

DanbeeKim, PhD

Neuroscientist | Storyteller | Chef



www.danbeekim.org



danbee@alum.mit.edu

SUMMARY

Researcher specializing in the history and philosophy of neuroscience. Chef specializing in vegan, gluten-free, and nut-free migrant fusion cuisine. 15+ years of teaching experience in highly diverse settings. Expert storyteller well-versed in communicating complex ideas through engaging multi-sensory experiences. Led large collaborations to self-publish a sci-fi graphic novel and create an interactive aquarium exhibit that collected neuroscience data from over 24,000 visitors.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Managing highly collaborative and cross-disciplinary projects:

- **2018 to present:** Founder of **Dear Neuroscience**, which **uses creative performance and story co-creation to help people study, explore, and apply neuroscience in their daily lives**, with a focus on nurturing communities historically marginalised or ignored by mainstream scientific research. Recruited multiple stakeholders to fund and organise events. Secured guest speakers, presented live interpretations, hired videographers, and wrote impact reports.
- **2020:** Recruited, hired, and project managed 16 illustrators, and liaised with editors, administrators, beta-readers, Kickstarter funders, and a printing company to author, illustrate, and self-publish an original young adult sci-fi **graphic novel that weaves doctoral dissertation into a narrative accessible to non-academic audiences called The First VIRS**.
- **2023 to 2024:** Led strategic planning, development, and delivery of educational content and resources as Lead Instructor at **Matter Neuroscience**, focused on **helping people better understand and use their neurological reward systems**. Provided excellent neuroscience education to teammates, social media audiences, user communities, and other stakeholders.
- **2024 to 2025:** Co-director and founding member of the **Pulse & Pickle** collective, which operates **a radical cultural centre and community hub in east London serving plant-based migrant-fusion cuisine**. Co-created a programme of accessible and affordable events that promote and nurture communal nourishment and resilience. Designed and maintained organization website, managed event collaborators, and developed allergy-safe recipes as chef.

Developing novel techniques for non-invasive neuroscience:

- **2014 to 2022:** Designed and published a **non-invasive technique for simultaneously studying single-cell neural activity and whole organism behavior**. Kim, D., Buresch, K. C., Hanlon, R. T., & Kampff, A. R. (2022). An experimental method for evoking and characterizing dynamic color patterning of cuttlefish during prey capture. *Journal of Biological Methods*, 9(2), e161. DOI: 10.14440/jbm.2022.386
- **2017 to 2020:** Coordinated and project managed collaborators across academia and industry to produce **Surprising Minds**, an interactive exhibit that **collected a video dataset of pupil dynamics from over 24,000 visitors in an unsupervised aquarium setting**. Quantitatively benchmarked eye-tracking as a robust method for **non-invasively capturing observable measurements of nervous system activity in complex natural contexts**.

EDUCATION

2013 to 2020
Lisboa, Portugal

Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown
PhD in Neuroscience, International Neuroscience Doctoral Programme

2005 to 2009
Cambridge, USA

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
BSc in Brain and Cognitive Sciences (9)

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RELEVANT SKILLS

Digital tools:

- **Programming languages:** Python (inc. numpy, scipy, OpenCV, matplotlib), Bonsai-Rx, Arduino
- **Web development | Collaboration:** CSS, HTML, Jekyll, Markdown | Discord, git, GWorkspace
- **Content creation & editing software:** Illustrator, LaTeX, Photoshop, Premier Pro

Live Performance:

- **Theatre:** cast member, pit orchestra musician, stage director, choreographer, vocal director, costume designer, prop designer, backstage crew
- **Musician:** violin, ukulele, bass guitar, upright bass, djembe, vocals

Organized | Prioritization | Multi-tasking:

- **Able to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines,** e.g. developed and performed new live interpretations on strict 3-week cycles as a presenter at the Boston Museum of Science
- **Able to juggle multiple projects and adapt as needed,** e.g. led events working group at Pulse & Pickle while updating company website and working both kitchen and front of house shifts
- **Excellent attention to detail and accuracy,** e.g. doctoral dissertation accepted on first submission with zero corrections

Interpersonal skills | Teamwork:

- **Able to establish working relationships with people at all levels,** e.g. client exec teams, external contractors, target audiences, and internal teammates for collaborations/commissions
- **Able to understand needs and pressures of different audiences,** e.g. teaching neuroscience to designers and engineers vs. facilitating workshops to support adult survivors of sexual abuse

Pro-active | Quick learner | Work independently:

- **Self-starter and pro-active,** e.g. initiated numerous cross-disciplinary cross-sector collaborations and integrated these perspectives to establish “field neuroscience”, or neuroscience *in situ*
- **Able to learn quickly,** e.g. built Discord community spaces and custom interactive websites to convert in-person summer camps into online/remote experiences during COVID-19 lockdowns
- **Able to work independently,** e.g. PhD research projects and doctoral dissertation

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

2024 to 2025
London, UK

Pulse & Pickle
Co-director, Events, Website, Chef

2024 to 2025
London, UK

Cohere Inc.
Senior Data Quality Specialist

2023 to 2024
London, UK

Matter Neuroscience
Lead Instructor

2021 to 2022
London, UK

NeuroGEARS, Ltd
Research and Outreach Scientist

2010 to present
Mars Hill, USA

Appalachian Institute for Creative Learning
Teacher, Staff, Board member (2020 to present)

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PUBLICATIONS

- Danbee Kim. "Are cephalopods making a comeback in neuroscience?". *BioTechniques*. 22 Jun 2022.
- Kim, Danbee, Kendra C. Buresch, Roger T. Hanlon, and Adam R. Kampff. "An experimental method for evoking and characterizing dynamic color patterning of cuttlefish during prey capture." *Journal of Biological Methods* 9, no. 2 (2022): e161. DOI: 10.14440/jbm.2022.386
- Kim, D. (2020) *The First VIRS*. London, UK: Danbee Kim.
- Kim, D. (2020) On the aims and methods of field neuroscience. PhD dissertation. Universidade Nova de Lisboa. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.35235.11042
- Kim, Danbee, and Adam R. Kampff. "Neuroscience Does Design: What the Brain's Architecture Can Teach Architects." *Architectural Design* 90.6 (2020): 94-99.
- Marques-Smith, André, Joana P. Neto, Gonçalo Lopes, Joana Nogueira, Lorenza Calcaterra, João Frazão, Danbee Kim, Matthew G. Phillips, George Dimitriadis, and Adam R. Kampff. "Recording from the same neuron with high-density CMOS probes and patch-clamp: a ground-truth dataset and an experiment in collaboration." *BioRxiv* (2018): 370080.
- Kim, D. (2018, June 18). Why I refuse to do animal testing in my science career. Massive Science. <https://massivesci.com/articles/frankenstein-kim-animal-testing/>
- Quiñones, Darío R., Gonçalo Lopes, Danbee Kim, Cédric Honnet, David Moratal, and Adam Kampff. "HIVE Tracker: a tiny, low-cost, and scalable device for sub-millimetric 3D positioning." In *Proceedings of the 9th Augmented Human International Conference*, pp. 1-8. 2018.
- Lopes, G., Kim, D. (2017) How theater, startup culture, and business history helped us become better neuroscientists. <https://massivesci.com/articles/neuroscience-can-learn-from-theater/>.
- Kim, D., Lopes, G. (2017) Does modern neuroscience really help us understand behavior? <https://massivesci.com/articles/neuroscience-behavior-vs-technology/>.