

# JAMIL WILSON

Biologist, Scuba Diver, Activist, Educator

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Location: Cleveland, Ohio

Jamil Wilson



## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science  
Biology Major/Music Minor  
Cleveland State University, 2018

Master of Science Education  
Biology Education  
Baldwin Wallace University 2024

## PUBLICATIONS

- "A Tale of Two Oceans: Tying Outreach, Octopus, and Tourism in Cape Town"
- "Adventure through Antarctica and Argentina"
- "Dungeness and Drysuits after DEMA"
- "Descent into Florida part 2: Photographing what's behind the Seas"
- "Balancing Cylinders, Caverns, and Caves in the Bahamas"
- "Descent into Florida Part I: Facing the Depths of Free Diving"
- "The Uncovering of a Black Legend", <https://owussnorthamerica.org/page/3/>
- "An evaluation of mussel diversity in the Rocky River and how population density has changed over time in comparison to observations made over 15 years ago" ([https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/u\\_poster\\_2017/index.3.html](https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/u_poster_2017/index.3.html))
- Jamil Wilson- Keynote speaker at the 2022 NEOSEF Award Presentation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFOW-Ht2Gu0>)
- Diving While Black Panel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RgkL9b-bUs>)
- Career Dives: Live Conversations in Marine Science with Jamil Wilson (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNNDQTxutkY>)
- Marine Science in the Morning: Anjali Boyd (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aCaPogrXRc&t=1s>)

## CAREER OBJECTIVE

Studying the science of life has always attracted me. My passion for aquatics, education, science, and activism has led to my growth and life lessons that I wish to share via teaching. Thus, it is my hope that this opportunity will help me achieve these goals.

## RELATIVE WORK EXPERIENCE

**Benedictine High School, Cleveland, OH, August 2023- May 2024**

*Position: Biology Student Teacher (MS Ed. In Science)*

- Educated students on foundational biological concepts (Genetics, Cells, Evolution)
- Created lesson plans following Ohio State Standards
- Used various educational methodologies to inform my teaching
- Conducted several labs and engagement activities

**Greater Cleveland Aquarium, Cleveland, OH, May 2016 - Current**

*Position: Staff SCUBA Diver*

- Educated children and adults about various aquarium animals
- Conducted basic husbandry operations of aquatic creatures and conducted animal feedings (Stingrays, Sharks, Octopus)
- Guided training of over 6 GEA teams

**Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland, OH, May 2023 – Current**

*Position: Guest Experience Associate (GEA)*

- Guided guest in experiences learning about different scientific subjects including, space travel, electricity, pH, paleontology, sound, climate, and gravity

**BSA Environmental Services, Cleveland, OH, November 2020 - June 2021.**

*Position: Aquatic Laboratory Phycologist*

- Processed and prepared aquatic sample data to assess content for clients (UC Davis, Alaska Fisheries, University of Toronto, etc.)
- Took measurements to obtain and record dimensions of samples
- Identified and documented different taxonomic classifications of phytoplankton using DMi1 Microscope (Diatoms, Cyanobacteria, Chlorophyta etc.)

**Smithsonian Marine Station, Ft. Pierce, FL, August 2020 -June 2021.**

*Position: Marine Science Digital Education Program Intern*

- Created educational scientific projects and activities for students to engage in (Carbon Cycle, Animal Taxonomy and Climate Change)
- Promoted and encouraged racial diversity and inclusion in the marine science programs by hosting several webinars
- Followed Florida state guidelines and local school curriculum to accommodate classrooms and local participation

## DIVING CERTIFICATIONS

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- AAUS Scientific Diver
- DAN: Diving First Aid
- NSS CDS: Cave Apprentice Certification
- NSS CDS: Side Mount Certification
- PADI: Dive Instructor
- PADI: Ice Diver Certification
- PADI: Dry Suit Certification
- PADI: O2 Technician
- SDI TDI: Intermediate & Safety Free Diver
- SDI TDI: Advance Nitrox
- PSI PCI: Visual Cylinder Inspector
- PSI PCI: Valve Repair Technician

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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- Member of the National Association of Black SCUBA divers (NABS)
- Participated in several creative writing workshops and is currently working on a mystery novel.
- Contestant in the 2018 Cleveland Clinic Solutions Competition (a competition to address healthcare challenges)
- Performed several piano concerts and played at local nursing homes
- Trained Opera Singer who performed once for President Obama
- Traveled to over 20 countries and plans to travel more
- Took several underwater photography courses
- Participated in several beach cleanups
- Working to start a non-profit for the benefit of minorities in Science and SCUBA diving
- Member of the Ohio Academy of Sciences
- Got to experience cage diving with a great white shark
- Tutored several students in Animal Biology and Organic Chemistry

## OTHER TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- Microsoft Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Word Press
- Spanish speaking skills
- Statistical programs (SAS, R, Minitab)
- Lab safety experience

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

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- Researched Hurricane Effects on Freshwater Meiofauna (Aquatic invertebrates 50–1000  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Communities in Puerto Rico
- Conducted an evaluation of change in mussel populations within in the Ohio Rocky River over a span of 15 years
- Embarked on research voyage to Antarctica to study Salp abundance
- Researched Devil Ray aggregations in Mexico
- Investigated freshwater and marine water effects on coral respiration in French Polynesia
- Partook in an underwater archaeological investigation excavating the remains of a Michigan Tuskegee Airmen airplane
- Examined Octopus habitats to examine specific feeding behaviors within South Africa
- Surveyed different algae species local to Argentina
- Participated in underwater archeological study looking at the impact of colonialism on elkhorn coral in the Dominican Republic

## OUTREACH EXPERIENCES

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- Helped build a house and distribute medical supplies to financially disadvantaged Guatemalans
- Assisted several black South African students take their first dive into the ocean
- Volunteered with several South African organizations to teach students fish anatomy, marine invertebrate taxonomy
- Worked with Proyecto Sub to help further educational awareness about algae species while in Argentina
- Coordinated for black and Latino LGBTQ students associated with the Aids Healthcare Foundation to visit the Cleveland Aquarium.
- Spoke on several platforms on diversity in diving and STEM
- Advocated for more diverse representation in the Cleveland Aquarium imagery, employment, and advertisements
- Volunteered at the hyperbaric chamber at the USC Wrigley field Station on Catalina Island

## HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Received a Fulbright and National Geographic research grant to study diverse marine education programs in Papua New Guinea
- First African American to be awarded the North American Rolex Our World Underwater Scholarship Society Scholarship
- Accepted into the Peace Corps as a water quality education volunteer in Panama (Deferred by Covid- 19)
- Princeton 2018 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Scholar finalist
- Earned 2nd place Research Poster award at Cleveland State University Poster Conference
- Awarded an REU at the University of Puerto Rico and Hawaii
- Awarded university campus conference travel grants to several universities (University of Chicago, Cornell University, etc.)
- Received nominations for The Best Tutor of the Year award
- McNair Scholar Recipient