

RACHEL RENÉ ROMEO, PhD, CCC-SLP

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<https://go.umd.edu/rachelromeo> | <https://leadlab.umd.edu>**EDUCATION**

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| Ph.D., Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology | May 2018 |
| Program in Speech and Hearing Bioscience and Technology, concentration in Neuroscience and clinical Speech Language Pathology | |
| CCC-SLP, MGH Institute of Health Professions | August 2015 |
| Communication Sciences and Disorders, concentration in Pediatric Language and Literacy | |
| ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence: 14092953 (2018-present) | |
| Maryland License: 09745 (2021-2024) | |
| Massachusetts License: 77082-SP-SL (2018-2021) | |
| M.Sc. with Distinction, University College London | October 2012 |
| Language Sciences, with specialisation in Language Development | |
| B.A. Summa Cum Laude, University of Pennsylvania | May 2011 |
| Psychology with Honors, and Linguistics | |

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| University of Maryland, College Park | |
| Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology (College of Education) | 2022- |
| Assistant Professor by courtesy, Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences (College of Behavioral & Social Sciences) | 2022- |
| Faculty Member, Program in Neuroscience and Cognitive Sciences (College of Behavioral & Social Sciences) | 2022- |
| Director, UMD Language, Experience, and Development (LEAD) Lab | 2022- |
| Additional Faculty Affiliations: Brain Behavior Institute, Language Science Center, Language and Literacy Research Center, Field Committee in Developmental Science, Maryland Initiative for Literacy and Equity | |
| Visiting Faculty, Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology (College of Education) | 2020-2021 |
| Harvard University | 2020-2021 |
| Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology | |
| Harvard Medical School & Massachusetts Institute of Technology | 2018-2020 |
| Postdoctoral Fellow, Translational Postdoctoral Training Program in Neurodevelopment | |
| Boston University | 2019-2020 |
| Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences | |

SELECTED RECOGNITIONS

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| University of Maryland Graduate Faculty Mentor of the Year Award | 2025 |
| UMD College of Education Excellence in Pre-Tenure Scholarship | 2025 |
| Flux Society Young Investigator Award | 2024 |
| University of Maryland Research Impact Fellow (Inaugural Cohort) | 2023-2024 |
| University of Maryland Research Excellence Honoree | 2024 |
| UMD Neuroscience and Cognitive Science (NACS) Faculty Mentor of the Year Award | 2023 |
| Early Career Research Contributions Award, American Speech Language Hearing Society | 2023 |
| Early Career Research Contributions Award, Society for Research in Child Development | 2023 |
| Early Career Travel Award, Society for Research in Child Development | 2023 |
| Rising Star Award, Association for Psychological Science | 2022 |
| Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award, American Speech Language Hearing Association | 2022 |
| Early Career Travel Award, International Mind Brain Education Society | 2022 |
| Most Cited Article in <i>Psychological Science</i> in previous 3 years | 2021 |
| Fellow, British-American Project | 2019 |
| Flux Congress & Jacobs Foundation “Science of Learning” Symposium Award | 2019 |
| Flux Congress Postdoctoral Abstract Merit Award | 2019 |
| Society for the Neurobiology of Language Abstract Merit Award | 2019 |
| Selected for ASHA Lessons for Success Research Mentorship Program | 2019 |
| Finalist for Forbes 30 under 30 in Science and Healthcare | 2018 |
| Cognitive Neuroscience Society Graduate Student Award | 2018 |
| Society for the Neurobiology of Language Graduate Student Travel Award | 2017 |
| Friends of the McGovern Institute Student Fellowship | 2016 |
| UCL MSc Language Sciences Highest Overall Achievement Award | 2012 |
| UCL MSc Language Sciences Best Dissertation Prize | 2012 |
| UCL Psychology & Language Sciences Departmental Scholarship | 2011 |
| The Thouron Award | 2011 |
| Fulbright Award to the UK | 2011 |
| Morris Viteles Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Psychology Research | 2011 |
| Phi Beta Kappa Society | 2011 |
| R. Jean Brownlee Honor Award for Campus Leadership | 2011 |

RESEARCH FUNDING*External*

Jacobs Foundation Research Fellowship Program 2026-2028
 “Understanding Learning Variability as Neurocognitive Adaptations to Early Environmental Differences: Implications for Reducing Educational Disparities”
 Role: PI
 CHF 165,000 Total Costs

Institute for Museum and Library Services 2024-2027*

LG-256658-OLS-24: The Hatchlings project: Community-library partnerships to reduce childhood literacy inequities

Role: PI (Co-PIs: J. Ortiz, E. Bonsignore)

\$249,999 Total costs

Special Recognition: This proposal received a perfect score, 25/25

*Terminated administratively, April 2025; Reinstated by court injunction, May 2025

- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2024-2025
R00 HD103873-S2: “Administrative supplement for continuity of biomedical and behavioral research among first-time recipients of NIH research project grant awards”
Role: PI
\$97,594 Total Costs
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2023-2025*
R00 HD103873-S1: “Research supplement to support diversity”
Role: PI and Mentor to Postdoctoral Fellow Alexis Ramirez
\$232,089 Total Costs
*Terminated administratively, June 2025
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders** 2023-2028*
R25 DC021130: “Research Equity and Access in Communication and Hearing (UMD-REACH)”
Role: Co-PI & Mentor (PIs: M. Goupell & R. Newman)
\$1,274,461 Total Costs
*Terminated administratively, May 2025; Reinstated by court injunction, August 2025
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2022-2025
R00 HD103873: “Language input as a mechanism underlying socioeconomic disparities in neurocognitive development”
Role: PI
\$747,000 Total Costs
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2021-2022
K99 HD103873: “Language input as a mechanism underlying socioeconomic disparities in neurocognitive development”
Role: PI
\$255,416 Total Costs
- National Institute of Mental Health** 2018-2020
T32 MH112510: “Translational Post-doctoral Training in Neurodevelopment”
Role: Postdoctoral Trainee
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2016-2018
F31 HD086957: “Effects of linguistic input on the neural capacity for language development”
Role: PI
\$74,060 Total Costs
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders** 2012-2015
T32 DC000038: “Speech and hearing bioscience and technology: Training for multidisciplinary clinician-scientists”
Role: Predoctoral Trainee

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| The Thouron Award (UK) | 2011-2012 |
| “Examining social, cognitive, and neural contributions to childhood language disorders” | |
| Role: Fellow | |
| £36,625 Total Costs | |
| Fulbright Postgraduate Award (UK) | 2011-2012 |
| “Assessing eyetracking as tool for early diagnosis of atypical language development” | |
| Role: Fellow | |
| £20,000 Total Costs | |
| <i>Internal</i> | |
| UMD MPower Early Scholars Investment Fund | 2026 |
| “Promotive Experiences that Support Early Neurodevelopment and Learning” | |
| Role: PI | |
| \$50,000 Direct Costs | |
| UMD Brain Behavior Institute Seed Grant | 2025-2026 |
| “Computational Social Neuroscience in the Wild” | |
| Role: Co-PI (Co-PIs: E. Redcay, C. Charpentier, & P. Resnik) | |
| \$69,599 Direct Costs | |
| UMD College of Education Research-Practice Partnership Grant | 2024-2026 |
| “JUMP: The Judy Center + University of Maryland Partnership to support school readiness for low-income children” | |
| Role: PI | |
| \$20,000 Direct Costs | |
| UMD Faculty-Student Research Award | 2024-2025 |
| “Neurobiological bases of bilingualism on executive functioning: Perspectives from diverse languages and demographic backgrounds” | |
| Role: PI (Co-PI graduate student Gavkhar Abdurokhmonova) | |
| \$15,000 Direct Costs | |
| UMD Brain Behavior Institute Seed Grant | 2023 |
| “Toward an adaptive view of neural synchrony: Assessing moment-to-moment dynamics during caregiver-child brain-to-brain synchrony in majority-BIPOC low-SES dyads” | |
| Role: PI (Co-PIs: C. Metzler, E. Thompson) | |
| \$149,488 Direct Costs | |
| University of Maryland Grand Challenges Grant | 2023-2026 |
| “The Maryland Institute for Literacy and Equity (MILE)” | |
| Role: Co-PI (PI: D. Bolger) | |
| \$3,472,099 Direct Costs | |
| University of Maryland BSOS Dean’s Research Initiative | 2023-2024 |

“Developing a novel animated movie paradigm to facilitate functional magnetic resonance imaging in young children”

Role: M-PI (M-PI: T. Riggins)

\$20,000 Direct Costs

University of Maryland Grand Challenges Grant

2023-2025

“How does socioeconomic status interact with statistical learning to shape reading development?”

