

Sarafina El-Badry Nance

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INTERESTS

ASTRONOMY: Transients, core-collapse supernovae, progenitors of supernovae, stellar evolution, AGB & post-AGB stars, spectroscopic modeling, dark energy & cosmology, computational astrophysics, asteroseismology.

ADVOCACY: Breast cancer, genetic testing, the BRCA mutation, women's health, equity in health-care and in science.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Astrophysics	(expected) May 2022
University of California, Berkeley Advisor: Dr. Peter Nugent	
M.S. in Astrophysics	May 2019
University of California, Berkeley	
B.S. in Physics & Astronomy Honors	May 2016
The University of Texas at Austin (UT) Dean's Scholars Honored Graduate Advisor: Dr. J. Craig Wheeler	

APPOINTMENTS

NSF Graduate Research Fellow (UNDER DR. P. NUGENT)	UC Berkeley, 2017 –
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow (UNDER DR. A. SODERBERG)	Harvard, Summer 2015
Undergraduate Research Assistant (UNDER DR. J. CRAIG WHEELER)	UT, 2012 – 2016
McDonald Observatory Intern	Summer 2013

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

SOME FUNDED	Arab American 40 Under 40 Awardee	Fall 2020
	BBC 100 Women	Spring 2020
	National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship*	Spring 2018
	Commencement Speaker, UT College of Natural Sciences	Spring 2016
	Dean's Honored Graduate , UT College of Natural Sciences	Spring 2016
	UT Research Travel Scholarship*	Fall 2016
	Karl G. Henize Endowed Scholarship Award*	2015
	Harvard NCRC Innovation Challenge Winner* : <i>Gender Inequality & Educational Opportunity</i>	2015
	John W. Cox Endowment for the Advanced Studies in Astronomy*	2014
	Dean's Scholars Honors Program	2013 – 2016
University Honors	2013 – 2015	
NSF Astronomy Scholarship* (Declined)	2011	

NOTE: any activities that were affected by COVID-19 & rescheduled for a future date are marked by [COVID-19]

*included prize or monetary award

AWARDED TELESCOPE TIME

Lick Observatory, CA – Shane 120-in telescope

— **KAIST Spectrograph** **12 nights**
 ◦ Primary or secondary science lead 12 nights

McDonald Observatory, TX – 0.8-meter telescope

— **Robert G. Tull Coudé Spectrograph** **2 nights**
 ◦ Contributing scientist 2 nights

Public Data – significant experience with data from ZTF, iPTF, PTF

SUPERCOMPUTING TIME

PI: NERSC Cori/KNL17K CPU-hours

SELECTED OUTREACH MEDIA

ASTRONOMY	Show host for Seeker's Constellations	Jan 2021
	<i>Audience: 5 million, w/ 55+ million views/mo</i>	
	Science communicator	2018 –
	<i>Audience: Twitter: 100K+, Instagram: 16K+</i>	
	NPR Short Wave Space Week: The Mystery of Dark Energy	Aug 2020
	Astronomy.com <i>When Betelgeuse goes supernova, what will it look like...</i>	Feb 2020
BREAST CANCER	Space.com <i>Will Betelgeuse Explode?</i>	Jan 2020
	BBC News <i>The Power to Make a Star Explode</i>	Jan 2020
	National Geographic <i>A Giant Star is Acting Strange...</i>	Dec 2019
	POPSUGAR 4 Women Get Real About Numbness Post Mastectomy	Oct 2020
	BBC 100 Women <i>Breast Cancer: I have Sensation in my Breasts Again</i>	March 2020
	BBC Women's Hour <i>Preserving Breast Sensation After Surgery</i>	March 2020
	Refinery29 <i>I Am 26 & Getting A Double Mastectomy — Truth Told</i>	Jan 2020
	SF Chronicle <i>I lost my breasts, but an early test saved my life</i>	Nov 2019
	FOX News <i>Sensation in Double Mastectomies</i>	Nov 2019

SELECTED CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Talks

Invited: (ANTICIPATED) Royal Astronomical Society of Canada	21 Jan 2021
Invited: (KEYNOTE, ANTICIPATED) Women in Space Conference	May 2021
(CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY, CANADA) [COVID-19]	
Invited: Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS)	16 Nov 2020
(BERKELEY, CA)	
Invited: Graduate Admissions Panel (BERKELEY, CA)	22 Oct 2020
Invited: QuarkNet Conference (BERKELEY, CA)	9 July 2020
Invited: NSF Education & Outreach Panel (BERKELEY, CA)	8 July 2020

Title: *Bringing Science to the Public in Non-Traditional Venues*
 Invited: CraigFest 2020 Conference (AUSTIN, TX) [**COVID-19**] 25 May 2020
 Invited: University of Pennsylvania Astronomy Society (BERKELEY, CA) 17 April 2020
 Invited: *Astronomy on Tap* (AUSTIN, TX) [**COVID-19**] ([recording](#)) 31 March 2020

Undergraduate Presentations

Poster: [American Astronomical Society](#) (ORLANDO, FL) Spring 2016
 Talk: Harvard REU Intern Symposium (CAMBRIDGE, MA) Summer 2015
 Talk: (PLENARY) [The National Collegiate Research Conference \(NCRC\)](#) (CAMBRIDGE, MA) Spring 2015
 Poster: McDonald Observatory Board of Visitors Meeting (AUSTIN, TX) Spring 2015
 Talk: UT Undergraduate Women in Physics (AUSTIN, TX) Spring 2015
 Talk: Dean's Scholars ReSULTS (AUSTIN, TX) Spring 2015
 Talk: [Texas Astronomy Undergraduate Research Symposium \(TAURS\)](#) (AUSTIN, TX) Fall 2014
 Talk: Stellar Activity, McDonald Observatory (FORT DAVIS, TX) Summer 2013

PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

First Author

The Betelgeuse Project II: Asteroseismology // [arXiv:1805.10347](#) (**5 citations**)
 Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Volume 479, Issue 1, pgs. 251–261 (2018)
 Nance, S, Sullivan, J.M., Diaz, M. et. al.

Co-Author

The Betelgeuse Project III: Merger Characteristics // [arXiv:2010.08880](#)
 Accepted for publication
 Wheeler, J.C., Nance, S., Diaz, M. et. al.

The Betelgeuse Project: Constraints from Rotation // [arXiv:1611.08031](#) (**11 citations**)
 Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Volume 465, Issue 3, pgs. 2654–2661 (2017)
 Wheeler, J.C., Nance, S., Diaz, M. et. al.

BOOKS

First Author

Starstruck: A Memoir of Astrophysics & Finding Light in the Dark (Forthcoming, 2023)
Little Leonardo Astronomy (Forthcoming, Fall 2022, GIBBS-SMITH PUBLISHING)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant: *The Planets* [**COVID-19**] UC Berkeley, Spring 2021
 Teaching Assistant: *MESA Summer School* Beijing, China, Spring 2018
 Graduate Student Instructor: *Stellar Astrophysics* UC Berkeley, Spring 2018
 Graduate Student Instructor: *Introduction to Astronomy* UC Berkeley, Fall 2017

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant: <i>Introduction to Astronomy</i>	UT, Fall 2015
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant: <i>Modern Physics Lab</i>	UT, Fall 2015
Tutor: <i>English, Math, & Physics</i>	2011 -

PROGRAMMING

Computer Languages:	Python, L ^A T _E X, Fortran, Mathematica, bash, git
Parallel Computing:	MPI, OpenMP, Python multiprocessing
Machine Learning:	PyTorch, TensorFlow, SciPy, Keras