

Junnan Yu

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Address: Room V902b, 9/F, Jockey Club Innovation Tower (Block V), Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Appointments

- 2022.08–Now **The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**
Assistant Professor, School of Design
- Summer 2022 **University of Colorado Boulder**
Temporary Research Faculty, Department of Information Science
- Summer 2020 **Harvard University**
Research Intern, The Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society

Education

- 2017.08–2022.05 **University of Colorado Boulder** | Boulder, CO, USA
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Information Science**
 - Thesis: *A Design Exploration of Leveraging Physical Play to Support Computational Learning for Young People*
 - Advisor: Ricarose Roque
 - Committee Members: Ricarose Roque (Chair), Casey Fiesler, Ben Shapiro, Joseph Polman, Victor R. Lee
- 2014.09–2017.03 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University** | Shanghai, China
- **Master of Arts in Design** (**Graduated with Honor**)
 - Advisor: Ting Han
 - School of Media & Design
- 2010.09–2014.06 **Zhejiang University** | Hangzhou, China
- **Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Design**
 - College of Computer Science and Technology

Research Interests

- Interactive Learning Technologies and Equity
- Computing Education for Young People
- Child-Computer Interaction
- Design Research

Grants

2023–2025 (Competitive)	<p>PI, School Collaborative Research Fund with Non-local Institutions, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & University Grants Committee of Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Investigating the Design of Culturally Responsive Computational Learning Tools for Children</i>Co-Investigator: Dr. Natalie Rusk (MIT Media Lab, Lifelong Kindergarten Research Group)Amount: HKD 400,000
2023–2025 (Competitive)	<p>PI, Departmental Supporting Fund (UGC), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Combining Computational Learning with Physical Play for Young Children: Investigating the Design of Learning Tool and Experience</i>Amount: HKD 100,000
2023–2024 (Competitive)	<p>PI, Departmental General Research Fund, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & University Grants Committee of Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Parent-Child Joint Media Engagement with Learning Technologies in Hong Kong</i>Amount: HKD 100,000
2023–2024 (Competitive)	<p>CO-PI, Departmental General Research Fund, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & University Grants Committee of Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Towards a subjective well-being society from a positive design perspective: A case study of Hong Kong</i>Amount: HKD 89,200
2023–2024	<p>PI, Internal Research Fund, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & University Grants Committee of Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>AI Literacy for Children: An Overview of Learning Content and Tools</i>Amount: HKD 250,000
2022–2024	<p>PI, Internal Research Fund, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & University Grants Committee of Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Investigating Gender-related Design Features in Computational Toys and Kits for Young Children</i>Amount: HKD 150,000
2020–2021 (Competitive)	<p>PI, Outreach Micro Grants, University of Colorado Boulder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project: <i>Computational Physical Play Workshops in Community-based Organizations</i>Amount: USD 1,870
2020	CMCI Graduate Student Travel Grant (USD 1,000), University of Colorado Boulder
2018	CMCI Graduate Student Travel Grant (USD 750), University of Colorado Boulder

Honors & Awards

2024	Best Paper Honorable Mention Award (Two) The ACM CHI 2024 Conference
2024	Shortlisted for the PolyU Young Innovative Researcher Award Research and Innovation Office, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

2021	The Graduate School Summer Fellowship University of Colorado Boulder
2021	Graduate Research Award Department of Information Science, University of Colorado Boulder
2020	The Gerald C. Bean Scholarship College of Media, Communication and Information, University of Colorado Boulder
2018	Student Best Paper Award ACM Conference on Interaction Design and Children (IDC)
2017	Outstanding Graduate Shanghai Jiao Tong University
2015&2016	National Scholarship for Graduate Students (Two) The Ministry of Education of China
2012	Winner of the Innovative Electric Heater Design Competition Chinese Industrial Design Association (Top 10 out of 1500)

Peer Reviewed Publications [[Google Scholar Page](#)]



