






SCIENTIST SPOTLIGHTS


SCIENTIST	AFFILIATION	HOW I BECAME INTERESTED IN SCIENCE	FAVORITE ARTIST/BAND	SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT ME
 <p>Alex Robel Assistant Professor</p>	<p>Georgia Institute of Technology School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences</p>	<p>I went to a public science-oriented high school in Miami (where I grew up). My first proper job was an after school internship at a federal lab that I walked to from school. My supervisor taught me how to code to analyze climate data, and I never looked back (though I did switch from tropical climate to polar climate in grad school).</p>	<p>Kendrick Lamar Denzel Curry Vince Staples Bonobo The XX Rhye</p>	<p>I grew up in a bilingual household, but like many children of immigrants, I still respond to my mom asking me questions in Spanish with English/Spanglish.</p> <p>The first time I ever saw falling snow was in college and I've still never been skiing. For a person who spends most of my time thinking about glaciers and how fast they melt, this is quite odd.</p>


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 <p>Aparna Bamzai-Dodson Physical Scientist Doctoral Candidate</p>	<p>U.S. Geological Survey – National and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers University of Oklahoma – Dept of Geography and Environmental Sustainability</p>	<p>I always enjoyed science, but somehow ended up unchallenged and unfulfilled in a job as a business consultant. When the devastating 2004 Atlantic hurricane season hit, it was my first real exposure through the popular media to discussion of the immediate impacts of climate change. It blew my mind that there was a whole field of research on the intersection between physical science and societal impacts.</p>	<p>I love all kinds of music! My playlists include everything from heavy metal to pop music to bluegrass. In current heavy rotation are Volbeat and Lizzo.</p>	<p>I left a full-time PhD program after ~3 years of work and am now doing my PhD through a different university in my spare time. It's totally okay to make choices in your professional and academic career and later decide they were wrong! Figuring out what might be a better fit instead is the fun part.</p>


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 <p data-bbox="147 533 363 590">Ben Santer Research Scientist</p>	<p data-bbox="435 212 660 310">Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory</p>	<p data-bbox="691 212 997 520">As a kid, I loved detective stories, particularly Sherlock Holmes and Ellery Queen. I gravitated towards climate science because figuring out the causes of climate change is the ultimate “whodunnit”.</p>	<p data-bbox="1057 212 1218 239">Moody Blues</p> <p data-bbox="1057 281 1218 308">Caro Emerald</p> <p data-bbox="1057 350 1214 378">Joni Mitchell</p>	<p data-bbox="1260 212 1516 590">I am a rock-climber and mountaineer. I’ve been climbing since I was 18. One of my big joys in life is going rock-climbing with my son Nick. It turns out that you can teach an old dog new tricks...</p>

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 <p data-bbox="168 1031 342 1087">Carlos Zegarra Sachamama</p>	<p data-bbox="456 810 639 1014">Sachamama Climate Reality Project Green Latinos</p>	<p data-bbox="691 772 1008 1612">Short answer: Tadpoles Long answer: I was drawn to nature since I was a kid, especially water habitats. One of my first memories was going into a little creek behind my house to catch small fish. I did not get many fish but plenty of tadpoles! I remember I took some home and put them into my aquarium. When my father came home, he looked at them, and said, you got some frogs...and I was hook! Over the next weeks, I read what I could about the whole transformation and watched them turned into frogs. I was so mesmerized about the whole thing. That was my first I love science!</p>	<p data-bbox="1045 772 1224 835">Jesus Hidalgo / Carlos Vives</p>	<p data-bbox="1260 772 1479 835">I am training for a marathon.</p>


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 <p data-bbox="110 462 402 562">Christopher A-L. Jackson Professor of Basin Analysis</p>	<p data-bbox="446 210 646 241">Imperial College</p>	<p data-bbox="690 210 1015 766">I'm not sure I can claim I became interested in science in particular; I was never (and am still not) good at (or interested in) classic disciplines like physics, chemistry, or biology. For some reason, initially Earth Sciences felt unscientific; i.e. it was the mountains, the rivers, and the stuff all around me. It made sense to want to find out about those things. They felt less abstract.</p>	<p data-bbox="1096 210 1177 241">Doves</p>	<p data-bbox="1258 210 1372 241">I can knit</p>

