

Jingping Graber

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin (UT)

Bachelor of Science in Honors Biology + Bachelor of Arts in Plan II Honors | **GPA 4.0**

Dean's Scholars Honors Program; Departmental Honors

Austin, TX

May 2027

Boston University

Study abroad coursework in oceanography

Fiji

July 2024 – August 2024

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Research Papers

Inman, C., Ramsaroop, M., Koley, J., Ávila, L., Burbano, D., Pozo, M., **Graber, J.**, Yeager, J. Sexual coercion dominates mating behaviour in the South American livebearing fish genus *Pseudopoecilia* (Cyprinodontiformes: Poeciliidae), *Animal Behaviour*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2026.123560>

Manuscripts Under Review

Silva, T.L., Grove, L.J.W., Thompson, A.R., Muller-Karger, F., Auster, P.J., Asch, R.G., Muñoz, R.C., Cannizzo, Z.J., Tolken, S., **Graber, J.**, Santora, J., Runge, J., Brown, J., Fiechter, J., Jacobson, K., Gittings, S.R., Forage species and changing food webs in national marine sanctuaries, *Conservation Science and Practice*

Manuscripts in Preparation

Graber, J., Bolinger, B., Grover, S., Ramsaroop, M., Cummings, M., Retention & localization of polyethylene microspheres in juvenile & adult western mosquitofish

Ramsaroop, M., **Graber, J.**, Lihou, A., Gong, L., Hartzell, R., Lin, Y., Cummings, M., Sex-specific cognitive effects of environmentally relevant microplastic exposure in the western mosquitofish

Ramsaroop, M., **Graber, J.**, Lihou, A., Gong, L., Hartzell, R., Lin, Y., Cummings, M., Adaptive behavioral responses to environmentally relevant microplastics in the western mosquitofish

Books

Graber, J. [*Can You Sea Me?: A Children's Guide to Camouflage in the Ocean*](#). Author and illustrator. The Fedd Agency, 2023. Media coverage: NBC affiliate (KXAN Austin). Circulation: 900+ copies.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Cummings Lab | University of Texas at Austin

PI — Dr. Molly Cummings

May 2024 – Present

Research Intern

- Designed 2 behavioral assays for coauthored manuscripts investigating toxicological effects of plastic
- Constructed device described in prior studies to prepare plastic fibers for microtomy sectioning
- Conducted 5 behavioral & cognitive assays in mosquitofish; contributed to plastic exposure experiments

Research Assistant

- Awarded 2nd place at the Texas Plastic Pollution Symposium poster contest as first author of the poster
- Invented an improved 3D-printed microtomy preparation device
- Created scientific illustrations describing fish behaviors & experiment setups for 3 manuscripts

Undergraduate Researcher (Honors Thesis Project)

- Honors Departmental Thesis: *Retention and Localization of Polyethylene Microspheres in Juvenile and Adult Western Mosquitofish*; independently conceived, designed, & led; 1st-author manuscript in preparation
- Recruited, trained, & supervised 2 undergraduate research assistants; directed all stages of the project from study design to manuscript preparation; secured university funding

Bioprospecting 2.0 Lab | University of Texas at Austin

September 2024 – Present

PI — Dr. Kasia Dinkeloo

FRI Summer Fellow

- Conducted research investigating the genetics of plastic-degrading microbes

Undergraduate Researcher

- Co-designed & conducted microfiber exposure & toxicity study on *Arabidopsis thaliana*
- Refined microfiber staining & isolation protocols for exposure studies
- Contributed to study comparing DNA extraction methods for biofilms from pre-production plastic pellets

The Phelps Lab | Washington State University

May 2025 – December 2025

PI — Dr. Michael Phelps

REU Intern

- Designed & conducted study investigating effects of calcium-sensing receptor gene knockout on cardiac response to hypoxic conditions in rainbow trout; conducted electrocardiography & microCT experiments

NOAA | Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

July 2025 – April 2026

Volunteer

- Produced publication-quality figures for NOAA manuscript on food webs in marine sanctuaries; coauthor

Coral & Fish Survey Study | Boston University, Fiji

July – August 2024

Research Educator — Dr. Keisha Bahr

Undergraduate Researcher

- Designed & co-conducted research project surveying corals across 5 Fijian Marine Protected Areas

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

Graber, J. *Coral Cover and Fish Abundance Across Fijian Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)*. University of Texas Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium, Austin, TX, October 2024.

Poster Presentations

Digital copies of posters [here](#)

Graber, J., Bolinger, B., Grover, S., Ramsaroop, M., & Cummings, M., *Retention & localization of polyethylene microspheres in juvenile & adult western mosquitofish*.