Authors underlined are students or research assistants I mentored for the work


Journals:

- [J7] Zhou, Z., Li, Y., & Yu, J. (2024). Exploring the application of LLM-based AI in UX design: an empirical case study of ChatGPT. *Human-Computer Interaction*, 1-33. (Acceptance Rate: 8%; Impact Factor: 4.5)
- [J6] Yu, J., Xu, T., Kelley, C., Ruppert, J., & Roque, R. (2024). Leveraging Physical Activities to Support Learning for Young People via Technologies: An Examination of Educational Practices Across the Field. *Review of Educational Research*, 1-47. (Acceptance Rate: 5.3%; Five-Year Impact Factor: 16.4)
- [J5] Zhou, Z., Li, J., Zhang, Z., Yu, J., & Duh, H. (2024). Examining How the Large Language Models Impact the Conceptual Design with Human Designers: A Comparative Case Study. *International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction*, 1-17. (Impact Factor: 3.4)
- [J4] Xu, T.*, Yu, J.*, Doyle, D., & Volda, S. (2023). Technology-Mediated Strategies for Coping with Mental Health Challenges: Insights from People with Bipolar Disorder. *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.*, 7(CSCW2), Article 240, 1-31. (**CSCW '23**) (*Equal contribution)
- [J3] Yu, J., Granados, J., Hayden, R., & Roque, R. (2021). Parental Facilitation of Young Children's Technology-based Learning Experiences from Nondominant Groups During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.*, 5(CSCW2), Article 307, 1-27. (**CSCW '21**)

- [J2] Yu, J., Ruppert, J., Roque, R., & Kirshner, B. (2020). Youth Civic Engagement Through Computing: Cases and Implications. *ACM Inroads*, 11(4), 42-51.
- [J1] Yu, J., & Roque, R. (2019). A Review of Computational Toys and Kits for Young Children. *International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction*, 21, 17-36.

Proceedings:

- [C14] Yu, J., Qi, X., & Yang, S. (2024). Parent-Child Joint Media Engagement Within HCI: A Scoping Analysis of the Research Landscape. In *Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)* (Article 121, pp. 1-21). Honolulu, HI, USA.
-  [C13] Luo, Y., Yu, J., Liang, M., Wan, Y., Zhu, K., & Santosa, S. (2024). Emotion Embodied: Unveiling the Expressive Potential of Single-Hand Gestures. In *Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)* (Article 404, pp. 1-17). Honolulu, HI, USA. (**Best Paper Honorable Mention Award, Top 5%**)
-  [C12] Cho, J., Choi, D., Yu, J., & Volda, S. (2024). Reinforcing and Reclaiming the Home: Co-speculating Future Technologies to Support Remote and Hybrid Work. In *Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)* (Article 1026, pp. 1-28). Honolulu, HI, USA. (**Best Paper Honorable Mention Award, Top 5%**)
- [C11] Cowit, N., & Yu, J. (2024). Supporting Physically Active CS-Ed for Children: Exploring the Design of Physical Play Friendly Coding Blocks. In *Extended Abstracts of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '24)* (Article 308, pp. 1-7). Honolulu, HI, USA.
- [C10] Yu, J., Hayden, R., & Roque, R. (2023). Exploring Computational Thinking with Physical Play through Design. In *Proceedings of the 22nd Annual ACM Interaction Design and Children Conference (IDC '23)* (pp. 124-136). Chicago, IL, USA.
- [C9] Cen, J., & Yu, J. (2023). Examining Gendered Communications of Coding Kits for Young Children. In *Proceedings of the 22nd Annual ACM Interaction Design and Children Conference (IDC '23)* (pp. 624-629). Chicago, IL, USA.
- [C8] Cen, J., Xu, T., & Yu, J. (2023). Examining Gender-oriented Design Features in Computational Toys and Kits for Young Children. In *Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23)* (Article 303, pp. 1-19). Hamburg, Germany.
- [C7] Yu, J., Widman, S., & Roque, R. (2023). Family Negotiation in Joint Media Engagement with Creative Computing. In *Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23)* (Article 92, pp. 1-15). Hamburg, Germany.
- [C6] Yu, J., & Roque, R. (2022). Young Children's Perceptions of Coding and Implications. In *Proceedings of the 21st Annual ACM Interaction Design and Children Conference (IDC '22)* (pp. 448-451). Braga, Portugal.