Role: Co-PI (PI: M. Wang)

\$150,000 Direct Costs

University of Maryland Support Program for Advancing Research Collaboration (SPARC)

2022-2025

“How bilingual exposure influences neurocognitive development in SES- diverse preschoolers”

Role: PI

\$15,000 Direct Costs

Harvard University Mind Brain Behavior Graduate Student Research Grant

2016

“Linking home audio recordings to neurocognitive performance”

Role: PI/Graduate researcher

\$7,400 Direct Costs

Benjamin Franklin Society Undergraduate Research Grant

2011

“Phonological development in children with sociodemographic variability”

Role: PI/Undergraduate researcher

\$500 Direct Costs

Mary & Matthew Santirocco College Alumni Society Undergraduate Research Grant

2010

“Phonological development in children with potential hearing impairments”

Role: PI/Undergraduate researcher

\$500 Direct Costs

Mentored Grants

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

2026-2029

F32 HD121256-01: “The Impact of Dynamic Fluctuations in Caregiver Stress on Children's Language Environments, Language Development, and School Readiness”

Role: Primary Sponsor (co-sponsor B. Kelleher) for PI Jennifer Markfeld

\$235,020 Total Costs

**Received 1st percentile on first submission*

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

2025-2028

F31 HD120062-01: “Neuro-cognitive trajectories of language and executive functioning co-development in early childhood”

Role: Primary Sponsor for PI Gavkhar Abdurokhmonova

\$152,803 Total Costs

**Received 3rd percentile on first submission*

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development 2024-2026**F31 HD117679-01**: “Development in the moment: Does caregiver sensitivity drive prefrontal cortex synchrony?”

Role: Primary Sponsor (co-sponsor E. Redcay) for PI Ellen Roche

\$97,371 Total Costs

Received 8th percentile on first submissionPending Grants Under Review (Selected)***National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** 2026-2028**R03HD123308-01**: “Investigating Pedagogical Questions as a Scaffold for Longitudinal Executive Functioning Development”

Role: MPI (MPI: L. Butler)

\$152,792 Total Requested

Dana Foundation, Neuroscience & Society (Education) 2027-2028

“Teachers as Scientists: Using Hands-On Neuroscience to Strengthen Evidence-Based Literacy Instruction”

Role: PI (Co-PI: H. Bowles)

\$150,000 Total Requested

Brady Educational Foundation 2027-2028

“Identifying Strengths-Based Preschool Language Experiences that Support Literacy Development in Socioeconomically and Linguistically Diverse Children”

Role: PI (Co-PI: A. Ramirez)

\$150,000 Total Requested

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development 2026-2028**K99HD119306-01**: “Investigating the longitudinal relationships between children's code-switching exposure, language abilities, and executive functioning”

Role: Primary Sponsor for PI Alexis Ramirez (co-sponsor C. Lew-Williams)

\$246,512 Total Requested

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development 2026-2031**1R01HD122829-01**: “How noise in the home environment impacts children's development”

Role: Co-PI (PI: R. Newman)

\$3,620,237 Total Requested

JOURNAL ARTICLES**Student/trainee, †Special recognition, ‡Co-first/senior authorship, Underline = Senior author**Published or In Press*

43. *Terry, V.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, & Rosen, M.L. (2026). Optimal brain development is context-dependent: How socioeconomic status moderates brain-behavior relationships in

- cognitive and academic development. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, 186(7), 106683. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neubiorev.2026.106683>
42. Jones Harden, B., Martoccio, T., Shin, S.Y., Berlin, L., Ramirez, A., **Romeo, R.**, & Ratner, N.B. (*in press*). Improving toddlers' expressive language skills through attachment-based intervention: A randomized controlled trial with low-income Latine families. *Child Development*.
 41. *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., *McDorman, S.A., *Ramirez, A.G., Merchant, J.S., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2026). Parallel contributions of socioeconomic status and bilingual experience on executive function and the brain in young children. *Brain and Language*, 276, 105737. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandl.2026.105737>.
 40. *Simmons, A.S., *Abdurokhmonova, G., Taylor-Robinette, E.K., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2026). Developing best practices for inclusion in fNIRS research: Equity for participants with Afro-textured hair. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 68(2), e70134. <https://doi.org/10.1002/dev.70134>
 39. Ozernov-Palchik, O., O'Brien, A.M., Lee, E.J., Richardson, H., **Romeo, R.R.**, Lipkin, B., Small, H., Capella, J., Nieto-Castañón, A., Saxe, R., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Fedorenko, E. (*in press*). Precision fMRI reveals that the language network exhibits adult-like left-hemispheric lateralization by 4 years of age. *Nature Neuroscience*.
 38. *Shariq, D., **Romeo, R. R.**, Gard A. M. (2026). Cognitive resilience and vulnerability to socioeconomic disadvantage: Predictors across individual, family, school, and neighborhood contexts. *Developmental Science*, 29, e70105. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.70105>
 37. Kral A., Fleming-Shemer, L., O'Donoghue, G.M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Sensorimotor contingencies in congenital hearing loss: The critical first nine months. *Hearing Research*, 467, 109401. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heares.2025.109401>
 36. Decker, A., †**Romeo, R.R.**, †Leonard, J., Itiat, J., Hubbard, N., Bauer, C., Imhof, A., Giebler, M., Grotzinger, H., Camacho Torres, Y., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2025). Exploration is associated with socioeconomic disparities in learning and academic achievement in adolescence. *Nature Communications*, 16(6342). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-61746-6>
 35. Rosen, M.L., Rakesh, D., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). The role of socioeconomic status in shaping associations between sensory association cortex and prefrontal structure and implications for executive function. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 73, 101550. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2025.101550>
 34. *Ren, J., Wang, M., Zhang, X, **Romeo, R.**, & Arciuli, J. (2025). Statistical learning as a buffer: Investigating its impact on the link between socioeconomic status, home literacy environment, and reading achievement. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 253, 106201. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2025.106201>
 33. *Roche, E.C., Redcay, E., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Caregiver-child neural synchrony: Magic, mirage, or mechanism? *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 71, 101482 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2024.101482>

32. Cychosz, M., **Romeo, R.R.**, Edwards, J., & Newman, R.S. (2025). Bursty, irregular speech input to children predicts vocabulary size. *Developmental Science*, 28, e13590. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/desc.13590>
31. *McDorman, S.A., Gilmer, M., *Taylor, E.K., *Terry, V., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Parent-child relationships support executive functioning and socioemotional development in contexts of low SES and family chaos. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 250, 106123. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2024.106123>
30. *McDorman, S.A., *Taylor, E.K., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). A review of models of risk and resilience in child development. *Advances in Child Development and Behavior*, 67. <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.acdb.2024.06.005>
29. Treves, I.N., Marusak, H., Decker, A., Kucyi, A., Hubbard, N., Bauer, C., Leonard, J., Grotzinger, H., Giebler, M.A., Camacho Torres, Y., Imhof, A., **Romeo, R.**, Calhoun, V., Gabrieli, J. (2024). Dynamic functional connectivity correlates of trait mindfulness in early adolescence. *Biological Psychiatry: Global Open Science*, 4(6), 100367. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpsgos.2024.100367>
28. Casillas, M., Ferjan Ramírez, N., Leong, V., **Romeo, R.** (2024). Becoming a conversationalist: Questions, challenges, and new directions in the study of child interactional development. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 76, 101956. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2024.101956>
27. Potenza, M.N., Hutton, J.S., Taylor Piotrowski, J., Bagot, K., Blumberg, F., Canli, T., Chein, J., Christakis, D.A., Grafman, J., Griffin, J.A., Hummer, T., Kuss, D., Lerner, M., Marcovitch, S., Paulus, M.P., Perlman, G., **Romeo, R.R.**, Thomason, M.E., Turel, O., Weinstein, A., West, G., & Hurst-Della Pietra, P. (2024) Digital media and developing brains: Concerns and Opportunities. *Current Addiction Reports*, 11, 287–298. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40429-024-00545-3>
26. *Decker, A., Meisler, S.L., Hubbard, N., Bauer, C., Leonard, J., Imhof, A., Giebler, M., Grotzinger, H., Camacho Torres, Y., **Romeo, R.R.**,[‡] & Gabrieli, J.D.E.[‡] (2024). Striatal and behavioral responses to reward vary by socioeconomic status in adolescents. *Journal of Neuroscience*, e1633232023. <https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1633-23.2023>
25. Cychosz, M., Edwards, J., Munson, B., **Romeo, R.R.**, Kosie, J.E., & Newman, R. (2024). The everyday speech environments of preschoolers with and without cochlear implants. *Journal of Child Language*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0305000924000023>
24. **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Considering intersectionality and interacting levels of early intervention on early brain development – a commentary on Nelson et al. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 65(4), 456-458. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13936>
23. *Alonso, A., *McDorman, S.A., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Neural connections: How brain-to-brain synchrony during parent-child interactions can inform the study of child development. *Child Development Perspectives*, 18, 26–35. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdep.12494>
22. Marks, R.A., Pollack, C., Meisler, S.L., D’Mello, A.M., Centanni, T.M., **Romeo, R.R.**, Wade, K., Matejko, A.A., Ansari, D., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Christodoulou, J.A. (2023). Neurocognitive mechanisms of co-occurring math difficulties in dyslexia: Differences in

