

# CHRIS A. JOHNS

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## EDUCATION:

- 2014-present**      **University of Florida** (Ph.D.)  
Gainesville, FL  
Department of Biology, Florida Museum of Natural History  
Advisor: Dr. Akito Y. Kawahara
- 2006-2010**      **University of Florida** (B.A.)  
Gainesville, FL  
Major: Anthropology
- 2002-2006**      **Eastside High School**  
Gainesville, FL  
International Baccalaureate Program

## WORK:

- JUL-AUG 2016**      **National Geographic Student Expeditions** (Team Leader)  
Putney, VT  
-Organized and led high school student conservation work trip in Hawaii  
-Planned cultural and biodiversity conservation curriculum for students
- NOV 2010-  
NOV 2011**      **Pu'u Kukui Watershed Preserve** (AmeriCorps, Field Crew)  
Lahaina, HI  
-Identified, monitored, and controlled invasive species populations  
-Managed endangered species and plant communities  
-Maintained GIS database  
-Coordinated community volunteer restoration projects
- JUN-JUL 2010**      **Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps** (AmeriCorps, Team Leader)  
Honolulu, HI  
-Coordinated and led week-long work trips for youth groups  
-Learned and taught Hawaiian history, traditions, and biota  
-Planned work projects with program coordinators
- JUN-JUL 2008**      **Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps**  
Honolulu, HI  
-Invasive species eradication  
-Native ecosystem restoration  
-Native and invasive species identification

RESEARCH:

**JUN 2012-  
present**

**The Hotchkiss Foundation**

Cantilan, Philippines

- Conducted Rapid Environmental Assessment for Inijakan Island
- Developed and led youth environmental awareness program
- Produce media and maintain website
- Developing inter-island educational curriculum

**JAN-AUG 2013**

**The Kawahara Lab of Insect Systematics  
McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity  
Florida Museum of Natural History**

Gainesville, FL

- Conducted preliminary molecular phylogeny of endangered Hawaiian *Philodoria* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae)
- Filmed and produced short documentary raising awareness for Hawaiian Lepidoptera conservation
- Produced *Philodoria* field guide and disseminated to Hawaii conservation professionals
- Presented results at multiple national scientific conferences

**MAR, JUL 2012**

**Negros Lepidoptera Survey**

Negros, Philippines

- Assisted data collection on Philippine lepidopteran diversity project
- Identified and catalogued rare endemic butterfly fauna

**FEB, APR,  
MAY 2012**

**Luzon Parrot Project**

Luzon, Philippines

- Assisted with frugivore survey on Luzon Island
- Identified endemic birds and helped developed protocols for measuring disturbance grades on indigenous cultural land

**NOV 2010-  
NOV 2011**

**US Fish and Wildlife**

Kahului, HI

- Monitored and collected data on native ground-nesting seabird species
- Coordinated invasive predator control and trapping program
- Captured, banded, and installed radiotelemetry devices on seabirds

AWARDS/GRANTS:

2017 Michael L. May Interdisciplinary Research Grant  
2016 International Biodiversity Foundation Documentary Production Grant  
2015 Florida Biodiversity Foundation Invitational Speaker Grant  
2015 Florida Museum of Natural History Travel Award  
2015 North American Nature Photographers Association College Summit Scholarship  
2014 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship  
2014 National Geographic Society Young Explorer Grant  
2014 Florida Museum of Natural History Lockhart Fellowship Endowment  
2014 UFTropical Conservation and Development Field Research Grant  
2014 Entomology Society of America Systematic and Evolutionary Biology Travel Award

PUBLICATIONS:

Johns, C.A., Moore, M.R., Kawahara, A.Y. 2016. Molecular phylogeny, revised higher classification, and implications for the conservation of endangered Hawaiian leaf-mining moths (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae: *Philodoria*). *Pacific Science* 70(3).

Johns, C.A., Tangalin, N., Bustamente, K., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. Evidence of an undescribed, extinct *Philodoria* species (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) from Hawaiian *Hesperomannia* herbarium specimens. *Proceedings of the Hawaiian Entomological Society* (46).

PRESENTATIONS:

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. Preliminary next-gen molecular phylogeny of Hawaiian leaf mining *Philodoria* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.

Johns, C.A., Brienholt, J.W., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. *Philodoria*: leaf miners of the Hawaiian Islands. International Symposium on Gracillariidae, Kozagawa, Japan.

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. *Philodoria*: the endangered leaf miners of the Hawaiian Islands. Hawaiian Conservation Conference, Honolulu, HI.

