

# Brittenny Dyan De La Cruz

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## EDUCATION

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**B.S. Neuroscience**, University of California, Riverside

In Progress

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Lab Manager**, UC Riverside

September, 2018- Present

Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory

*As the lab manager for Dr. Christine Chiarello in the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory my responsibilities are to help with coding for experiments and supervise the other undergraduate research assistants on our team.*

**Volunteer Lab Assistant**, UC Riverside

January, 2017- March, 2019

Genomics Building

*I was an assistant to postdoc, Jishan Jiang, in Dr. Katayoon Dehesh's laboratory. I shadowed and helped her with her experiments in between classes during the school years.*

**MARC U STAR pre-trainee**, UC Riverside

June, 2018-August, 2018

Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory

*I worked under the supervision of graduate student, Alessandra Macbeth in the Dr. Chiarello's laboratory. I conducted a study that aimed to better quantify how often bilingual individuals partake in code-switching and how it relates to other measures in the bilingual language experience.*

**USDA ARS Research Facility**, Beltsville, Maryland

June-September 2017

Honey Bee Laboratory

*I worked under the supervision of several PIs in the honey bee lab and conducted experiments to analyze the correlation between Varroa mites, pollen and the Deformed Wing Virus.*

**DG Salsa Summer Scholars Program**, UC Riverside

July-September, 2016

Department of Botany and Plant Sciences

*Conducted experiments to clarify the citrus family tree by finding homologs of the miraculin gene in multiple citrus varieties. Secondly, developed a project formulating a hypothetical process using biotechnology to improve crop production in California.*

**Dynamic Genome Bio 20 Class**, UC Riverside

January-March, 2016

Department of Botany and Plant Sciences

*A Biology Lab class, where I was taught basic laboratory skills that were then applied to a research project that was presented at the end of that term.*

## AWARDS

MARC U STAR Summer Scholar	2018
Beltsville Summer Scholar	2017
Dean's Academic Distinction Award for CNAS	2016
Dynamic Genome Summer Scholar	2016
Highlander Excellence Scholarship	2015-2019

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Brittenny De La Cruz**, Alessandra Macbeth and Christine Chiarello. Classifying Code-Switching Behavior Among Bilinguals Using the EAR. University of California, Riverside. R'PSYC Inaugural Undergraduate Research Conference. (2019)

**Brittenny De La Cruz**, Alessandra Macbeth and Christine Chiarello. Classifying Code-Switching Behavior Among Bilinguals Using the EAR. University of California, Riverside. MARC U STAR Summer Symposium. (2018)

**Brittenny De La Cruz**, Nicole Colindres, Erika Hay, James Burnette, Venkateswari Chetty, Alejandro Cortez, Darcie McClelland Descalzo, and Susan Wessler. Using Miraculin Homologs to Clarify the Citrus Family Tree. University of California, Riverside. Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium. (2016)

**Brittenny De La Cruz**, Annie Wu, Erika Hay, Karen Parra, Victoria Morris, James Burnette, Alejandro Cortez, Darcie McClelland Descalzo, Susan Wessler, Ken Gruys, Elizabeth Henderson, Kevin Kim, Leor Zilbermintz, and Steve Casper. CRISPR Mediated Self-Compatible Almond Crops in California. University of California, Riverside. Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium. (2016)

## PUBLICATIONS

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Jishan Jiang, Liping Zeng, Haiyan Ke, **Brittenny De La Cruz** and Katayoon Dehesh. (2019) Orthogonal regulation of phytochrome B abundance by stress-specific pastidial retrograde signaling metabolite. *Nature Communications*.

## CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICE

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<b>Member</b> , California Alliance for Minority Participation	January 2018-Present
<b>Peer Buddy &amp; Secretary</b> , Best Buddies @ UCR	September 2017-Present
<b>Volunteer and Member</b> , Dynamic Genome Outreach Group	October 2016-January 2019
<b>Recruitment Officer</b> , Latino Medical Student Association	January-May 2016

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS/QUALITIES

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**Computer (PC):** Word, PowerPoint, Excel

**Language:** Bilingual (reading, writing and speaking) in English and Spanish

**Qualities:** Leadership, Teamwork, Flexibility, Loyal, Organizational Skills and Self-Motivated