- executive function and visuospatial processing. *Developmental Science*, 27(2), e13443. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13443>
21. *Carolus, A.E., McLaughlin, K.A., Lengua, L.J., Rowe, M.L., Sheridan, M.A., Zalewski, M., Moran, L., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Conversation disruptions in early childhood predict executive functioning development: A longitudinal study. *Developmental Science*, 27(1), e13414. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13414>
 20. *Taylor, E., *Abdurokhmonova, G., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Socioeconomic Status and Reading Development: Moving from “Deficit” to “Adaptation” in Neurobiological Models of Experience-Dependent Learning. *Mind, Brain, and Education*, 17, 324-333. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mbe.12351>
 19. **Romeo, R.R.**, Pezanowski, R., Merrill, K., Hargrave, S., & Hansen, A. (2022). Parent and staff perspectives on the benefits and barriers to communication with infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). *Journal of Child Healthcare*, 27(3), 410-423. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13674935221076216>
 18. **Romeo, R.R.**, Perrachione, T.K., Olson, H.O., Halverson, K.K., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Christodoulou, J.A. (2022). Socioeconomic dissociations in the neural and cognitive bases of reading disorders. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 58(101175). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2022.101175>
 17. **Romeo, R.R.**, *Uchida, L., & Christodoulou, J.A. (2022). Socioeconomic status and reading outcomes: Neurocognitive and behavioral correlates. *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*, 2022(52-70). <https://doi.org/10.1002/cad.20475>
 16. **Romeo, R.R.**, Flournoy, J.C., McLaughlin, K.A., & Lengua, L.J. (2022). Language development as a mechanism linking socioeconomic status to executive functioning development in preschool. *Developmental Science*, e13227. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13227>
 15. Al Dahhan, N.Z., Halverson, K., Peek, C., Wilmot, D., D’Mello, A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Meegoda, O., Imhof, A., Wade, K., Sridha, A., Falke, E., Centanni, T.M., Gabrieli, J.D.E., Christodoulou, J.A. (2022). Dissociating executive function and ADHD influences on reading ability in children with dyslexia. *Cortex*, 153, 126-142. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cortex.2022.03.025>
 14. Pollack, C., Wilmot, D., Centanni T., Halverson K., Frosch I., D’Mello A., **Romeo R.R.**, Imhof A., Capella J., Wade K., Al Dahhan, N. Z., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Christodoulou, J.A. (2021). Anxiety, motivation, and competence in mathematics and reading in children with and without learning difficulties. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12, 704821. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.704821>
 13. **Romeo, R.R.**[‡], Leonard, J.A.[‡], Scherer, E., Robinson, S.T., Takada, M., Mackey, A.P., West, M.R., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2021). Replication and extension of a family-based training program to improve cognitive abilities in young children. *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*, 14(4), 792-811. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2021.1931999>
 12. **Romeo, R.R.**, Choi, A.B., Gabard-Durnam, L.J., Wilkinson, C.L., Levin, A.R., Rowe, M.L., Tager-Flusberg, H., & Nelson, C.A. (2021). Parental language input predicts neurooscillatory patterns underlying language development in infants at risk of Autism.

Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 52, 2717-2731.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-021-05024-6>

11. **Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Grotzinger, H.M., Robinson, S.T., Takada, M., Mackey, A.P., Scherer, E., Rowe, M.L., West, M.R., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2021). Neuroplasticity associated with conversational turn-taking following a family-based intervention. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 49, 100967. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2021.100967>
10. Hubbard, N.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Grotzinger, H., Giebler, M., Imhoff, A., Bauer, C., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2020). Reward-sensitive basal ganglia stabilize the maintenance of goal-relevant neural patterns in adolescents. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*. 32(8), 1508-1524. https://doi.org/10.1162/jocn_a_01572
9. Cychosz, M., **Romeo, R.R.**, Soderstrom, M., Scaff, C.H., Ganek, H., Cristia, A., Casillas, M., de Barbaro, K., Bang, J., & Weisleder, A. (2020). Long form recordings of everyday life: Ethics for best practices. *Behavior Research Methods*, 52, 1951–1969. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-020-01365-9>
8. Guell, X., D’Mello, A., Hubbard, N., **Romeo, R.R.**, Gabrieli, J.D.E., Whitfield-Gabrieli, S., Schmahmann, J.D., & Anteraper, S.A. (2020). Functional territories of human dentate nucleus. *Cerebral Cortex*, 30(4), 2401-2417. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhz247>
7. **Romeo, R.R.** (2019). Socioeconomic and experiential influences on the neurobiology of language development. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups: Special Issue on the Neurobiology of Language Development and Disorders*. 4(6), 1229-1238. https://doi.org/10.1044/2019_PERSP-19-00073
6. Leonard, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Park, A.T., Takada, M., Robinson, S.T., Grotzinger, H., Finn, A.S., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Mackey, A.P. (2019). Associations between cortical thickness and reasoning vary by socioeconomic status in early childhood and adolescence. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 36(4), 100641. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2019.100641>
5. **Romeo, R.R.**, *Segaran, J., Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S., West, M.R., Mackey, A.P., Yendiki, A., Rowe, M.L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Language exposure relates to structural neural connectivity in childhood. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 38(36), 7870-7877. <https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0484-18.2018>
 - †Selected as cover article/illustration: www.jneurosci.org/content/38/36.cover-expansion
 - †Chosen as topic of student journal club: <https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.2895-18.2018>
4. **Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., West, M.R., Mackey, A.P., Rowe, M.L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Beyond the “30 million word gap:” Children’s conversational exposure is associated with language-related brain function. *Psychological Science*, 29(5), 700–710. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797617742725>
 - †Most cited article in *Psychological Science* published between 2018-2021.
3. **Romeo, R.R.**‡, Christodoulou, J.A‡, Halverson, K.K., Murtagh, J., Cyr, A.B., Schimmel, C., Chang, P., Hook, P.E., & Gabrieli J.D.E. (2017). Socioeconomic status and reading

- disability: Neuroanatomy and plasticity in response to intervention. *Cerebral Cortex*, 28(7), 2297-2312. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhx131>
2. Tuomainen, O., Hazan, V., & **Romeo, R.** (2016). Do talkers produce less dispersed phoneme categories in a clear speaking style? *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 140(4), EL320. <https://doi.org/10.1121/1.4964815>
 1. **Romeo R.**, Hazan V., & Pettinato M. (2013). Developmental and gender-related trends of intra-talker variability in consonant production. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 134(5), 3781 - 3792. <https://doi.org/10.1121/1.4824160>

Under Review: Revision Invited

2. **Romeo, R.R.**, Kalluri, N.S., Young, V., Kinlay, S.H., Kerper, R., Hansen, A.R. Language Environments of Infants in the NICU Improve after a Brief Parent Education Intervention. *Journal of Perinatology*.
1. *Ramirez, A.G., Shin, S., Jones Harden, B., Martoccio, T. L., Berlin, L.J., & **Romeo, R. R.** Investigating education and psychosocial factors as predictors of maternal speech among low-income Latine families. *Journal of Child Language*.

Under Review: Initial Submission

1. *McDorman, S.A., Alonso, A., Chen, Y., Luken Raz, K., Gard, A., & **Romeo, R.R.** Profiles of school readiness resilience among ECLS-K:2011 kindergarteners exposed to socioeconomic risk. *Educational Researcher*.

