

ALINE ROSSI ZARA

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Faculty of Information, Claude T. Bissell Building
140 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 3G6

aline.zara@mail.utoronto.ca
alinerossizara.com

EDUCATION

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2022—present | PhD in Information
University of Toronto <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supervisor: M.E. Luka• Committee members: T.L. Cowan, Jas Rault• Concentration in Media, Technology, and Culture• Collaborative program in Book History and Print Culture |
| 2019 | Master of Information in Archives and Records Management
University of Toronto |
| 2019 | Master of Museum Studies
University of Toronto |
| 2016 | Bachelor of Arts, Honours with Distinction
York University |

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONOURS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2026—2027 | Research-Creation Fellowship, Centre for Culture and Technology, University of Toronto (\$4,000) |
| 2024—2027 | SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (\$120,000) |
| 2025—2026 | Excellence Award, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto (\$8,333) |
| 2024—2025 | Excellence Award, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto (\$5,000) |
| 2024—2025 | Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000, declined) |
| 2024 | PhD Research and Conference Travel Award, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto (\$3,000) |
| 2023 | DH@Guelph Summer Workshops Funding (\$200) |

- 2019 Art Gallery of Ontario Visitor Experience Award, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto
- 2018 Florence Partridge Scholarship, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto (\$1,000)
- 2018 Rebanks Family Fellowship, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto (\$1,200)
- 2015 2014-2015 Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies Essay Prize, Honorable Mention, York University (\$100)
- 2015 Continuing Student Scholarship, York University (\$528)
- 2011—2013 Outstanding Scholars Award, University of Windsor (\$4,000)
- 2011—2013 Renewable Entrance Scholarship, University of Windsor (\$5,000)
- 2011—2013 Renewable Residence Entrance Scholarship, University of Windsor (\$2,000)

CONTRIBUTIONS

CO-EDITED SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

*denotes shared and equal authorship

1. *Zara, Aline, ME Luka, and Caroline Klimek (forthcoming). "(Re)Imagining AI Interventions///Intervening (into) AI Imaginaries" Two-Part Special Issue of *Imaginations Journal*.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

*denotes shared and equal authorship

2. Zara, Aline. (in review). "the year 3000: Navigating ethics for research-creation with AI." *Imaginations Journal*.
3. Zara, Aline. (in review). "in my building: Interventions in AI archives". *Cambridge Forum on AI*.
4. Zara, Aline. (in review). "A case study of the Canadian audiobook industry and synthetic narration: nAlrrative Press". *LOGOS*.
5. *Zara, Aline and Lauren Knight. (in review). "Arriving, attuning, assembling, and adapting: Becoming sonic citizens with BEEP zine". *Seismograf*.
6. *Maddalena, Kate; **Zara, Aline**; and Guadagnolo, Dan (2025) "Prompting for Refusal: Teaching Against and Without AI," *Feminist Pedagogy*, Vol. 6, Iss. 3, Article 6.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Zara, Aline. (in review). "Prompt nonsense! A critical, playful guide for duoethnographic research with LLMs". In *Synthetic Situations: Ethnographic Methods for Post-artificial Worlds*. Routledge.

RESEARCH-CREATION

*denotes shared and equal authorship

1. *hmm-aa-t* (“harm-mitigating AI audio translator”), 2025—ongoing (in progress): an audiovisual performance and speculative workshop series.
2. **beep zine*, 2025 (beepzine.com): an urban audio zine, in collaboration with Lauren Knight.
3. *The year 3000*, 2024—2025: an AI-generated audio performance and ethical dilemma.
4. *Alternative techniques for the theremin*, 2024: an AI-generated performance-manifesto.
5. *Replay Books* (replaybooks.com), 2024: an online bookstore for used digital audiobooks.
6. *Sgnjmrec Aglprsvx*, 2023: an AI-generated audio script-performance.
7. Anthology series (*Anthology I-VI*, alinerossizara.com/ainthology), 2023: a series of AI-written, AI-narrated audiobooks.
8. *nAlrrative Press* (nairrativepress.com), 2023: a publishing house for AI-written, AI-narrated audiobooks
9. *in my building* (zaraalin.github.io/in-my-building/), 2023: an AI-generated archives.
10. *book club* (alinerossizara.com/book-club), 2022—ongoing: a participatory exhibition of found objects.