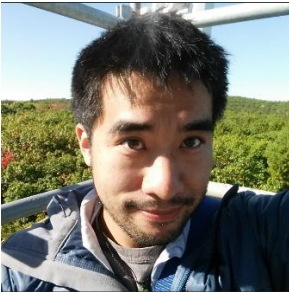
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 <p data-bbox="121 1239 389 1339">Christine Y. Chen Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Geology</p>	<p data-bbox="435 949 657 1123">California Institute of Technology, Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences</p> <p data-bbox="435 1165 657 1266">National Geographic Young Explorer, 2016</p>	<p data-bbox="690 949 1015 1610">As a kid, I had no idea what I wanted to be when I grew up. Every subject in school was my favorite. All I knew was that I loved to learn new things, and that I hoped I could learn new things forever. In college, I had to pick something, so I picked Earth Science because that major was the only one that had <i>free</i> field trips. On my first geology field trip, I learned that doing science outside was the perfect blend of all my interests, and I've been obsessed ever since.</p>	<p data-bbox="1079 982 1193 1050">Childish Gambino</p> <p data-bbox="1071 1092 1201 1123">Betty Who</p> <p data-bbox="1047 1165 1226 1197">John Williams</p> <p data-bbox="1063 1239 1209 1306">Vincent van Gogh</p>	<p data-bbox="1258 949 1518 1610">I have loved playing computer games ever since my dad introduced me to a computer when I was young. In middle school and high school, I played a lot Neopets and Puzzle Pirates. Nowadays, I like to play some indie games like Terraria or Rimworld, mixed in with some more mainstream games like Apex Legends and Star Wars Battlefront II.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="115 569 394 741">Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe Professor, Geology and Geophysics Interim Associate Dean</p>	<p data-bbox="431 212 659 310">Missouri University of Science and Technology</p> <p data-bbox="456 352 634 489">Past President, AASP – The Palynological Society</p>	<p data-bbox="691 212 1013 1127">I honestly can't remember any one incident that informed my decision. However, I suspect my parents' strong encouragement to excel at school as a young child while planting the seed in my mind the unlimited opportunities that medical doctors and professionals in general enjoyed. My father's elementary school education took him as far as becoming a detective in the Nigerian Police Force. My mother, on the other hand, was deprived the opportunity as a girl-child to receive any form of education given the cultural awareness at the time she was growing up. Her mission was to see me receive the best possible education.</p>	<p data-bbox="1057 212 1219 275">Alicia Keys hands down!</p>	<p data-bbox="1263 212 1516 489">I love entertainment news, and love reading VOGUE and Essence magazines. I haven't missed any Academy Awards broadcast in more than 30 years.</p>


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 <p data-bbox="159 1591 350 1661">James Marshall Shepherd</p>	<p data-bbox="472 1304 626 1367">University of Georgia</p> <p data-bbox="431 1409 667 1692">Georgia Athletic Association Distinguished Professor and Director, University of Georgia Atmospheric Sciences Program</p> <p data-bbox="431 1734 659 1797">Senior Contributor, Forbes</p> <p data-bbox="440 1839 651 1944">Host, Weather Channel Weather Geeks Podcast</p>	<p data-bbox="691 1304 1013 1587">I was always catching bugs or looking under rocks in creeks. In 6th grade, I did a science project called, "Can A 6th Grader Predict The Weather?" From that point on, I knew I wanted to study the weather</p>	<p data-bbox="1049 1304 1235 1335">Depeche Mode</p> <p data-bbox="1057 1377 1219 1409">Style Council</p> <p data-bbox="1057 1451 1219 1482">Duran Duran</p> <p data-bbox="1040 1524 1235 1556">Toni Tony Tone</p>	<p data-bbox="1263 1304 1516 1409">I was a pretty good all-around athlete in school</p> <p data-bbox="1263 1451 1500 1619">Despise most sauces, especially mayonnaise, mustard, and salad dressing</p>


	Former President, American Meteorological Society			
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 <p>Jane Zelikova</p>	<p>Carbon180</p> <p>University of Wyoming Department of Botany</p> <p>Co-founder, 500 Women Scientists</p> <p>Founder, Hey Girl Productions</p>	<p>Despite having a mathematician and engineer for parents, I wasn't really interested in science early on. It wasn't until college and my first ecology course that I really became interested, thanks to an amazing professor Dr. Judy Meyer at the University of Georgia. Passionate role models make all the difference.</p>	<p>Janelle Monae</p> <p>Radiohead</p>	<p>I was the communist leader of my school in the Soviet Union and I played roller derby for a few years during and after my PhD work (before getting too injured to keep it up).</p>


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 <p>Jonathan Wang Postdoctoral Scholar Earth System Science</p>	<p>University of California, Irvine</p> <p>Boston University (PhD)</p> <p>Brown University (B.S.)</p>	<p>I grew up in the suburbs, but I was lucky to still experience the outdoors. My middle school took us on camping trips in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and I volunteered on an organic farm. These experiences opened my eyes to the connections between human society and the natural world and I have since always wanted to learn more about how we fit in to the Earth System. Now I'm paid to look at plants from space using satellites,</p>	<p>Kishibashi</p> <p>Bonobo</p> <p>Four Tet</p> <p>The Books</p> <p>Lemon Jelly</p> <p>A lot of soundtracks to various movies and video games.</p>	<p>In college, I led a Japanese ensemble performing group, an art called "taiko". I eventually started a regional conference for taiko players on the east coast to get together and jam.</p> <p>I once reached Diamond rank in Overwatch, but that only lasted a week.</p> <p>I identify as bisexual.</p>


