across campus re: decolonizing science.

2021 **Picture a Scientist,** STEM Colloquium, Cabrillo College Organized and moderated a panel of scientists addressing harassment in STEM with Title IX Office.

2020 **Bulletins From the Basin,** *Big Basin Redwoods State Park*Filmed Junior Ranger programs and educational media on natural science topics. 28,000+ views.

Youth Coordinator, Children & Teen Services, Oberlin Public Library

Mentored and tutored low-income, at-promise youth weekly at drop-in technology center.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

2022-2024 **Teaching Assistant,** Astronomy Department, Wesleyan University

Courses: ASTR 155 – Introduction to Astrophysics (majors). ASTR 105 – Exploring the Cosmos (non-majors). Duties: lead weekly labs, observing sessions, office hours, grading.

2019-2021 Interpretive Senior Park Aide, California State Parks

Engaged public regarding natural/cultural resource conservation. Designed and led NGSS-aligned fieldtrips for hundreds of students annually. Collected and interpreted data on wildlife, managed volunteers, designed wildfire communications and funding advocacy.

2019-2020 Math & English Tutor, Learning HUB, Cabrillo College

Provided drop-in tutoring in mathematics from Pre-Algebra through Calculus. Assisted students with essay editing, grammar, time management, and metacognitive awareness. Fostered inclusive, welcoming learning environment. Completed tutor training course.

2016-2019 **Program Associate,** Djerassi Resident Artists Program

Coordinated daily program operations for artists-in-residence at remote mountain retreat. Managed volunteer docents, land art installation program, in-house photography, and archives. Led guided art hikes and assisted with public events for 1,000 visitors annually.

2012-2016 Library Assistant, Clarence Ward Art Library, Oberlin College

Assisted patrons with research questions at Circulation Desk. Managed rare book purchases and maintained Special Collections, processed acquisitions, curated displays and blog.

## **SKILLS**

Languages English, French

Technical Python for scientific computing, MESA, Inkscape

Certifications Wilderness First Responder, National Outdoor Leadership School, 2018-2023

Ham Radio Technician License, American Radio Relay League, 2018

Social Justice Mediation & Facilitation, Yeworkwah Belachew Center for Dialogue, 2014

# MEDIA & PRESS

- 2023 Van Vleck Observatory Opens its Doors for Community Outreach, Wesleyan University (Article)
- 2022 Celebrating Pride in STEM Lab 066, Dope Laps (Podcast)
- 2021 Lamat Fellow Rewa Clark Bush Receives Presentation Award, Lamat Institute (Article)
- 2020 Big Basin Was Home to California's First Female Park Ranger, The Lily (Article)
- 2015 President's Public Service Fellows Present Summer Successes, Oberlin College (Article)