



Stephen A. Wenzel

Durham, North Carolina

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828-734-4555

stephenawenzel.github.io/resume

stephenawenzel.github.io/photography

Education

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bachelor of Science in Biology; Neuroscience & Chemistry Minors (May 2022)
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Tuscola High School

High School Diploma (June 2018)
Waynesville, North Carolina

Experience

Ophthalmic Assistant (OA)

Sept. 2024 - Present

Duke Department of Ophthalmology
Retina & Glaucoma Division

Main Campus

Durham, North Carolina

- Performs OCT, visual field, cataract biometry testing, and slit lamp exams
- Supports patients with low vision by optimizing testing and documentation
- Assists physicians in high-volume retina and glaucoma clinics
- Manages urgent cases with adaptability
- Maintains infection control by cleaning instruments and preparing rooms
- Volunteers at urban eye screenings, testing vision, checking pressures, and distributing glasses to underserved populations

Photographer

Mar. 2016 - Present

Stephen Wenzel Photography
Community, Collaboration, Creativity

Portraits & Nature Photography

- Operates a self-run photography business focused on portraits, landscapes, wildlife, and fine art
- Collaborates with clients to create personalized images and edits using Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop
- Manages a custom website and oversees all print/digital sales, branding, and social media marketing
- Handles all administrative and financial responsibilities
- Presented an international exhibit in Romania (2024) highlighting cultural themes through light, nature, and architecture

Medical Assistant

May 2023 - June 2024

Western Carolina Ear, Nose, and Throat Specialists
Clyde, North Carolina

- Performed vitals, orthostatic testing, and scribed HPIs and assessments for providers
- Assisted in minor ENT surgeries and procedures as a non-sterile tech
- Trained new staff and developed a comprehensive MA guide
- Maintained infection control through instrument sterilization and room prep
- Helped develop clinic manuals and updated the practice website
- Supported patient care by assisting with check-ins, answering questions, and ensuring clinic flow

Marketing Manager

May 2023 - June 2024

Wenzel Facial Plastic Surgery
Clyde, North Carolina

- Performed vitals, orthostatic testing, and scribed HPIs and assessments for providers
- Assisted in minor ENT surgeries and procedures as a non-sterile tech
- Trained new staff and developed a comprehensive MA guide
- Maintained infection control through instrument sterilization and room prep
- Helped develop clinic manuals and updated the practice website
- Supported patient care by assisting with check-ins, answering questions, and ensuring clinic flow

Ophthalmic Assistant

Mountain Eye Associates

Clyde, North Carolina

- Performed refractions, OCT, and visual field testing to identify visual impairments
- Cleaned and sterilized instruments and prepared rooms for exams and procedures, maintaining infection control
- Educated patients on surgical preparation, risks, and recovery
- Assisted as a circulator during in-office procedures and surgeries
- Volunteered at rural community screenings, testing vision, checking pressures, and distributing donated glasses to underserved populations

May 2022 - Apr. 2023

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Dr. Stephen Rogers's Lab - UNC Chapel Hill Biology Department

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

- Served as a hands-on research assistant in a team investigating mitochondrial movement along acetylated and de-acetylated microtubules in fruit fly stem cells
- Designed and executed experimentation and photographic analysis with strict adherence to scientific standards for replicability
- Conducted fluorescence microscopy with a confocal lens to capture kymographs of mitochondrial movement, tracking displacement to determine velocity and acceleration in response to drug therapies
- Reviewed scientific literature to gather relevant information to inform experimental hypotheses and design
- Presented findings at the 2021 Fall Undergraduate Research Expo

Aug. 2021 - Apr. 2022

Organic Chemistry II Peer Mentor

UNC Chapel Hill Chemistry Department

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

- Mentored two semesters of a 250-student Organic Chemistry II lecture, helping students deepen their understanding of complex material
- Conducted weekly recitation sessions, utilizing my custom question packets to promote active learning and mastery of concepts
- Collaborated with a team of peer mentors and the professor to improve instructional strategies
- Created tailored study aids, supplemental worksheets, and resources to accommodate diverse learning styles and enhance student success

Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2021 / Jan. 2022 - Apr. 2022

Undergraduate COVID-19 Testing Volunteer

Carolina COVID-19 Student Services Corps

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

- Developed understanding of how cultural backgrounds, values, and ethical principles can shape people's health care decisions and behavior
- Served as a resource staying up-to-date on the latest safe practices and guidelines to help people stay healthy and informed
- Participated to reduce COVID-19 prevalence in the Chapel Hill community
- Assisted in maintaining the continuity of UNC Chapel Hill's operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, serving the university's students, faculty, and staff
- Communicated effectively and respectfully with a diverse population, ensuring assistance and support

Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2021 / Jan. 2022 - Apr. 2022

Online Marketing Assistant

Western Carolina Ear, Nose and Throat

Clyde, North Carolina

- Optimized website content to enhance user experience and accessibility for patients seeking medical services
- Developed engaging content aimed for patient education
- Regularly updated the website and social media platforms with new services, office updates, and patient resources

May 2018 - July 2018 / May 2019 - July 2019 / May 2021 - July 2021

Activities			
Patient Experience Volunteer	Field Instructor & Videographer	Scout Advancement Mentor	UNC Red Cross Club
Duke University Hospital - North Tower	Tuscola High School Marching Band	BSA Troop 370: Waynesville, NC	Social Media Chair: August '21 - May '22
"2025 Most Supportive Volunteer"	July 2023 - Dec. 2023,	Nov. 2022 - May 2023	Member: Jan. 2020 - May 2022
Nov. 2024 - Present	Aug. 2024 - Sept. 2024		
Certifications & Awards			
Basic Life Support (CPR and AED)	2025 Volunteer Award	Eagle Scout Award	
American Heart Association	"Most Supportive Volunteer"	The Boy Scouts of America	
Expires Sept. 2026	Duke University Hospital Volunteering Services	Awarded Nov. 2017	
	Awarded Feb. 2025		