

**Michelle Moyer, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences  
Georgia College & State University

**Education**

July 2024	Ph.D. Biological Sciences, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD
May 2022	M.S. Biological Sciences, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD
May 2017	B.S. Zoology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

**Certifications**

2023	<b>CIRTL Associate Certificate</b> Nationally-accredited certificate from the Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and learning, demonstrating commitment to evidenceinformed teaching and supporting diverse learners and learning mechanisms
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**Teaching**

Present	<b>Assistant Professor of Ornithology</b> – Georgia College & State University Instructor for Biological Processes, Biodiversity, Ornithology
2024-2025	<b>Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor</b> -William & Mary Instructor for Animal Behavior (BIOL 410), Undergraduate Seminar (BIOL 460), Field Behavioral Ecology (BIOL 404)
Summer 2023,2024	<b>Instructor</b> - University of Maryland, Baltimore County Instructor for Animal Behavior (BIOL 480)
2019- 2023	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> - University of Maryland, Baltimore County Graduate TA for Ecology/Evolution, Anatomy/Physiology Lab I+II, Cell Biology Lab
2017-2018	<b>ESL Instructor</b> - Vayda Peter Iskola, Szarvas, Hungary English Instructor for Grades 1-12

**Guest Lectures**

Fall 2023	<b>Ornithology</b> - Ithaca College Lecture on Avian Sexual Selection for Dr. Nandadevi Cortes Rodriguez
Fall 2022	<b>Animal Behavior</b> - University of Maryland, Baltimore County Lecture on Sexual Selection for Dr. Bernard Lohr
Spring 2021	<b>Ecology and Evolution</b> - University of Maryland, Baltimore County Lecture on Sexual Selection for Dr. Jeff Leips

**Additional Relevant Experience**

2020 – 2024      **Student Advising** - University of Maryland, Baltimore County Advised incoming first-year and transfer students regarding degree decisions, placement testing, and course registration

2019 – Present      **Skype a Scientist**  
Matched with 1-2 K-12 classrooms per year and shared my science with students and teachers around the country.

## Research

Present      **Assistant Professor**  
Studying the fitness of female bird song in Georgia and Puerto Rico

2024-2025      **Visiting Assistant Professor**  
*William & Mary*  
Mentoring undergraduate research projects studying the evolution and function of female bird song in Virginia and Puerto Rico

2019 – 2024      **Ph.D. Student**  
*University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Dr. Kevin Omland*  
Comparing the structure and function of female song in closely related temperate and tropical orioles

May 2022 - 2024      **Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center Intern**  
*Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, Washington D.C., Dr. Brian Evans*  
Zoo field internship: assisted in mist netting and extracting target species for research and display  
Scientific outreach internship: exhibit interpretation, bird banding demonstrations for the public, and community engagement in bird conservation through the Bird House at the National Zoo

May – Aug 2019      **Field Technician**  
*Duluth, MN, Ph.D. Student Mackenzie Prichard (Emory University)*  
White-throated sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) neuroendocrinology and breeding behavior, assisted in banding, nest-searching, and tissue collection

June- July 2017      **Field Technician**  
*Monte Vista, CO, M.S. Student Casey Setash (Colorado State University)*  
Cinnamon teal (*Spatula cyanoptera*) breeding ecology, assisted in nestsearching, web-tagging, radio telemetry, and waterfowl identification

2016 – 2017      **Honors Undergraduate Project**  
*Colorado State University, Dr. Cameron Ghalambor*  
Effect of salinity on swamp guppy (*Poecilia picta*) mate choice

## Publications [\* = undergraduate authors]

Moreland, D.A.\*, Raza, A.\*, Brooks, O.R.\*, Omland, K.E., Moyer, M.J. 2025. **Lack of sex-specific syllables and high female song variability support relaxed selection on female song in Orchard Orioles (*Icterus spurius*)**. The Wilson Journal of Ornithology, 1:13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15594491.2025.2512650>

