

Kendra H. Oliver, Ph.D., M.P.S

Science Communication UX Designer

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EXPERIENCE

Visual content developer & strategic analyst

April 2021 – Current

School of Medicine Basic Sciences, Vanderbilt University

- Visual asset and brand content for the School of Medicine Basic Sciences
- Video creation and editing
- User experience design research and strategic insights for websites events and products
- Consultation for visual content creation

Assistant Professor*, department of pharmacology

April 2018 – Current

School of Medicine Basic Sciences, Vanderbilt University

*Promoted from Instructor April 2019

- Scholarship on program development between artists and scientists
- Designing virtual programs
- Leading and designing curriculums for art-science collaborations

Founder and Director, ArtLab

January 2017 – Current

- To explore and advocate for art as a science communication tool, we established ArtLab as a cross-disciplinary program in 2017. The overarching goal is to support visual science communication approaches and outreach.
- Exhibition that showcases intersection between arts and sciences
- Led workshop to facilitate connections between the arts and sciences
- Received external support for a national artist in residence program

EDUCATION

Maryland Institute College of Art December

2023 / Baltimore, MD

M.P.S. User experience design

Vanderbilt University August

2016 / Nashville, TN

Ph.D. Pharmacology

Loyola University Chicago

August 2010 / Chicago, IL

B.S. Biology

PROJECTS

Drug Discovery Online: Drug Discovery Online is a series of non-credit online courses, taught by leaders in the field, that provide details into the science, concepts, process and business of drug discovery and development. Through these courses students can catch up, get ahead, or pivot within the drug discovery and biotechnology sector.

Nested Knowledge: What is the history of race and truth in science? Beyond individual bias or intent, what does institutionalized racism in science and its impacts look like? Answering these questions is fundamentally an interdisciplinary endeavor and opening avenues for the humanities to contribute to growing conversations in STEM about race and racism is crucial. We will host a summer artist-in-residence experience for STEM undergraduate students to reflect on the history of science, the categorization of race, and how modern-day science practices work within--and might respond to--social structures that are discriminatory and unjust.

VI4 Artist in Residence Program: In 2019, we initiated the Vanderbilt Institute for Infection, Immunology, and Inflammation (VI4)-ArtLab Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program, connecting undergraduate artists with research laboratories to create artwork that visually represents the latest research carried out by esteemed laboratories at Vanderbilt.