- [C5] Yu, J., DeVore, A., & Roque, R. (2021). Parental Mediation for Young Children's Use of Educational Media: A Case Study with Computational Toys and Kits. In *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '21)* (Article 475, pp. 1-12). Yokohama, Japan.
- [C4] Yu, J., Bai, C., & Roque, R. (2020). Considering Parents in Coding Kit Design: Understanding Parents' Perspectives and Roles. In *Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '20)* (pp. 1-14).
- [C3] Yu, J., Zheng, C., Tamashiro, M. A., Gonzalez-millan, C., & Roque, R. (2020). CodeAttach: Engaging Young Children in Computational Thinking Through Physical Play Activities. In *Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Conference on Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction (TEI '20)* (pp. 453-459). Sydney, Australia.
-  [C2] Yu, J., & Roque, R. (2018). A Survey of Computational Kits for Young Children. In *Proceedings of the 17th ACM Conference on Interaction Design and Children (IDC '18)* (pp. 289-299). Trondheim, Norway. (**Student Best Paper Award, Top 5%**)
- [C1] Yu, J., Ma, X., & Han, T. (2017). Usability Investigation on the Localization of Text CAPTCHAs: Take Chinese Characters as a Case Study. In *Proceedings of the Transdisciplinary Engineering-24th ISPE Inc., International Conference* (Vol. 5, 10 pages).

Patents

Yu, J., Ma, X., & Han, T. "A faucet with bacteria scanning function", Chinese Patent, 2016: CN201610072274.0

Posters, Talks, Presentations & Workshops

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| May 2024 | ACM CHI 2024 Workshop on Methods for Family-Centered Design, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop organizing committee, facilitator, and participant |
| May 2024 | ACM CHI 2024 Paper Presentation, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper: "Parent-Child Joint Media Engagement Within HCI: A Scoping Analysis of the Research Landscape" |
| Jun 2023 | ACM IDC 2023 Paper Presentation, Chicago, USA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper: "Exploring Computational Thinking with Physical Play Through Design" |
| Jun 2023 | ISLS 2023 Symposium on "Designing to Disrupt While Encountering Disruption: Engaging with the Unexpected in Educational Research and Practice" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yu, J. Symposium Poster: "Disruption of Gender Representation in Computational Toys and Kits for Young Children from a Design Perspective" |
| Apr 2023 | ACM CHI 2023 Paper Presentation, Hamburg, Germany <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk: "Family Negotiation in Joint Making with Creative Computing" |