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

*Student/trainee, †Special recognition, ‡ Co-first authorship, Underline = Senior author

5. Cychosz, M., Newman, R., Munson, B., **Romeo, R.**, Kosie, J., Edwards, J. (2023). The everyday speech environments of preschoolers with and without cochlear implants. In: R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.) Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences – ICPHS 2023 (pp. 3171-3175). *International Phonetic Association*. https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/icphs-proceedings/ICPhS2023/full_papers/276.pdf
4. *Carolus, A.E., Rowe, M.L., Sheridan, M.A., Lengua, L.J., McLaughlin, K.A. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Conversation disruptions in early childhood longitudinally predict receptive language development. *Proceedings of the 47th Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Cascadilla Press. <https://www.lingref.com/buclid/47/BUCLD47-07.pdf>
3. *Kulawska, K., Rowe, M.L., McLaughlin, K.A., Lengua, L.J., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Does conversational context influence SES associations with language input and language development? *Proceedings of the 47th Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Cascadilla Press. <https://www.lingref.com/buclid/47/BUCLD47-37.pdf>

2. *Kim, G.K., *Abdurokhmonova, G.A., Rowe, M.L., McLaughlin, K.A., Lengua, L.J., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). The role of conversational semantic contingency on children's language development across socioeconomic backgrounds. *Proceedings of the 47th Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Cascadilla Press.
<https://www.lingref.com/buclid/47/BUCLD47-35.pdf>
1. Hazan, V., **Romeo, R.**, & Pettinato, M. (2013). The impact of variation in phoneme category structure on consonant intelligibility. *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics*, 19(1), 060103. <https://doi.org/10.1121/1.4800618>

INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS

5. Alper, M., Alcorn, A.M., Harrison, K., Manganello, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Digital media and neurodevelopmental differences. In D. Christakis & L. Hale (Eds.), *Children and screens: A handbook on digital media and the development, health, and well-being of children and adolescents*. Springer.
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-69362-5.pdf#page=87>
4. **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). The neuroscience of early literacy development. In S. Cabell, S. Neuman, & N. Patton Terry (Eds.) *Handbook on the Science of Early Literacy*, 2nd edition. New York, NY: Guilford Press.
<https://www.guilford.com/books/Handbook-on-the-Science-of-Early-Literacy/Cabell-Neuman-Terry/9781462555024>
3. Rowe, M.L., **Romeo, R.R.**, & Leech, K.A. (2023). Early environmental influences on language. In S. Cabell, S. Neuman, & N. Patton Terry (Eds.) *Handbook on the Science of Early Literacy*, 2nd edition. New York, NY: Guilford Press.
<https://www.guilford.com/books/Handbook-on-the-Science-of-Early-Literacy/Cabell-Neuman-Terry/9781462555024>
2. **Romeo, R.R.**, & Christodoulou, J.A. (2022). How neuroscience can help overcome adversity in education. In A. Holliman & K. Sheehy (Eds.), *Overcoming Adversity in Education*. Abington, UK: Taylor & Francis.
<https://www.routledge.com/Overcoming-Adversity-in-Education/Holliman-Sheehy/p/book/9781032017785>
1. **Romeo, R.R.**, Imhof, A., Bhatia, P., Christodoulou, J.A. (2019). Relationships between socioeconomic status and reading development: Cognitive outcomes and neural mechanisms. In S.J. Lipina & M.S. Segretin (Eds.), *Neuroscientific Perspectives on Poverty* (pp. 153-182). Erice, Italy: CLASCO. <http://www.mbe-erice.org/publications.php>

ORAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*Student/trainee, †Special recognition, ‡ Co-first authorship, Underline = Senior author

Romeo, R. R., Kalluri, N. S., Young, V., Kerper, R., Kinlay, S. H., Pezanowski, R., Merrill-Olver, K., & Hansen, A. R. (2026, July). A sequential mixed methods, community-engaged approach to enhancing parent-infant communication in the NICU. In E. K. Taylor-Robinette (Chair), Community-engaged research focused on infant and

- perinatal populations [Symposium]. *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Panama City, Panama.
- *Taylor-Robinette, E. K., *Wolff, C. M., Sanders, C., Diamant-Cohen, B., Ortiz, J. A., Bonsignore, E., Turner, J. D., & **Romeo, R. R.** (2026, July). *Hatchlings - Community-library partnerships to reduce childhood literacy inequities: A qualitative investigation*. In E. K. Taylor-Robinette (Chair), *Community-engaged research focused on infant and perinatal populations* [Symposium]. International Congress of Infant Studies, Panama City, Panama.
- Romeo, R. R.**, Kalluri, N. S., Young, V., Kerper, R., Kinlay, S. H., Pezanowski, R., Merrill-Oliver, K., & Hansen, A. R. (2026). Language Environments of Infants in the NICU Improve after a Brief Parent Education Intervention. *Pediatric Academic Society*, Boston, MA. (presenting author: A.R. Hansen)
- *Ramirez, A. G., *McDorman, S. A., *Abdurokhmonova, G., & **Romeo, R. R.** (2025). Disentangling the relation between conversational turns and children's talkativeness. In A. G. Ramirez (Chair), *Methodological insights for analyzing children's diverse language environments with daylong audio recordings*. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Deficit, Difference, or Diversity? My journey investigating children's language, experience, and development. Young Investigator Award talk at *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Baltimore, MD.
- *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Taylor, E.K., *McDorman, S.A., *Ramirez, A.R., Merchant, J.S., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Investigating whether bilingualism protects against low SES in the neural basis of executive functioning. In *G. Abdurokhmonova (symposium organizer), "Bilingual brains and education-related cognitive processes: Examinations across the lifespan." *International Mind, Brain, and Education Society*, Leuven, Belgium.
- Romeo, R.R.** & McCandliss, B.D. (2023) Symposium on "Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience in Real-World Educational Contexts: Opportunities and Challenges for crossing the 'Bridge Too Far.'" Moderated Symposium accepted to *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Santa Rosa, CA.
- Cychosz, M., Edwards, J., Munson, B., **Romeo, R.**, Kosie, J., Newman, R., (2023). The everyday speech environments of preschoolers with and without cochlear implants. *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Romeo, R.R.**, *Kulawska, K., *Carolus, A., Flournoy, J.C., McLaughlin, K.A., & Lengua, L.J. (2023). Different dimensions of language experience explain SES differences in language and executive function development. In J.E. Markfeld & **R.R. Romeo (symposium organizers)**, "Multidimensional predictors of language development: intersections between SES, stress, input, and executive functioning." *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- *McDorman, S.A., Gilmer, M., *Taylor, E.K., *Alexander, V., Leonard, J.A., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Parent-child relationships support executive functioning in contexts of low SES and family chaos. In *S. McDorman (symposium organizer), "Socioeconomically-diverse families contain multitudes: Strength-based approaches to cognitive development." *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.

- *Shariq, D., **Romeo, R.R.**, Kim, H.C., Fuchs, J.E., Gard., A.M. (2023) Profiles of domain-specific cognitive development in socioeconomically disadvantaged youth. In S. McDorman (symposium organizer), “Socioeconomically-diverse families contain multitudes: Strength-based approaches to cognitive development.” *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- *Carolus, A.E., Rowe, M.L., Sheridan, M.A., Lengua, L.J., McLaughlin, K.A. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2022). Conversation disruptions in early childhood longitudinally predict receptive language development. *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
- †Received a Diversity Travel Award and Highly Rated Abstract Award.
- Romeo, R.R.** (2022). “Optimal” brain development is context dependent: How SES moderates brain-behavior relationships for learning. Part of the Invited Symposium: “Neuro/Cognitive Research to Inform Neurodiverse Education.” *International Mind, Brain, and Education Society*, Montreal, Canada.
- †Received an Early Career Travel Award.
- Pollack, C., Wilmot, D., Centanni, T. M., Halverson, K., Frosch, I., D’Mello, A. M., **Romeo, R.**, Imhof, A., Capella, J., Wade, K., Al Dahhan, N. Z., Gabrieli, J. D. E., & Christodoulou, J. A. (2021). Anxiety, motivation, and ability in math and reading in children with and without learning difficulties. *European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction*, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Olson, H., Christodoulou, J.A, Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2021). Socioeconomic dissociations in the cognitive and neural correlates of reading disability. Part of the paper symposium: Relations among socioeconomic status, functional brain activity, and neurocognitive outcomes: Unified framework approaches. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Virtual.
- Imhof, A., Anderson, H., **Romeo R.R.**, Rowe, M.L., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Fausey, C. (2021). Talkative learning opportunities are nested within everyday activities. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Virtual.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Choi, A.B., Gabard-Durnam, L.J., Wilkinson, C.L., Levin, A.R., Rowe, M. L., Tager-Flusberg, H., Nelson, C.A. (2020). Parent input and the neural mechanisms of language development in infants at risk of Autism. *Many Paths to Language Conference*, Virtual.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., *Grotzinger, H., Robinson, S.T., Takada, M., *Segaran, J., Mackey, A.P., Rowe, M. L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Cortical plasticity associated with a parent-implemented language intervention. *Flux Congress*, New York, NY.
- †Received both the Jacobs Foundation Science of Learning Symposium award and the Postdoctoral Abstract Merit award.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., *Grotzinger, H., *Segaran, J., Mackey, A.P., Rowe, M. L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Cortical plasticity associated with a parent-implemented language intervention. *Society for the Neurobiology of Language*, Helsinki, Finland.
- †Selected for a Society Merit Award.

