

Marianna Zhang

she/her

email marianna.zhang@stanford.edu

website mariannazhang.github.io

A standard CV might suggest my path was all continual successes. But you can't win some without losing some. Here's a partial list of rejections. Does not include opportunities I was too insecure to apply to – shoot your shot!

EDUCATION REJECTIONS

Ph.D., Psychology, University of Michigan (waitlisted)	2018
M.A., Psychology, University of British Columbia	2018
Ph.D., Psychology, Indiana University Bloomington	2018
Ph.D., Cognitive Science, Indiana University Bloomington	2018
B.A., Yale University	2014
B.A., Harvard University	2014

INTERNSHIP AND TRAINING REJECTIONS

As an undergraduate

Center for the Study of Language and Information (CSLI) Summer Internship , Stanford University	2016
• I subsequently participated in the program as a mentor/coordinator as a PhD student at Stanford!	
countless psychology labs, Department of Psychology, University of Chicago	2014

As a high schooler

Science Research Mentoring Program , American Museum of Natural History	2013
Summer Science Research Program (SSRP) , The Rockefeller University	2013, 2014
Teen Reviewers and Critics Summer Program: MAP FREE CITY	2013
National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) , U.S. Department of State	2012
South Korea High School Summer Program, Council on International Educational Exchange	2012
countless psychology labs in NYC, New York University, Columbia University, etc...	2012
• Unfortunately, many labs can't take minors as volunteers for legal reasons.	

PUBLICATION REJECTIONS

*co-first author

Zhang, M. Y. , Sullivan, J. N., Allums, S. [†] & Markman, E. M. (2025). How White parents' conversational approaches affect children's reasoning about racial disparities. <i>Developmental Psychology</i> .	
Zhang, M. Y.* , Sullivan, J. N.*, Roberts, S. O. (2002). [Peer commentary on "The i-frame and the s-frame: How focusing on individual-level solutions has led behavioral public policy astray," by N. Chater & G. Loewenstein]. <i>Behavioral & Brain Sciences</i> .	

RESEARCH PRESENTATION REJECTIONS

Asaba, M., Zhang, M. Y. & Leonard, J. A. Children's representations of others' gender biases. Flash talk at From Dyads to Collectives: Current Directions in Our Understanding of Intuitive Sociology, preconference workshop at Cognitive Development Society (CDS).	2024
Symposium talk at Cognitive Development Society (CDS).	2024
Zhang, M. Y. & Markman, E. M. Let's talk structure: the positive consequences of structural thinking. Symposium talk at Society for Personality & Social Psychology (SPSP).	2024

FELLOWSHIP, HONOR & AWARD REJECTIONS

As a graduate student at Stanford

NYU Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship , New York University	2024
AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship , American Association of University Women	2023

NAEd/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship , <i>National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation</i>	2023
VPGE Research/Teaching Award , Asian American Activities Center, <i>Stanford University</i>	2022
Diversity Dissertation Research Opportunity , <i>Stanford University</i>	2022
Dissertation Research Grant , <i>Russell Sage Foundation</i>	2022
Elizabeth Munsterberg Koppitz Child Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship , <i>American Psychological Foundation</i>	2022
Outstanding Research Award , <i>Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)</i>	2021
Stanford Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship , <i>Stanford University</i>	2021
Graduate Research Fellowship Program , <i>National Science Foundation</i> (rejected without review)	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening to unfortunate advice about page margins from a grantwriting class sunk my chances this time. This one was tough, but I learned a lot: trust your gut, good friends will support you in the face of failure, and life does go on. 	
<i>As an undergraduate at UChicago</i>	
Graduate Research Fellowship Program , <i>National Science Foundation</i> (honorable mention)	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The result of an epic all-nighter without oversight or feedback from anyone sane (I would not recommend this). 	
Liew Family College Research Grant , Career Advancement, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2017
Beinecke Scholarship	2017
Goldwater Scholarship	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some confusing advice I received about whether psychology was eligible as a “science” (turns out it is!) caused me to not submit my application. 	
PRISM Research Grant, Career Advancement, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2017
UCISTEM Summer Research Grant, Career Advancement, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2017
AASAP/UK Lord Acton Memorial Scholarship , <i>Association of American Study Abroad Programmes United Kingdom</i>	2016
Summer Action Grant, Career Advancement, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempted to get funding for a prestigious yet poorly-paid summer internship I was admitted to at another university. A staff member asked me why the university would fund me to conduct research for the benefit of a competitor university... 	
various clubs and club leadership positions	2014–2016
Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) , <i>U.S. Department of State</i>	2016
Amazon Student Scholarship Program, <i>Amazon</i>	2015