

Nadia Drake, PhD

REPORTING EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer, National Geographic (present)

- News, features, books and channel appearances for National Geographic Partners.
- International reporting includes travel in Norway, Jordan, Hungary, Lebanon, New Zealand, Peru, Puerto Rico, Russia and the United Arab Emirates.

Freelance Science Journalist, Charlottesville, VA (2014-Present)

- News and feature reporting for *The Atlantic*, BBC Earth, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *The New York Times*, *The Open Notebook*, *Scientific American*, WIRED, including field assignments in Peru, Indonesian Borneo, and Tanzania.

Science Reporter, WIRED, San Francisco, CA (November 2012-April 2014)

- News and feature reporting in the life and materials sciences, including field assignments in Peru, the Channel Islands, Puerto Rico.

Astronomy Reporter, Science News, Washington, DC (September 2011-November 2012)

- News and feature reporting in astronomy, astrophysics, planetary science, and related fields.

Reporting Intern, Science News, Washington, DC (Summer 2011)

- General assignment news and feature reporting.

Reporting Intern, Nature, based in Santa Cruz, CA (Spring 2011)

- General assignment science reporting, including news stories and short research summaries.

Reporting Intern, San Jose Mercury News, San Jose, CA (Winter 2011)

- Health, science, and environment reporting.

Reporting Intern, Santa Cruz Sentinel, Santa Cruz, CA (Fall 2010)

- Breaking news, local news, science, features, arts and entertainment reporting.

HONORS

Schramm Award, High Energy Astrophysics Division, American Astronomical Society (2017)

- For: “Found! Gravitational Waves, or a Wrinkle in Spacetime,” published February 2016 by National Geographic

Eberhart Award, Division for Planetary Sciences, American Astronomical Society (2016)

- For: “Scientists in Flying Telescope Race to Intercept Pluto’s Shadow,” published July 2015 by National Geographic

Charm Quark, 3 Quarks Daily (2015)

- For: “When Hubble Stared at Nothing for 100 hours,” published April 2015 by National Geographic

D.C. Science Writers Association Newsbrief Award, 1st Place and Honorable Mention (2012)

- For: “Iapetus Gets Dusted” and “Fruit of Loo,” both published in *Science News*.

EDUCATION

UC Santa Cruz, Science Communication Program, Santa Cruz, CA; *Certificate* (2011)

- Graduate Division Fellowship; courses in reporting, writing news and features, essays and profiles, social media, multimedia.

Cornell University, Graduate School, Ithaca, NY (2004-2009); *PhD* (2009)

Genetics and Development, studied epigenetics and genomic imprinting

- Outstanding Student Seminar, 2007; NIH Health Training Grant 2006-2009; Presidential Genomics Fellowship, 2004
- [Drake et al., 2009](#). Imprint switch mutations at *Rasgrf1* support conflict hypothesis of imprinting and define a growth control mechanism upstream of IGF1. *Mammalian Genome* 20 (654–663)
- [Drake et al., 2011](#). Imprinted *Rasgrf1* expression in neonatal mice affects olfactory learning and memory. *Genes, Brain & Behavior* 10(4): 392-40

Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY; *A.B.* (2002)

Biology (concentration in neuroscience), Psychology, Dance

- Cornell National Scholar, 1998-2002; Dean's List, 1999-2002; Mortarboard National Senior Honor Society

OTHER

Principal Dancer, **Ithaca Ballet**, Ithaca, NY (2004-2010)

- Selected roles include Sugar Plum Fairy (“The Nutcracker”), Juliet (“Romeo and Juliet”), Odette/Odile (“Swan Lake”).
- Directed company rehearsals, staged ballets, taught children's classes

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- National Association of Science Writers
- Northern California Science Writers Association, DC Science Writers Association

INVITED TALKS, COURSES, OTHER MEDIA APPEARANCES

UW-Madison, Research and Public Engagement, 2020

Astronomy on Tap, 2018/2020

ABC News, May 2020

Panelist, Green Bank Observatory, 2019

Invited seminar, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, 2019

Panelist, UCLA Science Communication Symposium, 2019

Moderator, South Carolina Aquarium Learning Series, 2019

PBS NewsHour, 2019

NPR, 1a, 2018

Moderator and Presenter, Jasper Dark Sky Festival, 2018

BBC World Service, 2018

Moderator, World Conference of Science Journalists, 2017

Yale University astronomy department seminar, 2012/2017

Cornell University seminar, 2017

Moderator, Lebanese American University/American University of Beirut, 2017

NPR, 1a, 2017

Kepler Science Conference, NASA, 2017

Moderator, National Geographic Explorer's Festival, 2017

Panelist, Jasper Dark Sky Festival, 2016

Beakerhead Science Communication Program instructor, 2016

Science Writer in Residence, UW Madison, 2016

NPR, Science Friday, 2016

High Tech media conference, 2016

Communication Ocean Sciences to Informal Audiences, 2016

UC Berkeley Beyond Academia conference panelist, 2016

Beakerhead Science Festival speaker, 2015

Story Collider, 2015

President's Circle, National Academies of Science, Engineering and Technology, 2015

American Chemical Society Annual Meeting, invited presentation, 2014

National Association of Science Writers, session organizer (2013-2014)

San Francisco State University science writing course, guest lecture (2013- 2015)

Science Online, session organizer (2013-2014)

UCSC Science Communication Graduate Program, guest lecture, Essays and Profiles/Social Media (2012-2018)