- Romeo, R.R.**, Christodoulou, J.A., Olson, H., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Socioeconomic dissociations in the neurocognitive profiles of dyslexia. *New England Research on Dyslexia Society*, Boston, MA.
- Leonard, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Park, A.T., Takada, M.E., Robinson, S.T., Grotzinger, H., Last, B.S., Finn, A.S., Gabrieli, J.D.E., Mackey, A.P., (2019). The neural correlates of reasoning differ by socioeconomic status in development. Part of the paper symposium: "Socioeconomic status, brain, and cognitive development: Environmental mechanisms and individual differences." *Society for Research in Child Development*, Baltimore, MD.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Rowe, M.L., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Neural plasticity associated with a parent-implemented language intervention. In **R.R. Romeo (symposium organizer)**, "Varying approaches to early language interventions for lower-SES families." *Boston University Conference on Child Language Development*, Boston, MA.
- Romeo, R.R.** (2018). Socioeconomic influences on language and literacy development. *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*, Boston, MA.
- D'Mello A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Cerebellar contributions to children's language processing. In nanosymposium: Human cognition and behavior: Neurocognitive development. *Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Rowe, M.L., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Structural and functional neural mechanisms underlying the relationship between children's language exposure and their linguistic abilities. *Many Paths to Language Workshop*. Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
- Christodoulou, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Cyr, A., Halverson, K., Murtagh, J., Chang, P., Hook, P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Neurocognitive correlates of treatment response in children with dyslexia across SES. *Society for the Scientific Study of Reading*, Nova Scotia, Canada.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Rowe, M.L., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Children's language exposure predicts neural structure and function during language processing, independent of SES. Part of the paper symposium: "Advances in neuroimaging research paradigms and techniques in the study of development." *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Leonard, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Robinson, S.T., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Predicting and intervening on cognitive outcomes in young children. Part of the paper symposium: Interaction of executive function and knowledge in the preschool years. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Christodoulou, J.A., Cyr, A. B., Halverson, K. K., Murtagh, J., Chang, P., Hook, P.E., & Gabrieli J.D.E. (2015). Children's socioeconomic status influences their response to reading intervention. *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*, Denver, CO.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Christodoulou, J.A., Cyr, A. B., Halverson, K. K., Murtagh, J., Chang, P., Mackey, A.P., Hook, P.E., Gabrieli J.D.E. (2015). Impact of SES on brain and behavior in children with dyslexia receiving intervention. *Society for the Scientific Study of Reading*, Kona, HI.

Romeo, R.R., & Swingley, D. (2015). Word recognition, phonological specificity, and SES: a longitudinal word-recognition study of toddlers. Part of the paper symposium: SES and infant language development: Four longitudinal studies. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.

Hazan, V., **Romeo, R.**, Pettinato, M. (2013). The impact of variation in phoneme category structure on consonant intelligibility. Part of the invited session: “Variability in speech intelligibility: Behavioral and neural perspectives.” *International Congress on Acoustics and The Acoustical Society of America*, Montreal, Canada.

POSTER CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*Student/trainee, †Special recognition, ‡ Co-first authorship, Underline = Senior author

*Rojas, P., *Ramirez, A.G., *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2026). *Bilingual advantage in theory of mind: Relation to immigration generation*. American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

*Smith, C., *Mortimer, A., & **Romeo, R.** (2026). *Parental co-viewing as a moderator of screen time in preschool cognition*. American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

*Abdurokhmonova G., Mortimer, A., Pecukonis, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Investigating bilingual advantage in selective attention activation from early childhood to adolescence: A museum-based fNIRS study. *Social Dynamics Workshop*, Utrecht, Netherlands.

*Abdurokhmonova G., Mortimer, A., Pecukonis, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Investigating bilingual advantage in selective attention activation from early childhood to adolescence: A museum-based fNIRS study. *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*, Boston, MA.

Ramirez, A.G., Shin, S., Jones Harden, B., Martoccio, T.L., Berlin, L.J., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Investigating education and psychosocial factors as predictors of maternal speech among low-income Latinx families. *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*, Boston, MA.

*Abdurokhmonova G., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Does structural neural connectivity mediate the relationship between early bilingual exposure and language/executive function outcomes in young children? A DTI study. *Society for the Neurobiology of Language*, Washington, DC.

*Abdurokhmonova G., *Nam, S., *Roche, E. C., Peckukonis, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Investigating Bilingual Advantage in Selective Attention Activation From Early Childhood to Adolescence: A Museum-Based fNIRS Study. *Fetal, Infant & Toddler Neuroimaging Group (FIT'NG)*, Dublin, IE.

*Abdurokhmonova G., *Nam, S., *Roche, E. C., Peckukonis, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Investigating Bilingual Advantage in Selective Attention Activation From Early Childhood to Adolescence: A Museum-Based fNIRS Study. *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Dublin, IE.

*Abdurokhmonova G., Mortimer, A., Pecukonis, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Do children’s bilingual experiences modulate language network activation during selective attention? A museum-based fNIRS study. *Society for fNIRS*, St. Louis, MO.

- *Roche, E.C., Rocha-Hidalgo, *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., *Abdurokhmonova, G., Redcay, E., **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). *Inclusion of Black Families in fNIRS Hyperscanning Study*. Poster presented at Mind & Life Summer Research Institute, Garrison, NY.
- *Ramirez, A.G., *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., *McDorman, S.A., *Roche, E.C., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Parent attitudes toward bilingualism may differ according to contextual factors. *The Harmonious Bilingualism Network (HaBilNet)*, San Sebastián, Spain.
- *Abdurokhmonova G. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Do children's bilingual experiences modulate language network activation during selective attention? A museum-based fNIRS study. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., *Egerton, M.M., *Abdurokhmonova, G., *McDorman, S.A., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Considering context in early childhood sleep, stress, self-regulation, and structural brain development. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- *Zapletina, O., Butler, L.P., **Romeo, R.R.** (2025) Parents' questions to children vary by SES and child age. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- *McDorman, S.A., Imhof, A., *Ramirez, A.G., *Taylor-Robinette, E.K., *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Roche, E.C., *Arce-Reed, T., *Kaur, N. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Examining the validity of caregiver-child conversational turns across lab-based and naturalistic settings. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- Shin, S.Y., *Ramirez, A.G., Martoccio, T.M., **Romeo, R.R.**, Berlin, L., & Jones Harden, B. (2025). Maternal acculturation and language input jointly predict child language use in Spanish-speaking immigrant families. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*, Minneapolis, MN.
- *Roche, E., Redcay, E., **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). Real-time social and affective predictors of caregiver-child prefrontal cortex synchrony. *Social And Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS)*, Chicago, IL.
- Taylor-Robinette, E., Sanders, C., Diamant-Cohen, B., **Romeo, R.R.** (2025). The Hatchlings project: Community-library Partnerships to reduce inequities in childhood literacy. *International Society of Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP)*, Chicago, IL.
- Decker, A. Leonard, J., **Romeo, R.**, & Gabrieli, J. (2024). Exploration is associated with socioeconomic disparities in learning and academic achievement in adolescents. *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Baltimore, MD.
- *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Ramirez, A., *Rosales-Lima, F., *Ostria, N., *Egerton, M., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Is the Language Network left-Lateralized? Associations between Hemispheric Lateralization and Quantified Amount of Bilingual Exposure in Young Children. *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Baltimore, MD.
- *Roche, E., *Simmons, A., *Taylor-Robinette, E., *Abdurokhmonova, A., *Haralanova, A., Thompson, E., *Terry, V., *Sall, F., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Maybe it's scientists who are "hard to reach": Lessons learned from a year of collecting racially and socioeconomically