INVITED LECTURES AND PUBLIC TALKS

1. Anne Pasek, Paulina Rousseau, Niyosha Keyzad, **Aline Zara** and Lauren Knight, moderated by Lindsay Gibb. “Drawing across the Disciplines: Zines.” *Centre for Research & Innovation Support, University of Toronto Scarborough*. November 5, 2025. Virtual.

PEER-REVIEWED ABSTRACTS FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

*denotes shared and equal authorship

1. (in absentia) **Zara, Aline**. “Navigating research-creation ethics for AI-generated sound.” *Society for the Social Studies of Science Conference*. September 3-6, 2025. Seattle, USA.
2. *Knight, Lauren and **Aline Zara**. “Reverberant Cities and Audio Zines: An Experimental Creative Practice.” *Society for the Social Studies of Science Conference*. September 3-6, 2025. Seattle, USA.
3. *Knight, Lauren and **Aline Zara**. “Risky Soundings: Mapping acoustic communities through audio zines.” *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference*. August 21-24, 2025. Corvallis, USA.
4. ***Zara, Aline** and Lauren Knight. “Penpal Processes: A Research-Creation Presentation-Performance.” *Canadian Communication Association Conference*. June 2-5, 2025. Toronto, Canada.
5. *Luka, ME, Caroline Klimek, Claudia Sicondolfo, Stephanie Draper, Diane Davy, and **Aline Zara**. “Bridging the Gap: Advancing Experiential Education Through Industry Collaboration.” *Canadian Communication Association Conference*. June 2-5, 2025. Toronto, Canada.

6. **Zara, Aline.** "Alternative techniques for the theremin: A manifesto." *Society for the Social Studies of Science Conference*. July 16-19, 2024. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
7. **Zara, Aline.** "Generating to sustain: Listening to human and non-human voices." *Canadian Communication Association Conference*. June 18-21, 2024. Montreal, Canada.
8. **Zara, Aline.** "Sustaining human &/ AI-generated voices." *CTM Festival Research Networking Day*. February 4, 2024. Berlin, Germany.
9. **Zara, Aline.** "Synthetic storytellers: Listening to the Alnthology series' AI audiobook narration." *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference*. October 26-29, 2023. Tempe, USA.
10. **Zara, Aline.** "The typography of narration: A preliminary methodology for audiobook bibliography." *Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing Conference*. June 26-30, 2023. Virtual.
11. **Zara, Aline.** "The transformation of online audiobook publishing: Platforms, governance, and the prospect of AI-generated audiobooks." *Canadian Communication Association Conference*. May 27–June 2, 2023. Toronto, Canada.
12. **Zara, Aline.** "Narration as typography: A preliminary bibliographic analysis of audiobooks." *Book History and Print Culture Student Colloquium*. March 18, 2023. Toronto, Canada.

EXHIBITIONS

1. [Oscillation](#), Centre culturel canadien, Paris, October 16, 2025—January 16, 2026 (with Lauren Knight).
2. *Zine Festival*, 4S Conference 2025, Seattle, September 3—6, 2025 (with Lauren Knight)
3. [book club](#), Online, 2022—ongoing (curator, artist, collector).
4. [Jasper Indigenous Exhibit](#), Jasper National Park, Jasper, 2021/2023 (French translation consultant for Simpcw First Nation).
5. *Simpcw*, Valemount Museum, Valemount, 2020 (French translation consultant for Simpcw First Nation).
6. [What We Take](#), John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, February 26—March 22, 2019 (co-curator with Hannah Johnston and Eleanor Howell).
7. [Mixed Messages: Making and Shaping Culinary Culture in Canada](#), Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, Toronto, May—August, 2018 (contributing author).

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

RESEARCH GRANTS

Internal grants: Primary investigator

Project title	Type of grant	Granting agency	Start date of grant	End date of grant	Total amount	Co-investigators
beep zine	Small Grant	School of Cities, University of Toronto	Dec 2024	June 2025	\$5,000	Lauren Knight
nAlrrative Press	Graduate Expansion Fund	Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga	Apr 2023	N/A	\$100	N/A
What We Take	Small Grant	School of Cities, University of Toronto	Oct 2018	Apr 2019	\$1,000	Eleanor Howell, Hannah Johnston
What We Take	Community-Engaged Initiatives Grant	Centre for Community Partnerships, University of Toronto	Feb 2019	May 2019	\$1,000	Eleanor Howell, Hannah Johnston