- Moyer, M. J., M. D. Ocasio, E. F. Lehnert\*, N. A. Nieves Colón, E. Osorio\*, E., E. K. Bare\*, A. Ponce de León Laguna, B. A. Molake\*, M. J. Costas Sabatier, B. S. Evans, A. L. Morales Pérez, K. E. Omland. 2025. **Acoustic features, syllable usage, and song rates of male and female song in a tropical island songbird, the Puerto Rican Oriole.** *Ethology* 131: e13534. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eth.13534>
- Moyer, M. J., N. K. Neerchal, B. Lohr, J. Leips, E. Osorio\*, E. K. Bare\*, A. Raza\*, B. A. Molake\*, and K. E. Omland. 2024. **Sex-specific responses to simulated territorial intrusions provide evidence for relaxed selection pressure on female song in Orchard Orioles.** *Journal of Field Ornithology* 95(3):7. <https://doi.org/10.5751/JFO00499950307>
- Moyer, M. J., E. M. Rose, D. A. Moreland\*, A. Raza\*, S. M. Brown, A. L. Scarselletta\*, B. Lohr, K. J. Odom, and K. E. Omland. 2022. **Female song is structurally different from male song in Orchard Orioles, a temperate-breeding songbird with delayed plumage maturation.** *Journal of Field Ornithology* 93(1):3. <https://doi.org/10.5751/JFO00073930103>
- Sikora, J. G. \*, Moyer, M. J., Omland, K. E. and Rose E. M. 2021. Large female song repertoires and within-pair song type sharing in a temperate breeding songbird. *Ethology* 127:166175. doi.org/10.1111/eth.13115

### **Publications in Prep**

- Moreland, D. A., A. Raza, O. R. Brooks, K. E. Omland, M. J. Moyer. Female and male syllable usage in a temperate songbird: a categorical approach to female song analysis.

### **Awards**

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| 2024 | Honorable Mention, Student Presentation Award, American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting 2024  |
| 2024 | Honorable Mention, Founder's Award, BirdsCaribbean International Conference 2024                    |
| 2022 | Best Student Publication, <i>Journal of Field Ornithology</i> (Association of Field Ornithologists) |

### **Presentations**

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| October 2024 | Oral Presentation: "Comparing the structure and function of female song in closely related tropical and temperate orioles" for Female Bird Symposium of the American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting 2024 |
| July 2024    | Oral Presentation: "Investigating male and female vocalizations of an understudied endemic Caribbean songbird" at BirdsCaribbean International Conference   |
| June 2023    | Oral Presentation: "Don't underestimate her: conservation impacts of female song in the Puerto Rican Oriole" at Wilson Ornithological Society Annual Meeting  |
| August 2021  | Poster: "Female song is acoustically different from male song in Orchard Orioles" at American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting   |
| August 2021  | Oral Presentation: "Female song is acoustically different from male song in Orchard Orioles" at Animal Behavior Society Annual Meeting  |
| June 2021    | Poster: "Female song is acoustically similar to male song in Orchard Orioles" at Maryland Ornithological Society Annual Convention  |

August 2020      Poster: “Investigating female song and territoriality of the endangered Bahama Oriole across the annual cycle” at North American Ornithological Conference

July 2020      Oral Presentation: “Female and male song structure and song rate in Orchard Orioles” at Animal Behavior Society Annual Meeting

### **Research Grants**

William & Mary: Teaching Faculty Grant Fund Award: \$1,000.

Charles Center Community of Scholars Award: Tropical Research Experience for Undergraduates - Puerto Rican Oriole Song Study. \$500

Smithsonian Institution, 2023 Bond Fund: Accounting for vocal behavior and habit-specific abundance for the conservation of understudied island endemic songbirds. \$44,000 (PIs: Dr. Scott Sillett, Dr. Brian Evans)

Washington Biologists Field Club: 2022 Research Award: Monitoring the Spatial Ecology of the Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) Across the Annual Cycle. \$3,250

BirdsCaribbean: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 David S. Lee Fund: Habitat Use of the Critically Endangered Bahama Oriole Across the Annual Cycle: The Importance of the Non-Breeding Season. \$4,000

Florida Ornithological Society: 2020 Robertson Award: Territoriality and Habitat Usage of the Endangered Bahama Oriole (*Icterus northropi*). \$750