- inclusive two-brain fNIRS data in local childcare centers and schools. *Flux Congress (Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society)*, Baltimore, MD.
- *Abdurokhmonova, G., Taylor-Robinette, E.K., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Exploring how burstiness of caregiver language input is associated with language-related brain activation in young children. *Fetal, Infant & Toddler Neuroimaging Group (FIT'NG)*, Baltimore, MD.
- *Roche, E.C., *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Taylor, E.K., *Simmons, A., *Haralanova, A., *Terry, V.A. **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Brain science in a suitcase: Practical takeaways from six school partnerships in one year. *International Mind, Brain, and Education Society*, Leuven, Belgium.
- *McDorman, S.A., Chen, Y., Alonso, A., Luken Raz, K., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Living with socioeconomic risk: Contextual differences among the academic resilience profiles of U.S. first graders. *International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development*, Lisbon, Portugal.
- *McDorman, S.A., Imhof, A., *Ramirez, A.G., *Taylor, E.K., *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Roche, E.C., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2024). Contextual moderators of caregiver-child conversational turns across lab-based and naturalistic settings. *International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development*, Lisbon, Portugal.
- *Ramirez, A.G., Shin, S., Jones Harden, B., Martoccio, T. L., Berlin, L.J., & **Romeo, R. R.** (2024). Exploring how proximal factors may relate to differences in maternal speech with bilingual families. *Cognitive Development Society*, Pasadena, CA.
- Cychosz, M., Edwards, J., Munson, B., **Romeo, R.**, Kosie, J., Newman, R., (2023). Using naturalistic language samples to understand the link between language input and speech-language development in preschoolers with cochlear implants. *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
- *Taylor, E.K. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Initiating Community-Engaged Research Projects with Child-Focused Partners: Reflections for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscientists. *Fetal, Infant, and Toddler Neuroimaging Group (FIT'NG) Conference*, Santa Rosa, CA.
- *Simmons, A., *Taylor, E.K., *Abdurokhmonova, G., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Developing Best Practices for Inclusion in Pediatric fNIRS Research: Equity for Participants with Afro-Textured Hair. *Flux: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Santa Rosa, CA.
- †Received Best Poster Award
- *Taylor, E.K., *McDorman, S.A., *Abdurokhmonova, G., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Effects of Sleep & Stress on Early Childhood Structural Brain Development & Self-Regulation. *Flux: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Santa Rosa, CA.
- *Abdurokhmonova, G., *Taylor, E.K., *McDorman, S.A., Merchant, J.S., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Does bilingual exposure protect against the effects of SES on selective auditory attention? An fMRI study in 4-6-year-old children. *Flux: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Santa Rosa, CA.

- Rosen, M.L., Rakesh, D., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). The role of socioeconomic status in shaping associations between sensory association cortex and prefrontal structure and implications for executive function. *Flux: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Santa Rosa, CA.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Rowe, M.L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2023). Relationships between family/household environments and turn-taking intervention effectiveness. BWG Research Network's pre-conference symposium on Research Focused on Promoting Equity in Children's Language Experience. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- *Taylor, E. & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). Advocating for an increasingly representative and community-engaged model of developmental science: A structured review. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- *McDorman, A., Gilmer, M., *Taylor, E.K., *Alexander, V., Leonard, J.A., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2023). With infinite affection: Caregiving as protective of children's social-emotional skills against household chaos or low SES. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- *Shariq, D., **Romeo, R.R.**, Kim, H.C., Fuchs, J.E., Gard., A.M. (2022). Profiles of domain-specific cognitive development in socioeconomically disadvantaged youth. *International Society for Developmental Psychobiology*, San Diego, CA.
- *Kulawska, K., Rowe, M.L., McLaughlin, K.A., Lengua, L.J., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2022). Does conversational context influence SES associations with language input and language development? *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
- *Kim, G.K., Rowe, M.L., McLaughlin, K.A., Lengua, L.J., & **Romeo, R.R.** (2022). The role of conversational semantic contingency on children's language development across socioeconomic backgrounds. *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
- *Carolus, A.E., Sheridan, M.A., Lengua, L.J., McLaughlin, K.A., **Romeo, R.R.** (2022). Do conversation disruptions in early childhood predict executive functioning and externalizing psychopathology? *Flux Congress*, Paris, France.
- *Rosenberg, A., Lengua, L.J., Sheridan, M.A., McLaughlin, K.A., **Romeo, R.R.** (2022). Influence of mothers' behavioral and emotion regulation strategies on children's risk for psychopathology by early adolescence. *Society for Affective Science*, Virtual.
- Romeo, R.R.**,[‡] Rosen, M.L.,[‡] & McLaughlin, K.A. (2021). The moderating role of parental scaffolding in relationships between low socioeconomic status and development of executive function: A preregistered longitudinal study. *Flux Congress*, Virtual.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Olson, H., Christodoulou, J.A., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2021). Socioeconomic dissociations in the cognitive and neural correlates of reading disability. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Virtual.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Choi, A.B., Gabard-Durnam, L.J., Wilkinson, C.L., Levin, A.R., Rowe, M. L., Tager-Flusberg, H., & Nelson, C.A. (2020). Parent input and the neural mechanisms of language development in infants at risk of Autism. *Flux Congress*, Virtual.

- *Grotzinger, H., **Romeo, R.R.**, *Giebler, M., Imhof, A., D’Mello, A., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Cerebellar language lateralization in bilingual and monolingual children and adolescents. *Flux Congress*, New York, NY.
- *Valencia, V., **Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Rowe, M. L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Hablamos ambos (We speak both): Relationship between primary language use and lexical diversity in bilingual families. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Baltimore, MD.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., *Segaran, J., Mackey, A.P., Rowe, M. L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2019). Structural and functional neural correlates of language experience in children from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Invited poster presentation in “Taking on the challenge: Re-evaluating the word gap and examining promising interventions for promoting young children’s language.” *Society for Research in Child Development*, Baltimore, MD.
- Wilmot, D., D’Mello, A. M., **Romeo, R.R.**, Peek, C., Meegoda, O., Centanni, T., Halverson, K., Gabrieli, J.D.E., Christodoulou, J.A. (2018). Neural correlates of phonological processing in dyslexia and comorbid dyslexia-ADHD. *Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA.
- Meegoda, O., DeNovi, N., Pennebaker, M., Halverson, K., **Romeo, R.R.**, Imhof, A., Wilmot, D., Centanni, T., Gabrieli, J.D.E., Christodoulou, J.A. (2018). Reading miscue analysis in children with dyslexia, comorbid dyslexia/ADHD, & typical reading skills. *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*, Boston, MA.
- Imhof, A., D’Mello, A., Halverson, K., Wilmot, D., **Romeo, R.R.**, Frosch, I., Sridhar, A., Gabrieli, J.D.E., Christodoulou, J.A. (2018). Examining rates of comorbidity in Dyslexia, Dyscalculia & ADHD. *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*, Boston, MA.
- Mesite, L., Bhatia, P., **Romeo, R.R.**, Gabrieli, J.D.E., Christodoulou, J.A. (2018). Exploring relationships between socioeconomic status & reading skills in children with & without reading difficulties. *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*, Boston, MA.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Segaran, J., Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Mackey, A.P., Yendiki, A., Rowe, M. L., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Neural correlates of the “30-million word gap”: Children’s language exposure is related to white matter structure. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Boston, MA.
- †Award for the highest rated submission in the “Developmental” category.
- Leonard, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Park, A. T., Takada, M., Robinson, S.T., Gabrieli, J.D.E., & Mackey, A.P. (2018). Associations between cortical thickness and reasoning vary by socioeconomic status in early childhood. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, Boston, MA.
- Romeo, R.R.**, Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Rowe, M. L., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Language exposure is associated with the cortical thickness of young, low-SES children. *Society for the Neurobiology of Language*, Baltimore, MD.
- †Also invited for Flash Talk.
- Christodoulou, J. C., **Romeo, R.R.** Halverson, K., Cyr, A., Murtagh, J., Chang, P, Mackey, A.P., Hook, P. E., Gabrieli J.D.E. (2017). Individual differences in intervention response: Socioeconomic status and reading disability as predictors. *Association for Psychological Science*, Boston, MA.

Takada, M. E., Leonard, J.A., **Romeo, R.R.**, Robinson, S.T., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2017). Cognitive and neural correlates of mathematical reasoning across math proficiency levels. *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.

Romeo, R.R., Leonard, J.A., Robinson, S.T., Segaran, J., Rowe, M.L., Mackey, A.P., Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2016). Children's language exposure predicts neural activation during language processing. *Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA.

†Selected as a “hot topic” – top 5% of all abstracts deemed newsworthy by peer review.

INVITED TALKS

- 6/10/26 NIRx Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy Workshop, Keynote, Washington DC.
- 3/25/26 Terrapin Ed (TED) Talks, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- 2/25/26 Human Development Colloquium, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- 10/30/25 Neuroscience Seminar Series, St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, MD.
- 5/8/25 Center for Neuroscience & Society at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- 4/2/25 Psychology Department Colloquium, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore MD.
- 3/12/25 Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Neurosciences Colloquium, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.
- 2/19/25 Applied Developmental Psychology Colloquium, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.
- 12/3/24 Institute of Child Development Colloquium, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.
- 9/28/24 Flux Society Young Investigator Award Address, Baltimore, MD.
- 4/17/24 Center for Childhood Deafness, Language, and Learning, Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha, NE.
- 2/26/24 Communication Sciences & Disorders Research Roundtable, University of Delaware.
- 1/24/24 Center for Healthy Brain Development, University of Virginia.
- 11/6/23 Center for Cognitive and Brain Health Colloquium, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
- 10/6/23 Prince George's County Public Schools Professional Development, Prince George's County Maryland.
- 4/13/23 Hannover Medical School and Cluster of Excellence Hearing4All, session on Early Social Interaction in Prelingually Deaf Children, Hannover, Germany.

