

DAVID GARSTEN

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EDUCATION

Yale University, BA in Linguistics, New Haven, CT, GPA: 3.96/4.0 Expected Dec 2027
Coursework including: Data Structures, Mathematics of Language, Language & Computation, Topics in Computational Linguistics, Software for the People, Game Development, Phylogenetic Biology, Cognitive Science, The Syntax-Morphology Interface, Syntax II

The Institute on Collaborative Language Research (CoLang), Tempe, AZ Jun 2024
Coursework including: NLP and Speech Recognition for Indigenous Languages, FLEx, SQL, Transcribing conversation

Choate Rosemary Hall, Arabic & Middle Eastern Studies Signature Program, Wallingford, CT Jun 2023
Awards: John Dos Passos Award for Excellence in Creative Writing, Jos Hoppenbrouwers Language Prize, Choate Rosemary Hall Award for Excellence in the Study of Arabic, Member of the Cum Laude Society

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Garsten, David. Under review. *Local head-movement is fed by long-distance head-movement in Georgian*. Linguistics Society of America.
Garsten, David*, Anton Hampe*, & Adriana Zhou*. 2026. *Inferring complexity of animal communication systems from small samples*. International Conference on Grammatical Inference. *Equal contribution.
Garsten, David. 2026. *Appl's got gravity: head movement, have-raising, and the evolution of (have) got*. Chicago Linguistics Society.
Garsten, David. 2026. *It's Giving Nonfactive Small Clause Selection*. Yale Undergraduate Research Conference.
Garsten, David. 2025. *It's Giving Nonfactive Small Clause Selection*. Yale Working Papers in Grammatical Diversity 7 (3), 1-25.
Hampe, Anton* and **David Garsten***. 2025. *Revisiting the subregular complexity of Bengalese finch songs*. SYNC 2025. *Equal contribution

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

BlueDot Impact Intensive Technical AI Safety Course: 30 hours of facilitated learning Aug 2026
Volunteering at the Tbilisi Zoo: assistant to the head zookeeper of Carnivores & Primates Jun 2026 - Jul 2026
Linguistic Fieldwork in Tbilisi: worked with eight consultants on Georgian morphosyntax Jun 2026 - Jul 2026
Backyard Biolinguistics: maintained a blog on theoretical linguistics and animal communication Aug 2025 - Oct 2025
Musical Composition: has composed music for three video games, three short films, and one comic Dec 2024 - Present
Interactive Coding: has coded an interactive musical composition from DNA, multiple small video games, a phylogenetic analysis of the relationships between extant Pokémon species, an interactive html poem, a personal website, and more Aug 2024 - Present
The Yale Grammatical Diversity Project: wrote working papers and webpages targeted at non-linguists Jan 2024 - May 2026
The Summer Linguistic Institute for Youth Scholars (SLIYS): gained experience with linguistic fieldwork Jun 2022
Published Creative Writing: self-published a novella, printed a poetry compilation, published short stories Nov 2019 - Dec 2025

LEADERSHIP & WORK EXPERIENCE

Yale Center for Collaborative Arts and Media (CCAM), Temporary Expert + Digital Content Manager Aug 2024 - May 2026
• Oversaw website development, co-wrote a weekly newsletter, worked in event production and gallery management
The Cortex Collective, Editor-in-Chief May 2024 - May 2026
• Curated and edited a cohesive body of collaborative multimedia sci-fi creative work each semester, interviewed and recruited new members, oversaw lead genre editors, upkept and coded website, planned installations and speaker events
LingLeague, Co-founder Feb 2021 - Feb 2023
• Spoke at a NSF conference in June 2022, hosted summer tournaments for high schoolers with guest speakers, events at annual LSA meetings, conferences with professors from dozens of countries, college & opportunities fairs, and more.
Simulanger, Conlanger and YouTuber Jun 2023 - Oct 2025
Inkberry, Store Manager May 2025 - Sep 2025
Yale North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO), Chair Oct 2024 - Jan 2025
Amoriem Labs, Story Lead and Composer (Game Development) Sep 2024 - May 2025
Pok-o-MacCready, Summer Camp Counselor Jun 2023 - Aug 2023
Choate Ultimate Frisbee, Co-Captain Sep 2022 - May 2023
The Choate Literary Magazine, Editor-in-Chief Apr 2022 - May 2023

SKILL, FELLOWSHIPS, AND OTHER INTERESTS

- **Computer Skills**: Python, C, C#, HTML, JS, CSS, R, LaTeX, PyTorch, NLTK, ggplot, FLEx, MuseScore, Reaper, Ableton, DaVinci
- **Language Skills**: Italian, Hebrew, Arabic (advanced); Akkadian, Spanish, Georgian (beginner)
- **Fellowships**: [Franke](#) Fellow (2026), Lewis P. Curtis Fellow (2026), Richter Fellow (2026), [Yale AI Policy](#) Turing Fellow (2023-2024), [Yale Effective Altruism](#) Symposium fellow (2023-2024), [Atlas](#) Awardee (2023), [Bronfman](#) Fellow (2022)

- *Other interests:* AI safety, breakdancing, visual storytelling, history of science, board games, cetacean communication