- University of Texas at Austin | Plan II Senior Thesis Symposium

April 2026

- University of Texas at Austin | Undergraduate Research Forum April 2026
- Texas Plastic Pollution Symposium March 2026

Graber, J., Gaberria, C., Bordas, A., Holloway, T., Cox, G., Phelps, M., *Effects of CaSR Knockout on Cardiac function and Bone Mineral Density in Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss).*

- Washington State University | Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium July 2025

Graber, J., Lihou, A., Hartzell, R., Ramsaroop, M., & Cummings, M., *Retention & localization of polyethylene microspheres in juvenile & adult western mosquitofish.*

- University of Texas at Austin | Undergraduate Research Forum April 2025
- Texas Plastic Pollution Symposium | ****Second Place Poster Award**** April 2025

Nonhoff, K., **Graber, J.,** Dinkeloo, K., *Fluorescent Detection of Nile Red-stained Microplastic Uptake in the roots of Arabidopsis thaliana.*

- University of Texas at Austin | Undergraduate Research Forum April 2025
- Texas Plastic Pollution Symposium April 2025

Graber, J., Bahr, K., *Coral Cover and Fish Abundance Across Fijian Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).*

- University of Texas at Austin | Undergraduate Research Forum April 2025

AWARDS & HONORS

Fellowships & Grants

Plan II Honors Thesis Grant <i>Plan II Honors Program</i>	February 2026
Undergraduate Research Fellowship <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	January 2026
Alumni Grant <i>Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs</i>	January 2026
True Blue Fellowship <i>Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs</i>	January 2025
FRI Fellowship <i>Freshman Research Initiative</i>	May 2024
Plan II Honors Travel Grant <i>Plan II Honors Program</i>	May 2024
Experiential Learning Fellowship <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	April 2024

Awards & Distinctions

Distinguished College Scholar <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	April 2026
Research Poster Competition—2nd Place <i>Texas Plastic Pollution Symposium</i>	April 2025
Photography Contest <i>Teens and Friends United</i>	May 2024
Special Judge's Award for Technical Expertise: Art Contest <i>National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration</i>	June 2023
Honorable Mention (2): Photography Contest <i>National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration</i>	June 2023

Finalist & Nominee Recognition

Nominee for the Udall Undergraduate Scholarship <i>University of Texas at Austin, Udall Foundation</i>	February 2026
Finalist, Temple Scholars Program <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	September 2024
Finalist, Beckman Scholars Program <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	March 2025
Finalist, University of Texas Dedman Distinguished Scholars <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	April 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sole Proprietor/Author-Illustrator | *Jing Books* June 2021 – Present

- Founded small business to market books, hyperrealism artwork, & underwater photography
- Book carried by Sundog Books (Seaside, FL), the Austin Public Library Shop, & 11 others

NOAA Intern | *National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration* May – September 2024

- Produced [scientific illustrations](#), working with local ecologists & archaeologists for species & habitat accuracy
- Collaborated with an indigenous translator to create poster of native wildlife in Algonquian, the native language

Fellowship Recipient/Intern/Council Member | *Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs* December 2023 – Present

- Mentored fellowship grantees, managed media, & contributed to contest & fellowship oversight in a council of 14 students at the world's largest environmental youth program for the creative arts
- Fellowship: Received funding to create & patent an open-access precision device for researchers, pursue a microplastic research study, & create novel, microfiber-based paint for artworks for plastic pollution awareness

Research Mentor | *University of Texas Freshman Research Initiative* January 2025 – Present

- Mentored freshmen in the University of Texas' Bioprospecting Laboratory, teaching them research techniques

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION & SERVICE

Scientific Communication Projects

Illustrator/Researcher November 2025

- Invented novel, microplastic-based paint & created fluorescent artwork under UV light for pollution awareness
- [The Threat Is Small: A Painting Made of Microplastics](#)

Scientific Communication Presentations

Visiting Author February 2023 - Present

- Presented children's book & illustrations to children; spoke about the publishing process and marine science
- Invited to & spoke at the following institutions:
 - Boone Elementary School May 2026
 - Good Shepherd Episcopal School February 2026
 - Austin Public Library April 2024
 - National Charity League March 2023
 - Regents School of Austin February 2023
 - Helping Hand Home for Children August 2024

Service

Austin ISD | Tutor August 2023 – May 2025

- Tutored high school students in math & writing; contributed to the construction of a new writing center

Social Media Assistant | *National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration* June – August 2024

- Created social media content for the publicity of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Committee Member | *Distinguished Lecture Series* November 2023

- Contributed to outreach and planning for the UT-hosted presentation of Nobel Prize winner Dr. Drew Weissman

Founder/Camp Leader | *Science Camp* July 2021

- Constructed curriculum & hosted week-long nonprofit camp for children ages 4-8, teaching STEM subjects