		which is like a dream come true.		
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 <p>Karin Kirk Geologist and science writer</p>	<p>Yale Climate Connections</p> <p>NOAA Climate.gov</p> <p>Natural Stone Institute</p>	<p>I had no choice – it was ordained by birth because both of my parents are scientists. But my Mom had a big influence because she was working on her PhD in chemistry while I was in middle school. I was amazed that she was solving unsolved problems in science – even though she was “just” my Mom!</p>	<p>First Aid Kit</p> <p>Vance Joy</p> <p>Mozart</p>	<p>I’m a professional ski instructor and guide, and therefore I only do science part time in the winter. I’m a firm believer in making as much time for play as possible.</p>

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 <p>Karletta Chief (Diné), Associate Professor & Extension Specialist Department of Environmental Science</p>	<p>University of Arizona Tucson, AZ</p>	<p>As a little child, I enjoyed seeing the natural environment and looking at the differences I saw in nature such as the leaves, soil, sky and how water flows and disappeared.</p>	<p>Indigenous</p>	<p>I enjoy running long distances.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="110 504 396 667">Katharine Hayhoe Endowed Chair in Public Policy and Public Law Co-Director, Climate Center</p>	<p data-bbox="440 210 651 273">Texas Tech University</p> <p data-bbox="440 315 651 346">ATMOS Research</p>	<p data-bbox="690 210 1013 730">My dad was a science teacher, so some of my earliest memories are learning to find the galaxy Andromeda through binoculars and identifying local wildflowers. I grew up with the idea that science was the coolest thing you could possibly study because it is so interesting and it explains how everything works. Who wouldn't want to know that?!</p>	<p data-bbox="1040 210 1235 703">We moved to Colombia when I was 9 and we lived there off and on until I started university so I still listen to a lot of Colombian and Latin music – Shakira, Juanes, Carlos Vives, reggaeton, etc.</p>	<p data-bbox="1263 210 1511 598">I am the climate ambassador for the World Evangelical Alliance because most non-U.S. evangelicals (and about a third of U.S. evangelicals too) care a lot about climate change and want to fix it!</p>

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 <p data-bbox="110 1417 483 1549">Lina C. Pérez-Angel PhD candidate Department of Geological Sciences</p>	<p data-bbox="513 951 729 1014">University of Colorado Boulder</p> <p data-bbox="513 1056 708 1249">Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)</p> <p data-bbox="513 1291 721 1455">Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)</p>	<p data-bbox="756 951 1045 1711">It wasn't until I was halfway through college (major in engineering) when I discover my love for Geology and Climate. I change my major right away and started my journey as a scientist then. I think as a teenager I didn't realize that spending my summer vacations at my grandma's house (far away from cities, in the mountains, with plantations and farm animals) will plant a seed in my mind about the environment, mountains and its effect with climate/weather.</p>	<p data-bbox="1078 951 1260 1333">A lot of Colombian and Latinx bands/Artist: Bomba Estereo, Choquibtown, Shakira, Café Tacuva, Natalia Lafourcade, Soda Stereo...</p>	<p data-bbox="1287 951 1511 1402">I actually wanted to be a chef when I finished high school, but things didn't work out and now I enjoy cooking and baking bread a lot. I also hiked the "deadliest trail on Earth" in Huashan, China! (thanks to my career!)</p>

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 <p>Michael E. Mann</p>	<p>Distinguished Professor; Director of the Earth System Science Center, Penn State University</p>	<p>Was fascinated about the natural world from the earliest days I can remember. But the 1980 PBS series Cosmos, featuring the great Carl Sagan, sealed the deal.</p>	<p><i>Eclectic:</i> The Cure; Split Enz; The Police; Midnight Oil; Van Morrison; Joni Mitchell; Post Malone</p>	<p>I play piano by ear. You name a song/show tune/etc, I can play it.</p>

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 <p>Uma S. Bhatt Professor Atmospheric Sciences</p>	<p>University of Alaska Fairbanks NOAA Cooperative Institute for Climate, Ocean, and Ecosystem Studies</p>	<p>I was always interested in science and math so studied mechanical engineering as an undergrad. But it was serving in the US Peace Corps in Kenya during the 1983-85 drought that led me to climate science.</p>	<p>Hard to limit! Beethoven, Hildegard von Bingen, Woody Guthrie, Miles Davis, The Band, Elton John, Laura Love, Bob Marley, Amy Winehouse, Gigi, Bruce Springsteen, Brandi Carlile, The Weeknd</p>	<p>I like to sew dresses and wear them!</p>