Internal grants: Co-investigator

Project title	Type of grant	Granting agency	Start date of grant	End date of grant	Total amount	Primary investigator
Logline	Small Grant	School of Cities, University of Toronto	Dec 2025	June 2026	\$1,000	Daphne Idiz

WORKING, READING, WRITING GROUPS

Oct 2024—present Founding member
Research-Creation Reading/Working Group
Centre for Culture and Technology, University of Toronto

Oct 2023—present Member
Graduate Writing Group

Centre for Culture and Technology, University of Toronto

Aug 2023—Apr 2024 Co-convenor
DEAD MEDIA Working Group
Knowledge Media Design Institute, University of Toronto

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Nov 2024—present Research Assistant
Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Funding Matters (SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant)
Department of Arts, Culture & Media, University of Toronto
Scarborough with Toronto Arts Council

Oct 2024—present Research Assistant
Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Creative Labour and Critical Futures (UTSC Clusters of Scholarly
Prominence Program)
Department of Arts, Culture & Media, University of Toronto Scarborough

Jan 2024—present Research Assistant
Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Work-Integrated-Learning Initiative (Business + Higher Education
Roundtable Grant)
Department of Arts, Culture & Media, University of Toronto Scarborough
with Work in Culture

Jan 2023—present Research Assistant
Supervisor: Cara Krmpotich
Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and
Culture
University of Toronto

Apr 2024—Sep 2024 Research Assistant
Supervisor: Claudia Sicondolfo
Archives in Action (SSHRC Connection Grant)
University of Toronto

Apr 2024—Jul 2024 Research Assistant
Supervisor: Daniel Guadagnolo
Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology,
University of Toronto Mississauga

Aug 2023—Feb 2024 Research Assistant

Supervisor: Krista Barclay and Pamela Klassen
Relations on the Land (Luce Foundation Grant)
University of Toronto

Jul 2023—Dec 2023 Graduate Fellow

Supervisor: Daniel Guadagnolo
Generative AI in Teaching and Learning (LEAF+ Project Grant)
Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology,
University of Toronto Mississauga

Jul 2023—Aug 2023 Research Assistant

Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Department of Arts, Culture & Media, University of Toronto
Scarborough

Feb 2023—Jun 2023 Research Assistant

Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Critical Digital Methods Institute, University of Toronto Scarborough

Jan 2023—May 2023 Research Assistant

Supervisor: Krista Barclay
Mounds Research Collective
University of Toronto

Dec 2022—May 2023 Research Assistant

Supervisor: M.E. Luka
Critical Digital Methods Institute and Department of Arts, Culture & Media,
University of Toronto Scarborough

TEACHING

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Undergraduate courses

1. *Media, Science and Technology Studies (MDSB20)*. Department of Arts, Culture, and Media. University of Toronto Scarborough. Winter 2026 (100 students).
2. *Alternative Media (CCT417)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. Summer 2025 (30 students).

3. *Contemporary Communication Technologies (CCT109)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. Summer 2025 (170 students; supervised a 4-TA teaching team).

GUEST LECTURES

Undergraduate courses

1. "Voice." *Popular Music and Media Cultures (MDSC13)*. Department of Arts, Culture, Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. October 16, 2025
2. "Week 6: Voice." *Popular Music and Media Cultures (MDSC13)*. Department of Arts, Culture, Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. February 24, 2025.
3. "Trends and themes in AI ethics." *Popular Culture and Society (CCT310)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. June 13, 2024. Toronto, Canada.
4. "Understanding Audiences: Art Galleries, Museums, and Cultural Organizations." *Managing and Leading in Cultural Organizations (VPAB16)*. Department of Arts, Culture and Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. November 17, 2023. Toronto, Canada.
5. "Publishing in Canada Now." *Good, Better, Best: Case Study Senior Seminar (VPAD10)*. Department of Arts, Culture, Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. February 15, 2023. Toronto, Canada.

Graduate courses

1. "AI in Digital Preservation." *Digital Preservation and Curation (INF2122)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. December 2, 2024. Toronto, Canada.
2. "AI in Digital Preservation." *Digital Preservation and Curation (INF2122)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. November 14, 2023. Toronto, Canada.
3. "Case Study: Simpcw First Nation Archives." Developed in consultation with Anna Kay Eldridge, Simpcw Archives Archivist. *Archival Arrangement and Description (INF1331)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. March 22, 2023. Toronto, Canada.

