

NIKA DOLYNUK

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EDUCATION

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience and Double Major in Dance Research

May 2026

Honor's Forum Minor

Cumulative GPA: XX/XX (Dean's List 5 semesters)

Nu Rho Psi National Honor Society in Neuroscience

2024 – present

Relevant Coursework: Physiological Neuroscience, Statistics and Research Methods, Organismal Biology,

Molecular and Cellular Foundations of Life Biology, Clinical Pharmacology, Principles of Chemistry

DIS Study Abroad, Stockholm, Sweden

Jan 2025 - May 2025

Relevant Coursework: Neuroscience of Love, Psychology of Violence, Tumor and Oncology, Neurodegenerative Diseases

EXPERIENCE

Language Eye Tracking and Reading Lab – Research Assistant, Saratoga Springs NY Jan 2023 - present

- Ran kid participants on an eye-tracker, conducted literature review, edited manuscript, and presented poster at conferences Eastern Psychological Association in March 2024 in Philadelphia and Psychonomics in Nov 2024 in NYC for “Inferring Pink and Blue Collars: Children’s Eye Movements When Reading Gender Stereotyped Occupations” currently waiting for publication
- Ran over 40 adult/kid participants, coded spectrogram data, and assisted with pre-registration and study design for project titled “First Things First: Serial Letter Processing Effects in Children and Adults”

Skidmore College First Year Experience – Peer Mentor, Saratoga Springs NY

Aug 2023 - present

- Designed and taught lesson plans on topics such as alcohol/drugs, sustainability, civic engagement, and academic integrity to help integrate students into the community to enhance their education
- Supported incoming students with their transition into college life by serving as an academic and social role model and as a resource for the promotion of academic and co-curricular opportunities

International Rescue Committee – Peer Mentor, New York City NY

June 2025 - August 2025

- This program supported more than 100 newly immigrated youth, ages 5-19, from over 20 countries, to better adjust and integrate through academic, creative art, and social-emotional courses
- Tutored and mentored directly in the academic and dance classrooms, included being a positive role model and supporting the emotional and mental well-being of students from across the world

Social Psychology Lab – Research Assistant, Stockholm Sweden

Jan 2025 - May 2025

- Designing a study researching the influence of city games on engagement, motivation, and learning
- Co-author on “Urban immersion as education: Motivation, engagement, and learning in city games”

Skidmore College – Teaching Assistant, Saratoga Springs NY

Jan 2023 - present

- Held tutoring sessions to help prepare students for assessments in Molecular and Cellular Foundations
- Assisted students in hands-on learning (PCR, gel electrophoresis, pipetting) during three-hour weekly labs and helped prepare for lab sessions that included dissections and microscopy

Peer Health Educator – Saratoga Springs NY

Jan 2024 - present

- Worked on the mental and public health committees to design and implement outreach programs and marketing campaigns such as fundraising, tabling, reducing stigma, and using social norming strategies to address topics such as suicide, alcohol, drug, and medication interactions, consent, and mental health
- Served as a resource, referral agent, and role model for peers focused on non-judgment and education

Costume Assistant – Saratoga Springs NY

Sep 2025 - present

- Assisted with fittings, alterations, and repairs as well as designing and making new costumes

Emma Seppala – Editing Intern, remote

June 2021 - Aug 2023

- Researched for and edited a book on the subject of emotional sovereignty to target a wider audience

Childcare, Madison CT

June 2019 - present

- Provided consistent care including overnight for two children now ages seven and ten

PROJECTS

- Synesthesia-Independent Dance Study**, Saratoga Springs NY Sep 2024 - Dec 2024
- Choreographed, performed, staged, and wrote poetry for a group dance that used different colors of paint and a canvas to express human connection and evolving relationships
- Education in Southern Africa**, Gaborone Botswana May 2024
- Travel seminar with 32 hours of field experience in both public and private schools within Botswanan primary schools working with teachers and children
- Arts Exposure Lesson Plan**, Saratoga Springs NY Sep 2022 – Dec 2022
- Designed and implemented a hands-on interactive program built to increase the exposure of the arts to underprivileged elementary school students at Giffen Memorial School

AWARDS

- Kathy and Charlie DiSanto Memorial Fund May 2025
Shoreline Arts Alliance Award for Dance May 2022

SKILLS

- Laboratory:** immunohistochemistry, elevated plus maze (EPM), conditioned place preference (CPP), radial arm maze, PCR, gel electrophoresis, pipetting, dissection,
Computer: T-test, ANOVA, JMP, programming in R, Excel, Canva,
Other: Proficient in Russian,

EXTRACURRICULARS

- Volunteer Puppy Raiser**, Guide Dog Foundation Jan 2024 - present
Co-President/Events Coordinator, Breakbeats Hip Hop Dance Club Aug 2023 - Dec 2025
Treasurer, Tbreeds Raising Pups Club Sep 2024 - Dec 2024
Volunteer, Special Olympics Jan 2023 - May 2024
Volunteer, Branford Compassion Club Cat Shelter Jan 2014 – Aug 2023