



# Paula Crosson, Ph.D.

Neuroscientist, award-winning science communicator, and storyteller

Freelance science communicator and public engagement specialist, working with academics and nonprofits to communicate science with the public in meaningful and effective ways.

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- Over 10 years' experience in public engagement with science.
  - Specialist in co-created, asset-based science communication.
  - Particular expertise in combining science and the arts.
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## CURRENT AND RELEVANT PREVIOUS ROLES

### *Senior Producer*

#### **The Story Collider, New York, NY**

MAY 2017 - present (promoted to Senior Producer in November 2018)

- Teach workshops (virtual and in-person) to higher education students, professionals and scientists.
- Recent clients include Roger Williams University, Boise State University, The Kavli Foundation, University of West Florida and Davidson College.
- Produce and host live storytelling shows and podcast recordings.

### *Consultant*

#### **Columbia University's Zuckerman Institute, New York, NY**

AUGUST 2022 - present

- Conduct research and evaluation on public education programs.
- Lead grant and publication writing on public engagement of science.

### *Director, Dana Frontiers Program*

#### **The Dana Foundation, New York, NY**

AUGUST 2022 - JULY 2023

- Directed and shaped a new program at a private philanthropic organisation with the goal of increasing engagement with neuroscience among diverse publics to deepen trust and inform policy.

### *Director, Public Programs*

#### **Columbia University's Zuckerman Institute, New York, NY**

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2022

- Directed the public engagement programs for Columbia University's Zuckerman Institute with the goal of bringing together science and community in Upper Manhattan and the South Bronx.
- Co-created partnerships with multiple Harlem-based arts and community-based organisations.
- Developed and implemented an evaluation and impact measurement strategy.

## AWARDS

2018 - Poynter Fellowship in Journalism, Yale University

2017 - Science Educator Award, Society for Neuroscience

2016 - Finalist, Early Career Public Engagement in Science Award, AAAS

2016 - NARSAD Junior Investigator Award, Brain and Behavior Foundation

2015 - Richard and Susan Friedman Research Scholar, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

2011 - 2013 - Charles H. Revson Senior Fellowship in the Biomedical Sciences, Revson Foundation

## SKILLS

Grant writing

Program design and implementation

Program evaluation

Production

Public speaking

Social media

STEM education

Team management - employees and volunteers

Workshops

**Assistant Professor, Neuroscience and Psychiatry**  
**Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY**

JULY 2013 - JUNE 2018

- Cognitive and behavioural neuroscientist working on higher cognitive function and memory.

**Postdoctoral Researcher**  
**Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY**

JANUARY 2010 - JUNE 2013

**University of Oxford, UK**

JULY 2008 - JANUARY 2010

## EDUCATION

**University of Oxford, UK — Ph.D. Experimental Psychology**

SEPTEMBER 2003 - JUNE 2008

**University of Oxford, UK — M.Sc. Neuroscience**

SEPTEMBER 2002 - AUGUST 2003

**University of Cambridge, UK — M.A. Natural Sciences**

SEPTEMBER 1998 - JUNE 2001

## SELECTED PROJECTS AND TESTIMONIALS

2023 - 2024 **Webinar series — Behavior Vets**

Wrote, tailored and delivered virtual series on neuroscience for a specialist audience of veterinarians and animal behavior professionals. *“The webinar was fantastic! I loved how you demonstrated the topic with different species.”*

2023 **Festival Producer — 16th Annual Science New Wave Film Festival**

Produced science film festival, including logistics, marketing, social media, volunteer recruitment and management.

2023 **“All About Your Brain” pilot — Wondrium**

Wrote and tailored neuroscience educational material for a general audience. *“Our editing team really enjoyed working on it and were impressed with your presentation.”*

2019 **Storytelling workshop — The Story Collider for [Science Communication Online Programme \(SCOPE\)](#)**

Recorded workshop on storytelling for online course. *“...really fantastic... I really appreciated how you established a clear purpose for why we were learning... your explanation of the principles... and how clear the instructions were for our assignment.”*

2018 - 2024 **Effective Science Communication workshop — Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**

Wrote and delivered workshops on public engagement with science. *“Paula was AMAZING!!! I hope this module is continued next year.”*

## SELECTED CLIENTS

### [Behavior Vets](#)

Columbia University’s Zuckerman Institute

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

### [Hello SciCom](#)

### [Imagine Science](#)

Johns Hopkins University

### [Simons Foundation](#)

### [The Story Collider](#)

### [Wondrium](#)

## POSITIONS

2018 - present - Adjunct Assistant Professor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

2021 - 2022 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Board, Columbia University’s Zuckerman Institute

2019 - 2022 - President, [BraiNY](#) (Committee member since 2013)

2017 - 2018 - Disability Appeals Committee, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

2016 - 2019 - Organiser, [Neuwrite](#)

2012 - 2013 - Co-Chair, Postdoctoral Committee, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Over 18 years’ experience in education

22 publications

4000+ citations

h-index: 22, i10 index: 27

### [Google Scholar profile](#)