WRITING TUTOR

1. Learning Hub Writing Tutor. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. May 2025—present.

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

Undergraduate courses

1. *Rhetoric and Media (CCT110)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. Winter 2025 (head TA of a 13-TA teaching team; 1,000 students, with 60 taught in 2 tutorials).

2. *Good, Better, Best: Case Study Senior Seminar (VPAD10)*. Department of Arts, Culture, Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. Winter 2025 (120 students, with 120 taught in workshops).
3. *Contemporary Communication Technologies (CCT109)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. Fall 2024 (head TA of a 9-TA teaching team; 1,000 students, with 98 taught in 2 practicums).
4. *Introduction to Arts and Media Management (VPAA10)*. Department of Arts, Culture, and Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. Fall 2024 (420 students, with 120 taught in 4 tutorials).
5. *Good, Better, Best: Case Study Senior Seminar (VPAD10)*. Department of Arts, Culture, Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. Winter 2024 (59 students, with 59 taught in workshops).
6. *Managing and Leading in Cultural Organizations (VPAB16)*. Department of Arts, Culture and Media, University of Toronto Scarborough. Fall 2023 (180 students)
7. *Contemporary Communication Technologies (CCT109)*. Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology, University of Toronto Mississauga. Fall 2023 (1,000 students, with 98 taught in 2 practicums).

Graduate courses

1. *Archival Arrangement and Description (INF1331)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Winter 2025 (68 students).
2. *Digital Preservation and Curation (INF2122)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Fall 2024 (41 students).
3. *Archival Arrangement and Description (INF1331)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Winter 2024 (49 students).
4. *Digital Preservation and Curation (INF2122)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Fall 2023 (37 students).
5. *Archival Arrangement and Description (INF1331)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Winter 2023 (41 students).
6. *Managing Organizational Records I (INF2175)*. Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Fall 2022 (49 students).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2024—present	Member, Local's Equity Funds Subcommittee, CUPE3902 Unit 1
2022—2024	Course Union Representative, University of Toronto Graduate Student Union

2022—2024	Member, Accessibility Committee, Doctoral Student Association, Faculty of Information
2022—2023	Member, Indigenous Solidarity Working Group, Doctoral Student Association, Faculty of Information
2022—2023	Secretary, Doctoral Student Association, Faculty of Information
2022—2023	Member, Academic Appeals Committee, Faculty of Information
2018—2019	Member, Masters Recruitment and Admissions Committee, Faculty of Information
2018—2019	Chair, Association of Canadian Archivists Student Chapter, Faculty of Information
2017—2018	Treasurer, Association of Canadian Archivists Student Chapter, Faculty of Information
2017—2019	Member, Association of Moving Image Archivists Student Chapter, Faculty of Information

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY SERVICE

Course development

2024	Course developer, <i>Storytelling with Data in Creative & Cultural Industries (DATA710)</i> , Storytelling with Data Program, Centennial College, Toronto
------	---

Program committee membership

2023—2024	Member, Storytelling with Data Program Advisory Committee, Centennial College, Toronto
-----------	--

Peer reviewer (journals)

2025—2026	Reviewer, <i>Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies</i>
-----------	--

Peer reviewer (conferences)

2025	Reviewer, CHI
2024—2025	Reviewer, Association of Internet Researchers Conference
2023—2025	Reviewer, International Communication Association Conference

Professional membership

2024—present	Member, Society for the Social Studies of Science (international)
2023—present	Member, Canadian Communication Association
2023—present	Member, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (international)
2022—present	Member, Association of Internet Researchers (international)
2023	Member, Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (international)
2018—2019	Member, Association of Canadian Archivists
2016—2019	Member, Ontario Museums Association

INDUSTRY SERVICE

Industry working group membership

2023—2024 Member, AI Working Group, Book Industry Study Group, New York
2023—2024 Member, Audiobook Best Practices Working Group, Book Industry Study Group, New York

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

AUDIENCE AND CONSUMER RESEARCH (2017—present)

Beginning in 2017, I have been a leader in conducting audience and consumer research in art galleries, museums, and the Canadian book publishing industry.

I focused my Master of Museum Studies on audience research, winning the Art Gallery of Ontario Visitor Experience Award at my graduation in 2019. I consult as an audience researcher for art galleries, museums, and cultural heritage organizations, conducting front end, formative, summative, and remedial evaluations of exhibitions and programs. I have worked with the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum, Ontario Science Centre, Royal Ontario Museum, Art Gallery of Ontario, Heritage Toronto, Aga Khan Museum, University of Michigan Museum of Natural History and Lord Cultural Resources, as a staff audience researcher, independent consultant, and consultant alongside Barbara J. Soren Independent Consulting and Shiralee Hudson Hill & Associates.