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. *Philodoria*: the endangered leaf miners of the Hawaiian Islands. Hawaii Ecosystems Meeting, Hilo, HI.

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2014. *Philodoria*: the endangered leaf miners of the Hawaiian Islands. Island Biology Conference, Honolulu, HI.

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2013. Preliminary molecular phylogeny of Hawaiian leaf mining *Philodoria* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Austin, TX. **First Place Graduate Student Oral Presentation, President's Prize.**

Johns, C.A., Rubinoff, D., Kawahara, A.Y. 2013. Preliminary molecular phylogeny of Hawaiian leaf mining *Philodoria* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). Lepidopterists' Society Annual Meeting, Gainesville, FL. **Alexander Klots Best Student Poster Award.**

MEDIA/SERVICE/  
OUTREACH:

- JUL 2015-present**                      **Project Cordillera** (Videographer, Photographer)  
www.projectcordillera.com  
Description: A UK-based NGO that specializes in sustainable adventure travel and community development in the Andes mountains.
- JUL 2014-Present**                      **RACERS** (Co-Founder, Media/Design Specialist)  
Description: A collaboration of several young biologists with expertise in science communication/media and tropical biodiversity conservation. The goal of this group is to raise awareness in greater society about key conservation issues, and the work of conservation scientists and professionals. Content and productions are distributed via social media and effectively engage diverse, multinational audiences.
- DEC 2014-present**                      **UF Department of Natural History Website Committee**  
Gainesville, FL  
-Act as student representative for content and design of the Department of Natural History's website
- AUG 2014-present**                      **Take Stock in Children** (Student Scholar Mentor)  
Gainesville, FL  
-Mentor underprivileged youth scholars on scholastic performance, career development, and personal development  
-Guide student scholars to meet scholarship requirements
- JUN 2014-present**                      **Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project**  
Makawao, HI  
-Assist with media production and graphic design for conservation education outreach materials
- JUL 2014**                                      **Hawaii Conservation Conference** (Student Mentor)  
Honolulu, HI  
-Interfaced with local youth on the topic of Hawaiian conservation as a career and as a study  
-Facilitated networking opportunities for young emerging conservationists

**JAN-JUL 2013**      **Natural Area Teaching Lab**  
**University of Florida**  
Gainesville, FL  
-Organized and led community volunteer projects  
-Designed media for public environmental education projects

TEACHING:

**FEB 2017**      **An Introduction to Design Thinking** (Workshop Leader)  
University of Florida; a2ru.org  
Description: An interactive workshop for the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru) Emerging Creatives Summit. The workshop focused on design thinking as a mode/tool for interdisciplinary collaboration.

**AUG 2016-present**      **Creative Scientific Communication** (Course Founder and Instructor)  
University of Florida; www.ufcreativesci.com  
Description: A graduate course designed to equip scientists with a broad range of creative concepts and digital media production skills to enhance their research programs and personal branding.

**JAN-MAY 2014**      **Principles of Entomology ENY3005L** (Teaching Assistant)  
University of Florida  
-Basic entomology for non-major undergraduate students, emphasizing insect systematics, conservation, and biology

ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK:

**2012**      **Topics in Tropical Asian Forestry**  
Texas Tech University/Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Gardens  
Description: An NSF-funded international graduate course focused on tropical Asian forest management and the use of citizen science and widely available technologies to monitor forest change.

TECH:

*Software*  
Adobe Ps, Ai, Id, Lr, Pr, Ae, Au – Proficient  
Apple Final Cut Pro, iMovie, Keynote – Proficient  
Maxon C4D – Basic  
Windows, Mac OSX, and Linux – Proficient  
Microsoft Office Suite – Proficient  
ESRI ArcGIS – Experienced

*Phylogenetics Tools*

Geneious, MrBayes, RAxML, PAUP\*, Mesquite - Experienced

*Script/Languages*

Python – Experienced

R – Basic

CERTIFICATIONS:

S-130/S-190 Wildland Firefighter

B-3 Helicopter Safety

Petzl Rapid Ascent Descent, Single Rope Technique

VITEC Geographic Information Systems Basic Training

First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (Basic Life Support)

LANGUAGES:

English (native), Tagalog (conversational), Visayan (basic), French (conversational), Spanish (conversational)

HOBBIES/SKILLS:

Wildlife photography, videography, graphic design, surfing, backcountry navigation, climbing

REFERENCES/SAMPLES:

References available upon request. Writing, design, and photo/video portfolio available at [www.chrisjohns.com](http://www.chrisjohns.com) and are also available upon request.