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Jorge Perez-Gallego, Ph.D., M.F.A.

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I am a multifaceted designer, astronomer, museum professional, and educator with extensive experience curating, designing, developing, and managing innovative experiences for cultural institutions. My work has been published in international journals and conferences on science, art, and museums. My diverse background makes me a creative leader with the ability to foster success and build highly motivated interdisciplinary teams. I am passionate about the innovative intersectional role science, art, technology, and storytelling may play at improving the efforts and communities I serve, and I am building a career around that passion.

EDUCATION

M.F.A. Design 2013

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Creative Project: SCIENCESTORE:
An Art Space Designed for Science

Ph.D. Astronomy 2009

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Dissertation: 3D Kinematics of Local
Luminous Compact Blue Galaxies

M.S. Astronomy 2005

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

B.S. Physics & Astrophysics 2003

Universidad de La Laguna
La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain

SKILLS

Software

Adobe Creative Suite (Ai, ID, Ps & Dw)
HTML & CSS
Wordpress
G Suite, Microsoft Office & Apple iWork
Google SketchUp
Data Analysis Programming Languages
Teamwork & Other Management Software

Languages

Spanish
English
Catalan

PROFESSIONAL RECORD

Associate Director of NEST Studio for the Arts 2018–Present

University of Colorado Boulder; Boulder, CO

- Co-lead NEST Studio for the Arts—a network that combines artistic practice and scientific research to explore our common and disparate ways of observing, recording, experimenting and knowing—including the instigation of its strategic mission and vision, and the development and curation of exhibitions and programs.
- Direct operations and communications, as well as hire and manage staff and volunteers.
- Secure funding from individuals, foundations, and federal sources for the initiative.

Scholar in Residence 2018–Present

University of Colorado Boulder; Boulder, CO

- Conduct scholarly research on the development of computer simulations that engage, excite, and generate interest in science by leveraging video games, such as Minecraft, as informal learning environments.
- Teach graduate and undergraduate courses and seminars—I have taught college courses, to list a few, on astronomy, information design, art and science, science in science fiction cinema, searching for life in the universe, and critical media practices.
- Secure funding from individuals, foundations, and federal sources for my own research—including over \$3M from the National Science Foundation's Advancing Informal STEM Learning Program.

Curator & Developer of Exhibitions 2014–18

Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science; Miami, FL

- Member of the opening team tasked with the development of the exhibitions and programs of a new state-of-the-art \$305M 250,000 square feet campus—including a science center, an aquarium, and a planetarium—which opened on May of 2017 to replace the old and beloved Miami Science Museum & Transit Planetarium.
- Responsible for all exhibition and program content related to physics, astronomy, planetary sciences, and earth sciences.
- Lead the ideation, design, development, and project management of the Feathers to the Stars permanent exhibition, the LASERsHOW temporary exhibition, and the trailblazing Frost Planetarium. These efforts required directing the work of both contractors and our internal team, and included traditional exhibition approaches, as well as the incorporation of digital storytelling, video games, interactive projection mapping, etc. Train and oversee visitor service staff working on those areas. Oversee an innovative bilingual approach to better serve the South Florida community. Assist with fundraising efforts for my projects, as well as those led by my colleagues when fitting.
- Serve as the main spokesperson for the museum in all kinds of instances—from print and media news stories to hosting events with best-sellers authors such as astronaut Scott Kelly and non-fiction writer Ben Mezrich.

Project Lead 2013–14

NASA Florida Space Grant Consortium & Telefónica Talentum Schools; Madrid, Spain

- Ideate, develop, and manage original international educational program for high school students from Spain and Florida.
- Hire and manage staff and volunteers.
- Secure funding from NASA and Telefónica for the initiative.

Founding Partner & Account Director 2013–14

ODDS: Open Door Design Studio; Asheville, NC

- Co-founder of award winning graphic design studio—clients included Kohler, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Wired Magazine.

Designer of Exhibitions 2011–13

Exhibits, Florida Museum of Natural History; Gainesville, FL

- Develop and design programs and exhibitions.

Postdoctoral Associate 2009

Departamento de Astrofísica y Ciencias de la Atmósfera,
Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Madrid, Spain

- Lead an international team of astronomers, publish original research on the formation and evolution of galaxies based on bog data computational analysis and modeling, and secure both federal and private research funds.

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EXHIBITIONS

Under- & Overstories 2019
Boulder, CO
Art/Science Exhibition — Curator

WILD | TAME 2019
Boulder, CO
Art/Science Exhibition — Curator

EMBRYONIC 2018
Boulder, CO
Art/Science Exhibition — Curator

LASERSHOW 2017
Miami, FL
Temporary Exhibition — Lead Developer

FEATHERS TO THE STARS 2017
Miami, FL
Permanent Exhibition — Lead Developer

SCIENCESTORE 2012
Gainesville, FL
Solo Show — Artist

Ligature XX 2011
Gainesville, FL
Group Show — Artist

ART BASH 2010
Gainesville, FL
Group Show — Artist

LO-CALE 2010
Gainesville, FL
Group Show — Artist

Drawing Lab 2010
Tampa, FL
Group Show — Artist

GRANTS & AWARDS

NSF Advancing Informal STEM Learning 2017 & 2019
Washington, DC

- Fostering Interest in Science through Interactive Exploration of Astronomy What-If Simulations*

Awesome Foundation 2016
Miami, FL

- Science Cafecito: Bringing science to the many communities of Miami by partaking in their daily rituals.*

New Leaders Council Fellow 2016
Miami, FL

- NLC is the premier leadership and professional development, training, mentoring, networking, and career and political advancement program for young professionals.*

Knight Foundation Arts Challenge 2014 & 2015
Miami, FL

- Corpus Callosum: Exploring how the human brain interprets music through the creation of a new form of audience experience that combines classical music performances with advancements in neuroscience.*
- Science Art Cinema: Creating a performance series that mixes 20th century science and science fiction movies with musical enhancements and multimedia presentations to bridge science and art.*

ASTC Diversity & Leadership Development Fellow 2015
Miami, FL

- Recognized for my commitment to promoting equity and diversity, and having a long-term vision of myself in the science center field.*

University of Florida Certificate of Outstanding Academic Achievement 2012
Gainesville, FL

- Recognized because of my outstanding academic record and exceeding expectations in my services to the School of Art + Art History, the University of Florida, and the Gainesville community.*

Florida Higher Education Arts Network 2011
Tallahassee, FL

- I___Local, a non-for-profit effort I directed, was recognized for Outstanding Advocacy in the Arts by the State of Florida.*

University of Florida Graduate Alumni Fellowship 2003–07
Gainesville, FL

- Recipient of a highly competitive fellowship to pursue my postgraduate studies in astronomy.*