From 2022—2024, I led BookNet Canada's consumer and industry research into the Canadian book publishing industry. I acted as principal investigator on over 40 publications including publicly available studies, industry-exclusive reports, and commissioned research reports for industry partners. I also authored over 60 blog posts of original research on the BookNet Canada blog, as well as led and moderated industry presentations. The research I conducted at BookNet Canada was featured frequently across Canadian and international media outlets, including the *CBC*, *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, *Global News*, *The Conversation*, *The Walrus*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Quill and Quire*, *Library Journal*, and *Publishing Perspectives*. This research has also often been cited in academic scholarship, including Fuller and Sedo's *Reading Bestsellers* (2023).

Dec 2024—May 2025 Audience Research Consultant
Barbara J. Soren Independent Consulting for the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum, Ottawa

Apr 2022—Oct 2024 Research Coordinator
May 2021—Mar 2022 Marketing and Research Associate
Feb 2021—Apr 2021 Marketing and Event Assistant

BookNet Canada, Toronto

- Jul 2022—Jul 2023 Audience Research Consultant
Barbara J. Soren Independent Consulting for the Ontario Science Centre,
Toronto
Publication: Soren, Barbara and Aline Zara. "Ontario Science Centre
Vaccine Awareness Project, Evaluation Final Report." Report. Toronto,
April 30, 2023. [Link](#).
- Mar 2021—Jul 2021 Audience Research Consultant
Shiralee Hudson Hill & Associates for the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto
- Mar 2020 Audience Researcher
- Oct 2018—Dec 2018 Audience Research Intern
Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto
Publication: Hudson Hill, Shiralee. "A Terrible Beauty: Art and Learning in
the Anthropocene." *Journal of Museum Education* 45, no. 1 (2020): 74–90.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10598650.2020.1723357>.
- Nov 2018—Oct 2019 Audience Research Consultant
for Heritage Toronto, Toronto
- Jul 2019—Aug 2019 Audience Research Consultant
Barbara J. Soren Independent Consulting for the University of Michigan
Museum of Natural History, Michigan, and Lord Cultural Resources,
Toronto
- Sep 2017—Jan 2018 Audience Researcher
Aga Khan Museum, Toronto

ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT (2017—2020)

From 2017 to 2020, I worked with archives, museum, and fine art collections, including the Art Gallery of Ontario's E.P. Taylor Library and Archives, the Royal Ontario Museum, the University of Toronto Art Museum, and the Bishop Farrell Library and Archives.

- Jul 2019—Nov 2020 Archives Assistant
E.P. Taylor Library and Archives, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto
- Jan 2020—Feb 2020 Collections Technician
Royal Ontario Museum for P.Mansaram, Burlington

Apr 2018—May 2019 Collections Assistant, Copyright and Reproductions
Art Museum, University of Toronto, Toronto

Jul 2018—Aug 2018 Contract Processing Archivist

Sep 2017—Apr 2018 Archives Volunteer

May 2017—Jul 2017 Archives Practicum Student

Bishop Farrell Library and Archives, Hamilton

Table of Contents

Updated March 2026

Aline Rossi Zara, 13

CONTACT INFORMATION.....	1
EDUCATION.....	1
ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONOURS.....	1
CONTRIBUTIONS.....	2
CO-EDITED SCHOLARLY JOURNALS.....	2
PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES.....	2
PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS.....	2
RESEARCH-CREATION.....	3
INVITED LECTURES AND PUBLIC TALKS.....	3
PEER-REVIEWED ABSTRACTS FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS.....	3
EXHIBITIONS.....	4
ACADEMIC RESEARCH.....	5
RESEARCH GRANTS.....	5
WORKING, READING, WRITING GROUPS.....	5
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE.....	6
TEACHING.....	7
COURSE INSTRUCTOR.....	7
GUEST LECTURES.....	8
WRITING TUTOR.....	8
TEACHING ASSISTANCE.....	8
ACADEMIC SERVICE.....	9
UNIVERSITY SERVICE.....	9
ACADEMIC COMMUNITY SERVICE.....	10
INDUSTRY SERVICE.....	11
RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS.....	11
AUDIENCE AND CONSUMER RESEARCH (2017–present).....	11
ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT (2017–2020).....	12