

ALLISON LEAH COHEN

EDUCATION

Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Anticipated Graduation date: May 2014 **Major:** Biology-Visual Arts **GPA:** 3.95

Relevant Coursework: BC Introductory Biology Sequence with lab, Genetics, Microbiology, Microbiology lab, Animal Physiology, Basic Drawing, Painting II, Intaglio I, BC Introductory Art History I and II.

AWARDS

Amgen Scholar, Amgen Scholars Program, Columbia University

June-August 2012

3rd Place, Undergraduate Presentation, South FL Branch Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology

September 23 2011

WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Intern, The Jia lab, Columbia University, New York, NY

June 2012-Present

- Worked full time over the summer in Professor Jia's epigenetics lab under the supervision of a post-doctoral scientist. Currently working part time.
- Used reporter gene growth assays and q-RTPCR to investigate mechanisms of negative regulation of pericentromeric heterochromatin formation in model organism *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*.
- Performed a high throughput genetic interaction screen and follow-up experiments to investigate the function of a novel gene in telomere heterochromatic silencing

Research Intern, The Breitbart Lab, University of South Florida College of Marine Science, St. Petersburg, FL

May-September 2011, August 2012

- Worked full time in Professor Breitbart's viral genomics lab specializing in single-stranded DNA viruses.
- Collected water, sediment, plant, and insect samples, processed collected samples and additional samples and extracted DNA.
- Performed rolling circle amplification and degenerate PCR for a specific virus family or restriction enzyme digestion and sequencing to assess the diversity of ssDNA viruses in environmental samples.

Research Intern, The McGuire Lab, Barnard College, New York, NY

Spring 2012

- Worked part time in Professor McGuire's microbial ecology lab specializing in soil.
- Processed and extracted DNA from soils collected from Panama rainforests to be used later to assess fungal and bacterial diversity

Artist, Gilded Lace by Monika Knutsson, New York, NY

Fall 2011

- Worked with a jewelry designer, designed and painted life-sized display pieces for a fashion week jewelry show at the Charles Bank Gallery in SOHO.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Chief Illustrator and Contributor, Columbia Science Review, New York, NY.

Fall 2010-Fall 2011

- Contribute, review, and illustrate articles for the campus publication *Columbia Science Review*.

Assistant Art Director, Barnard Bulletin, New York, NY

Fall 2012-Present

- Develop pitches for Bulletin articles and communicate with artists and photographers to obtain artwork for the *Barnard Bulletin*, a campus publication.

Teacher, Artist Reach Out, a branch of Community Impact, New York, NY.

Fall 2010-Fall 2011

- Teach visual arts to 20 elementary-school children ages 7-11 at Future Leaders Institute charter school in Harlem, in collaboration with four other student volunteers.

SKILLS

Languages: Proficient in Spanish.

Research: Proficient in genomic analysis and manipulation for microbial ecology and genetics research, and experienced in maintaining and manipulating fission yeast cultures for epigenetics research. Knowledge of basic protocols for collecting and processing environmental samples, such as soil and water, for microbiology and virology work.

Computational: Knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, ncbi BLAST, and Adobe Photoshop CS5.

Other: NAUI Certified Master SCUBA diver.

INTERESTS

Biological Research, Visual Arts and Illustration (portfolio available at www.allisongallery.com), SCUBA Diving, Sailing, Running