- Apr 2023 ACM CHI 2023 Workshop on Child-Centred AI Design: Definition, Operation and Considerations, Hamburg, Germany
- Zhou, Z., & Yu, J. Workshop Paper: “Adapt a Generic Human-Centered AI Design Framework in Children’s Context”
- Jun 2022 ACM IDC 2022 Workshop on “Fun in Learning”
- Workshop paper: “Designing for Fun in Learning: Reflections from a Case Exploration of Combining Physical Play with Coding for Young People”
- Jan 2022 The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Talk: “Engaging Young People in Playful Computational Learning Experiences”
- Dec 2021 Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Talk: “Broadening Participation in Computing: Designing Playful Computational Learning Experiences for Young People”
- Nov 2021 National University of Singapore
- Talk: “An Exploration of Leveraging Physical Play to Support Computational Learning for Young People”
 - Workshop: “Animate Yourself with Coding”
- Nov 2021 LSGSC 2021 Lightning Talk
- Talk: “Physical Activity as a Learning Medium: Characteristics and Opportunities”
- Oct 2021 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Talk: “An Exploration of Leveraging Physical Play to Support Computational Learning for Young People”
- Oct 2021 ACM CSCW 2021 Paper Presentation
- Paper: “Parental Facilitation of Young Children’s Technology-based Learning Experiences from Nondominant Groups During the COVID-19 Pandemic”
- Jun 2021 ACM IDC 2021 Workshop – “Translational IDC: Bridging the IDC Research-Practice Gap”
- May 2021 ACM CHI 2021 Paper Presentation
- Paper: “Parental Mediation for Young Children’s Use of Educational Media: A Case Study with Computational Toys and Kits”
- Apr 2021 Information Science Seminar, University of Colorado Boulder
- Talk: “Parental Mediation for Young Children’s Use of Educational Media: A Case Study with Computational Toys and Kits”
- Jun 2018 ACM IDC 2018 Paper Presentation, Trondheim, Norway
- Paper: “A Survey of Computational Kits for Young Children”

Teaching

- Fall **Instructor** [Fall 2022 – Present]
SD5513 Theories in Interaction Design
[Graduate; Lecture + Seminar] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Fall	SD4761 Studio I: Information and Communication [Undergraduate; Design Studio on User-Centered Design] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Fall	SD4770 Capstone Project I: Interactive Media/Interaction Design [Undergraduate; Design Capstone] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Summer	SD5539 ISD Capstone Research Project [Graduate; Design Capstone] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Spring	SD3773 Information Architecture [Undergraduate; Lecture-based] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Spring	SD4762 Studio II: Networks and Communities [Undergraduate; Design Studio on Co-Design/Participatory Design] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Spring	SD4771 Capstone Project II: Interactive Media/Interaction Design [Undergraduate; Design Capstone] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2022	SD5114, SD5115, SD5131 – IBD Interdisciplinary Essentials [Project Consultant] [Graduate] The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Spring 2020	INFO 1121 Designing Interactions [Undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder
Spring 2019	INFO 1201 Computational Reasoning I (Python) [Undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder
Spring&Fall 2018	INFO 1201 Computational Reasoning I (Python) [Undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder
Fall 2017	INFO 1201 Computational Reasoning I (Python) [Undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder
Spring 2015	AR 903 The Art of Design Innovation [Undergraduate] Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Fall 2014	ID 310 Product Design II [Undergraduate] Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Guest Lecturer & Speaker

Oct 2023	ECE6248 Research Method in Early Childhood Education [Graduate] Education University of Hong Kong, led by Dr. Annie Yixun Li
Apr 2022	INFO 4609/5609 User Centered Design [Graduate and undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder, led by Dr. Ricarose Roque
Feb 2020	INSC 598 Child-Computer Interaction [Graduate and undergraduate] University of Washington, led by Dr. Katie Davis
Fall 2020	INFO 3505 Designing for Creativity & Learning

[Graduate and undergraduate] University of Colorado Boulder, led by Dr. Ricarose Roque

Research Mentorship

Ph.D. Student Supervision

2024–Now Yibo Wang (Chief supervisor; Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024–Now Xiang (Nathan) Qi (Chief supervisor; Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024–Now Kelly Yip Cheuk Ying (Co-supervisor; Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Undergraduate/Graduate Research Assistant Supervision

