

Esmeralda Reyes

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Education

Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Studies | August 2019
Dean's List | 2016, 2017, 2019
Honors in the Major

Master's of Science, Environmental Biology | Ongoing

Language Skills

- Spanish native fluency (speaking, reading, and writing)

Work Experience

Bird Nest Monitor, Friends of Ballona Wetlands | Los Angeles, CA | March 2022- Present
Supervisor | Neysa Frechette

- Assist with monitoring, data collection, data quality assurance, and data entry related to the Tree Swallow Nest Box Project and Nest Monitoring Project
- Assist with capturing birds, bird banding, and identifying individual birds in the field.

Research Assistant, Proterra Ag | Los Angeles, CA | February 2022- August 2022
Supervisor | Julianne Truong

- Assist with research geared towards biodegradable substrates for germination and propagation of various plants.
- Monitor plant growth by taking weekly data on growth, weights, and visual degradation.

Animal Technician, *The Scripps Research Institute* | San Diego, CA | December 2020 – November 2021

Supervisor | Paige Smith

- Ensure the daily care of research animals including feeding, cage washing, maintaining a clean environment, and monitoring the overall health of the animals.
- Conduct daily animal health reports identifying sick animals and performing the appropriate treatment.
- Complete all breeding records and cards, establish new matings, and identify pregnant animals.
- Perform intravenous or intramuscular injections, collect DNA samples, and tag and record mice for labs.

Lab Technician, *Labcorp and Helix Labs* | San Diego, CA | July 2020 – December 2020
Supervisor | Caroline Rodriguez

- Prepared laboratory specimens for analysis and testing. Unpack and route specimens to their respective staging areas and accurately identify and label specimens.

- Packed and shipped specimens to proper testing facilities. Properly prepare and store excess specimen samples
- Data entry of patient information in an accurate and timely manner

Canvasser, *Environmental Health Coalition*
Supervisor | Jorge Gonzalez

San Diego, CA | January 2020 – May 2020

- Registered voters in historically underrepresented communities of color. Connected with over 100 voters a day via cold calls and door-to-door communication.
- Mapped and analyzed logistics to divide the district into sections and accurately record voter interaction data.
- Participated in an interactive leadership development curriculum that provides community leaders with skill-building training in community organizing, policy advocacy, community health, and environmental justice.

Community Service

Habitat Restoration Technician, *California Native Plant Society*
 November 2021

San Diego, CA | August 2019 –

- Remove weeds in a way that allows native vegetation to expand and re-vegetated open space areas and educate the local community about fire reduction safety.
- Use motorized gardening tools to remove invasive plants.
- Planting native flora in the encompassing area of the San Dieguito River Watershed in places that have been disturbed in such a way that there is no native seed bank remaining.

Avian Department Intern, *The Living Coast Discovery Center*
 November 2021

San Diego, CA | September 2019 –

- Provide daily husbandry for raptors and shorebirds.
- Clean and disinfect food prep areas and enclosures to prevent the spread of disease, control odors, and maintain a healthy environment.
- Prepare adequate diets and daily animal enrichment.
- Monitor rehabilitation program for breeding Ridgway's Rails.

Climate Action Intern, *The City of Santa Cruz*

Santa Cruz, CA | January 2018 – June 2018

Setting: Crisis line providing emotional, and crisis support to individuals to keep them safe

- Maintained a calendar of outreach activities, including community events, workshops, appearances, and other communication opportunities
- Attended outreach events, tabled at community forums, and led educational groups about the effects of Climate Change in Santa Cruz.
- Collected and analyzed data metrics relating to the number of people attending events.
- Generated and implemented more inclusive outreach materials and packets.

Research Experience

Student Researcher, *Environmental Justice In Indigenous Ecuador*
Stefano Varese / *The Hoax of Development*

Ecuador | July 2019

- Conducted research on the different ways that Western development has seeped into the communities of Ecuador through interviews with local residents participating in the resistance movements that prioritize community and conservation over financial success and technological advancement.

Student Researcher, *Small Mammal Undergraduate Research in The Forest* Santa Cruz, CA | March 2018 – June 2018
Alex Jones | *Analyzing Recurrences in Trapping Dusky-footed Woodrats*

- Monitor whether Dusky-footed woodrats would become cognizant of trap placement patterns and avoid future confinement by analyzing maps of traps and tracking the number of times the same Woodrat has been caught through an ear tagging system in order to systematically move traps throughout the sites for more effective trapping and tagging of different Dusky-footed Woodrats.
- Live capture and tag various small mammals within several UC Reserve sites.
- Collection of biological information including population demographics, GPS data, and measurements of relevant habitat features.
- Performed data entry on Microsoft Excel to track and analyze quarterly collections, and answer environmental and ecological questions.

Independent Student Researcher, *Pathways to Research*

Santa Cruz, CA | January 2018 – June 2018

Paige Lancourt | *It's Not "White" To Care About the Environment*

- Developed a research project examining the microaggressions and major discriminations within environmental spaces around campus and in the local Santa Cruz Community.
- Organized, analyzed, and presented data and findings at the Pathways research conference.

Teaching Experience

Education Docent, *The Santa Cruz Natural History Museum*

Santa Cruz, CA | March 2017 – June 2017

- Assist senior education staff during field trips at the Museum and in open spaces around Santa Cruz. Support program goals by facilitating observations, asking questions, and recording data.
- Supervised and taught two museum programs. The First Peoples of Santa Cruz and Wetland Walk. Students learned about the culture of the original inhabitants of the Santa Cruz region through the native plant gardens.

Instructor, *SproutUp: Environmental Education*

Santa Cruz, CA | January 2017 – June 2017

- Created a relevant curriculum surrounding sustainability with a team of instructors to provide Environmental Education programs to 1st and 2nd-grade classrooms in public schools around Santa Cruz County.

Professional Affiliations

Environmental Health Coalition: Community Leadership Program in Climate Justice

Scholarships and Awards

The James Stuart Chanley Scholarship for commitment to the Environment

Pathways to Research Program Stipend

References

Can provide upon request.