- 3/22/23 BWG Research Network's Symposium on Research Focused on Promoting Equity in Children's Early Language Experience, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 3/11/23 Human Sentence Processing Conference, invited panel "How Language Processing Research Can Inform Literacy and Education," Pittsburgh, PA.
- 9/30/22 Keynote at Speech and Hearing Bioscience and Technology PhD program 30th Anniversary Alumni event, Boston, MA.
- 9/21/22 NIH Workshop on "Reframing the word gap: Equity-based approaches to supporting early language development," Virtual.
- 9/9/22 Combatting LGBTQIA+ Discrimination in Access and Opportunity, Flux Society, Paris, France.
- 8/12/22 Socioeconomic Status Neuroscience Network workshop, Virtual.
- 7/12/22 Baby and Child Research Centre Colloquium, Radboud University & Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands.
- 6/13/22 The Dyslexia Foundation, Extraordinary Brain Symposium on "Executive Functioning and Reading," Bermuda.
- 5/26/22 Maryland Summit on *Literacy and Equity in the 21st Century: Closing the Opportunity Gap*, Virtual.
- 3/11/22 National Institutes of Mental Health, Section on Development and Affective Neuroscience, Bethesda, MA.
- 1/7/22 The Barksdale Reading Institute, Jackson, MS.
- 10/15/21 & 2/11/22 The Dyslexia Foundation conference on "Dyslexia, literacy, & vulnerable student populations: The science, policy, and culturally responsive practice," Virtual.
- 9/10/21 Cognitive Neuroscience Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.
- 9/3/21 Norton Child Neurology Grand Rounds, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, KY.
- 8/26/21 Infant Brain Imaging Study Language Workgroup, Virtual.
- 5/11/21 Translational Neuroscience Center Seminar, Boston Children's Hospital, MA.
- 4/13/21 Careers in Neuroscience, Simmons University, Boston, MA.
- 11/25/20 Royal Holloway Department of Psychology Colloquium, University of London.
- 9/2/20 Digital Salon: Closing the Opportunity Gap from Language to Reading, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- 6/22/20 The Dyslexia Foundation, Extraordinary Brain Symposium on "Dyslexia in Vulnerable Student Populations: Leading for Change, Guayaquil, Ecuador (Cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 4/17/20 Experimental Methods in Language Acquisition Research, Utrecht, Netherlands (Cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2/5/20 University of Connecticut, Psychological Sciences Colloquium, Storrs, CT.

- 1/30/20 University of Maryland, Dept of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology Colloquium, College Park, MD.
- 1/22/20 Boston University, Dept of Speech Language and Hearing Sciences Colloquium, Boston, MA.
- 1/13/20 Carnegie Mellon University, Dept of Psychology Colloquium, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 1/8/20 Speech Pathology Grand Rounds, Boston Children's Hospital, Waltham, MA.
- 11/26/19 Kennedy Krieger Institute, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.
- 10/7/2019 University of Oregon, Center for Translational Neuroscience, Eugene, OR.
- 7/10/2019, Neuroscience of Reading Summer Institute, Cambridge, MA.
& 6/27/2018, 7/19/2017
- 6/4/2019 Science of Reading: Bridging the Classroom Gap. MIT Integrated Learning Initiative, Cambridge, MA.
- 3/13/2019 University of Delaware, Joint Colloquiums in Education, Linguistics, and Communication Sciences and Disorders, Newark, DE.
- 2/28/2019 University of Chicago Department of Psychology Colloquium, Chicago, IL.
- 12/5/2018 University of Delaware Educational Neuroscience Colloquium, Newark, DE.
- 12/03/2018 Center for Autism Research Excellence, Boston University, Boston, MA.
- 11/15/2018 Department of Pediatrics, Chiefs' Grand Rounds, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA.
- 11/12/2018 Stanford University, Graduate School of Education Colloquium, Stanford, CA.
- 10/25/2018, LENA Foundation (webinar), Denver, CO.
3/29/2018
- 9/27/2018 The Hanen Centre (webinar), Toronto, ON.
- 7/25/2018 Campaign for Grade Level Reading, Philadelphia, PA.
- 6/26/2018 AARP Foundation Experience Corps Network (Keynote Address), Orange County, CA.
- 3/28/2018 Pediatric Hearing Loss Professionals (ASHA CEU course), Boston MA.
- 1/10/2018 Boston Children's Hospital Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience Colloquium, Boston MA.
- 9/29/2017 Landmark College Reading Symposium, Cambridge MA.

TEACHING

Instructor of Record

University of Maryland, College Park

EDHD488G: Wired to Change: Brain Plasticity in Human Development and Experience (Undergrad.) Spring 2026

EDHD775: Human Development and Neuroscience (Grad.) Spring 2022-2025

EDHD200: Paradigms and Perspectives in Human Development (Undergrad.) Fall 2022-2023

EDHD425: Language Development and Reading Acquisition (Undergrad.) Fall 2025
 *I was on teaching leave Fall 2024.

Boston University

SH524: Language Acquisition and Development (Undergraduate) Spring 2019, 2020

Teaching Fellow or Section Leader

Harvard University Graduate School of Education

H-126: Typical and Atypical Neurodevelopment (Masters) Fall 2016, 2017

MGH Institute of Health Professions

CD723: Language, Culture and Cognition (Masters) Summer 2015

CD833: Neuromotor Speech Disorders (Masters) Summer 2015

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

6.541/24.968/HST.710: Speech Communication (Doctoral) Spring 2014

STUDENTS & TRAINEES

Postdoctorates

2023- Alexis Ramirez, PhD
 *NIH Diversity Supplement recipient

2026- Jennifer Markfeld Magnuson
 *NIH F32 recipient

Doctoral Students

2024- Ellie Taylor, Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, University of Maryland College Park
 *UMD Flagship Fellow

2024- Oksana Zapletina (co-advised with Luke Butler), Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, University of Maryland College Park
 *UMD Flagship Fellow

2023- Eliza Thompson (co-advised with Shenika Hankerson), Applied Linguistics and Language Education, University of Maryland College Park

2022- Gavkhar Abdurokhmonova, Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, University of Maryland College Park
 *UMD Flagship Fellow
 *PD Soros Fellowship for New Americans Finalist
 *NIH F31 Recipient

2022- Ellen Roche, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park
 *UMD Flagship Fellow
 *NIH F31 Recipient

- 2022-2025 Victoria Alexander Terry (co-advised with Kelly Mix), Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, University of Maryland College Park
*McNair Scholar
*PhD awarded posthumously
- 2022-2025 Alexa McDorman, Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, University of Maryland College Park (advised 2020-2022 by Natasha Cabrera)
*NSF Graduate Research Fellow
*Now postdoctoral associate at NYU

Doctoral Student Committee Memberships

- 2025-2026 Michaela Brooks, Candidacy Committee, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2024-2025 Isabel Wilder, First Year Project and Candidacy Committees, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park
- 2024-2025 Lucía Zepeda Rivera, First Year Project and Candidacy Committees, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023-2025 Kate Luken Raz, Candidacy and Dissertation Committees, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023-2025 Gillian Grose, Candidacy and Dissertation Committees, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023-2024 Rachel Ghosh, Candidacy and Dissertation Committees, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023 Tamara Allard, Dissertation Committee, Psychology, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023 Angelica Alonso, Candidacy Committee, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2023 Kathleen Oppenheimer, Qualifying Exam Committee, Hearing and Speech Sciences, University of Maryland College Park
- 2022-2024 Jinglei Ren, Candidacy and Dissertation Committees, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2022-2023 Benjamin Rickles, Dissertation Committee, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park
- 2022 Junaid Merchant, Dissertation Committee, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park
- 2022 Yu (Tina) Chen, Candidacy Committee, Human Development, University of Maryland College Park
- 2022-2026 Sophie Domanski, Program Planning, Candidacy, & Dissertation Committees, Hearing and Speech Sciences, University of Maryland College Park

2021-2026 Deena Shariq, First Year Project, Candidacy, & Dissertation Committees,
Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland College Park

Masters Thesis Students

2022-2023 Ellie Taylor, Program in Educational Transformation, Georgetown University
*Research received “Best Master’s Student” award across the entire university