2023–2024 Yangyu Huang (MSc in Multimedia and Entertainment Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2023–2024 Moon Lau (B.A. Interactive Media, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2022–2024 Xiang (Nathan) Qi (MDes in Smart Service Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2023–2023 Irene Cheung (B.E. HCI, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)
2022–2023 Siqi Yang (Master of Design in Intelligent System Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2023 Teresa Leung (Research Assistant, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2022–2023 Jingyao (Joan) Cen (Research Assistant, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2021 Blanca Cerda Herrera (B.S. Neuroscience, University of Colorado Boulder)
2020 Julisa Granados (B.S. Psychology and Neuroscience, University of Colorado Boulder)
2019–2020 Andrea Devore (B.S. Technology, Arts, and Media, University of Colorado Boulder)
2019–2020 Christopher Gonzalez-millan (B.S. Computer Science, University of Colorado Boulder)
2019 Chenke Bai (B.S. Information Science, University of Colorado Boulder)
2018 Elizabeth Robinson (B.S. Computer Science, University of Colorado Boulder)

Ph.D. Student Confirmation Panel Member

2024 Le (Leo) Fang (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024 Junjian Chen (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024 Ziyu (Ines) Yin (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024 Jun Zhang (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024 Cong Fang (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2024 Yuxuan (Shawn) Wang (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2023 Jingyi Wan (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
2023 Gui Shun (Ph.D. in Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Academic & Community Services

Editorial Board

2023–Now Associate Editor, International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction

Conference Committee & Organization

2025 ACM IDC 2025 Conference: **Chair** for the Work-in-Progress session
2024–2025 ACM CHI 2025 Conference: **Associate Chair** for the Paper Session (Subcommittee: Design)
2024 ACM TEI 2025 Conference: **Associate Chair** for the Paper Session

2024	Greater Bay HCI Forum Pre-CHI 2024: Award Chair
2024	ACM CHI 2024 Workshop: Organizing Committee for the Workshop on Methods for Family-Centered Design
2024	ACM CHI 2024 Conference: Associate Chair for the Late-Breaking Work session
2023	ACM CSCW 2023 Conference January Cycle: Associate Chair for the Paper Session
2023	ISLS 2023 Conference: Program Committee Member
2023	ACM CHI 2023 Conference: Associate Chair for Late-Breaking Work
2022	ACM CSCW 2023 Conference: July Cycle: Associate Chair for Paper Session
2022	ACM CSCW 2022 Conference: Associate Chair for Poster Session

Paper Reviewer

Proceedings:

- CHI: 2019 - Now (**Special Recognition for Outstanding Reviews**)
- CSCW: 2020 - Now (**Special Recognition for Outstanding Reviews**)
- IDC: 2019 - Now
- TEI: 2019 - Now
- DIS: 2020 - Now
- Creativity & Cognition: 2021
- LSGSC 2021

Journals:

- ACM Transactions on Computing Education
- Educational Research Review (**Recognized Reviewer**)
- Computers & Education (**Recognized Reviewer**)
- International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction (**Recognized Reviewer**)
- Journal of Research in Childhood Education
- Journal of School Health
- International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction

Departmental Service

2023–Now	Member of School Research Committee, School of Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review internal grant applications • Review Ph.D. applications • Review graduate student performance • Other research-related matters in the department
2023–Now	Undergraduate Admission Material Review and Interviews
2022	Member of the PolyU Design bidding team for 2024 Design Research Society Conference

Outreach Programs

Jun & Jul 2024	OctoStudio Coding Workshops for Young Children In collaboration with Community Centers in Shenzhen
Apr 2021	Remote Coding Workshops for Young Children In collaboration with Boulder Public Library & I Have A Dream Foundation

Feb 2020	Workshops on Coding & Physical Play for Children In collaboration with the Museum of Boulder
Jul 2019	Computational Physical Play Workshops for Children In collaboration with the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History
	Volunteer
Oct 2021	Student Volunteer for CSCW 2021 Conference
Feb 2021	Computer Science Education Week 2021 Boulder Public Library, Boulder, CO, USA. Led by Celeste Moreno
Spring 2020	Youth Maker Hangout Event Boulder Public Library, Boulder, CO, USA
2015 & 2016	The Fourth and Fifth Summer Camp of Innovative Design Elites Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
Summer 2014	Asia Leadership Programme Zhejiang University & Singapore University of Technology and Design, Hangzhou, China