2021-2022 Grace Kim, Graduate School of Education, Harvard University

2021-2022 Amanda Rosenberg, Department of Psychology, New York University

Postbaccalaureate Scholars

2020-2023 Amy Carolus, Department of Psychology, Harvard University
*Research project received distinction award at Boston University Conference on
Language Development

Undergraduate Honors/Thesis Students

2024-2025 Alexandra Haralanova, Neuroscience Program, University of Maryland College
Park

2024-2025 Abria Simmons, Depts. of Psychology and Human Development, University of
Maryland College Park
*McNair Scholar, UMD-REACH Scholar

2020-2021 Klaudia DeFrank, Department of Psychology, Bucknell University
*Thesis received a departmental distinction award

2019-2020 Oliver George, Department of Neuroscience, Harvard University
*Thesis received a departmental distinction award

2016-2019 Veronica Valencia, Department of Psychology, Wellesley College
*Received McNair Scholarship; poster presented at national conference

2016-2018 Joshua Segaran, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Massachusetts
Institute of Technology
*Second author on publication

In addition to these students, I have supervised more than 70 undergraduate research assistants.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA); Association for Psychological
Science (APS); Cognitive Development Society (CDS); Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS);
Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Society (Flux); International Mind, Brain, Education
Society (IMBES); International Society for Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP); Society for
the Neurobiology of Language (SNL); Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD);
Society for Neuroscience (SfN); Society for the Scientific Study of Reading (SSSR);
International Dyslexia Association (IDA)

**Note: not all are current*

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Society Leadership

- 2024, 2026 Flux Congress Scientific Program Committee
- 2021-2023 Vice President, Consortium for Daylong Audio Recordings of Children's Linguistic Environments (DARCLE)
- 2022-present Flux Diversity and Belonging Committee (including LGBTQIA+ affinity group, First Gen affinity group, and Allies & Advocates affinity group)

Journal Editing

- 2025-present Editorial Board Reviewer for *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*
- 2023-2024 Editor for special issue of *Infant Behavior and Development* on "Becoming a conversationalist: Questions, challenges, and new directions in the study of child interactional development"
- 2022-present Editorial Board Reviewer for *Developmental Psychology*

Grant Review

- NSF review panel (Spring 2023, Winter 2025)
- NSF ad hoc reviewer (Fall 2022, Fall 2023)
- NIH Human Complex Mental Function Study Section (Winter 2025)
- UMD Research Practice Partnership Grants (Spring 2025)
- UMD Partnership Development Grants (Spring 2025)

Award Review

- SRCD Early Career Award (Fall 2024)
- Flux Young Investigator Award (Spring 2025 & 2026)

Conference Abstract Review

International Congress of Infant Studies; American Speech Language Hearing Association; Many Paths to Language; Society for Research in Child Development; Cognitive Development Society

Ad Hoc Manuscript Review

70+ Verified Peer Reviews (<https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/Y-7598-2019>)

Cerebral Cortex; Child Development; Cortex; Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience; Developmental Neuropsychology; Developmental Psychobiology; Developmental Psychology; Developmental Review; Developmental Science; Human Development; Journal of the Acoustical Society of America; Journal of Child Language; Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry; Journal of Experimental Child Psychology; Journal of Neuroscience; Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing Research; Learning and Individual Differences; Mind Brain and Education; Neurobiology of Language; Neuroimage; Neuropsychologia; Neuropsychology Review; Pediatrics; Psychological Science; Science

University ServiceUniversity of Maryland College Park

- 2025-present Member, Brain Behavior Institute Executive Committee
- 2025 Member, Search committee for HDQM Director of Administrative Services
- 2024-2025 Chair, HD PhD program Admissions Committee
- 2024 Member, Brain Behavior Institute “Vision Committee”
- 2023 Member, College of Education Strategic Planning Committee
- 2023-present Member, Maryland Neuroimaging Center Diversity Committee
- 2023-2024 Member, HDQM Undergraduate Committee
- 2022-present Member, Language Science Center Steering Committee (re-elected twice)
- 2022-2024;
2025-2027 Member, College of Education Senate
- 2022-2024 Member, NACS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- 2022-2023 Member, Ad-hoc committee on improving the graduate student experience
- 2021-2023 Member, HDQM dept Committee on Diversity and Inclusion
- 2021-2022 Ad-hoc committee on revising graduate admissions to increase equity/diversity

Harvard University

- 2017 Student committee member for “Science of Learning” faculty search, Harvard Graduate School of Education
- 2015-2017 Graduate admissions committee member, Harvard Division of Medical Sciences

Other Professional Service

- 2022-present Steering Committee Member, Howard County Judith P. Hoyer Early Learning Center

Selected Community Service, Outreach, and Science Translation

- 2024 Presented at 5 “Career Days” at local Title 1 elementary schools
- 2022-present Monthly lab volunteering at Homeless Children’s Playtime Project
- 2021, 2022 Co-organized “*Literacy and Equity in the 21st Century: Closing the Opportunity Gap*”, an annual summit for government and community stakeholders to develop science-based solutions to improve literacy achievement for vulnerable students.
- 2020-2021 Prospective Ph.D. & RA Event in Psychology (PPREP); Mentor for underrepresented minority students applying for PhD programs and post-baccalaureate research positions
- 2020-2021 Project SHORT; Mentor for underrepresented minority students applying for graduate education and postdoctoral fellowships
- 2017-2020 Developed and delivered hands-on “Introduction to Brain Science” seminars for elementary-aged students in high-poverty schools in Boston
- 2014-2017 Playspace Activity Leader for Horizons for Homeless Children

SELECTED PRESS

WBAL-TV11, 3/1/2024, University of Maryland researchers use hair techniques to make studies more inclusive,

<https://www.wbaltv.com/article/university-maryland-inclusive-study-hair-techniques/46992797>

Maryland Today, 1/25/2024, Study: Brains of Children From Less Affluent Backgrounds Show Lower Response to Rewards,

<https://today.umd.edu/study-brains-of-children-from-less-affluent-backgrounds-show-lower-response-to-rewards>

Endeavors Magazine, 11/27/2023, An Opportunity to LEAD,

<https://education.umd.edu/news/11-27-23-opportunity-lead>

Maryland Today, 11/06/23, Hair, Hair for Equity in Neuroscience Research.

<https://today.umd.edu/hair-hair-for-equity-in-neuroscience-research>

Maryland Today, 11/17/2022, How Children's Socioeconomic Status Could Steer Their Path to Reading,

<https://today.umd.edu/how-childrens-socioeconomic-status-could-steer-their-path-to-reading>

The Economist, 12/16/2021, Can Science Help Poor Kids Earn More?

https://youtu.be/J97rj_zCxE

Medium, 9/14/2021,

<https://medium.com/open-learning/learning-interventions-for-language-and-literacy-48f824cc9726>

ASHA Leader, 11/20, 2019,

<https://leader.pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/an-slp-offers-aac-intervention-at-30000-feet/full/>

BBC Future, 10/1/2019,

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20191001-the-word-gap-that-affects-how-your-babys-brain-grows>

Washington Post, 8/30/19,

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2019/08/30/using-symbols-she-quieted-nonverbal-autistic-boy-when-his-dad-was-awestruck/>

BBC World News, 8/13/18, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w172w4hs8vxxgvn>

ABC News,

8/13/18, <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/young-children-talking-back-adults-strengthens-language-regions/story?id=57150490>

Reuters,

8/13/18, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-childhood-language/back-and-forth-conversations-with-young-kids-may-aid-brain-development-idUSKBN1KY28O>

The Times,
8/13/18, <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/let-the-young-answer-back-to-improve-language-skills-jwxjs56df>

US News & World Report,
3/13/2018, <http://www.usnews.com/news/national-news/articles/2018-03-13/talking-and-listening-to-your-children-could-be-key-to-brain-development>

World Economic Forum,
2/28/2018, <http://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/02/how-you-talk-to-your-child-changes-their-brain/>

Scientific American,
2/22/2018, <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/talking-with-not-just-to-kids-powers-how-they-learn-language/>

Boston Globe,
2/15/2018, <http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/02/15/conversing-with-your-children-spurs-young-brain-development-mit-study-says/0PreKQCaoXdrHvsLsRuqRL/story.html>

National Public Radio,
2/14/2018, <http://www.wbur.org/commonhealth/2018/02/14/mit-brain-study>

Boston Globe,
6/29/2017, <http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2017/06/26/mit-study-finds-poorer-kids-benefit-more-from-summer-reading-programs/UQwO4xh3caCbJYZUDpWGPI/story.html>

NOVA (PBS): School of the Future, 9/14/16,
<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/school-of-the-future/>