

Experience

Writing Contractor, The National Academy of Sciences **March 2023 - Present**
Washington, D.C.

Produce summaries of upcoming primary scientific articles for the front-of-book section of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* and for media use.

Freelance Science Writer **2014 - Present**

Select Work (Links to these and other articles available at amandabkeener.journoportfolio.com)

- Whole-genome sequencing susses out rare diseases. *Nature Outlook*, April, 2025.
- Natural Killer cells show their cancer-fighting worth. *Nature Outlook*, May, 2024.
- SGLT2 inhibitors breathe life into kidney-disease care. *Nature Outlook*, Apr., 2023.
- The Best Pregnancy Test. *The New York Times Wirecutter*, Aug., 2022.
- A repurposed TB vaccine shows early promise against diseases like diabetes and MS, *Science News*, Jun., 2021.
- Unseen scars of childhood trauma. *Knowable*, Jan., 2021.
- Four ways researchers are responding to the COVID-19 outbreak. *Nature Medicine*, Feb., 2020.
- Mom's immune system and microbiome may help predict premature birth. *Science News*, Nov., 2019.
- Should You Screen Your Child for Celiac Disease? *The New York Times Parenting*, Nov., 2019.
- The genetic shortcut to antibody drugs. *Nature Outlook*, Dec., 2018.
- Humanizing Immunology (Q and A with Immunologist Mark Davis). *Knowable*, Sept., 2018.
- Just the messenger: A new class of therapeutics instruct the body to make its own drugs. *Nature Medicine*, Sept., 2018.
- Uncovering cancer: How enlisting T cells can boost the power of immunotherapy. *Nature Medicine*, Sept., 2017.
- Immune System Maintains Brain Health. *The Scientist*, Nov., 2016.
- The 'Quantum Theory' of Cancer Treatment. *Nova Next*, Jul., 2016. (Runner up for the 2017 AACR June L. Biedler Prize for Cancer Journalism)
- Tackling the brain: Clues emerge about the pathology of sports-related brain trauma. *Nature Medicine*, Apr., 2016.
- Tumor-Fighting Drugs Take on Tuberculosis. *Nova Next*, Jul., 2015.
- Arrests reveal debate about costs and benefits of proton therapy. *Nature Medicine*, Oct., 2014.

Intern, The Scientist **May-September 2015**
Philadelphia, PA

Reported and wrote news and feature stories for daily web and monthly print publication. Maintained social media accounts and edited and fact-checked stories.

Intern, Nature Medicine **June-August 2014**
New York, NY

Wrote news, feature stories and blog posts for monthly publication. Wrote and recorded podcast segment. Edited and fact checked other writers' stories.

Intern, The Journal of Clinical Investigation **2012-2014**
Philadelphia, PA

Contributed research summaries for Scientific Show Stoppers blog. Edited article abstracts and wrote press releases about primary research articles on a weekly basis.

Blog writing

- ImmYOUology (immyounology.wordpress.com). A blog I started to relate current concepts and research in immunology to everyday life.
- "Got allergies? Try worms." Scizzle Blog, March 24, 2014
- "Trend setters: Innate lymphoid cells in immune tolerance," Scizzle Blog, May 1, 2014

Amanda B. Keener, PhD

amanda@amandabkeener.com • amandabkeener.com

Contributor, Compass Media, Inc.

October, 2013-May, 2014

Gulf Shores, AL

Wrote monthly travel articles for southern tourism website, visitsouth.com

Contributor, *Night and Day Magazine*

2004-2010

Spring Lake, NJ

Wrote entertainment and leisure articles and food reviews for magazine reaching 50,000 readers.

Graduate student researcher, Department of Microbiology and Immunology

2008-2014

UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

Research Trainee, Lab of Dr. Terrie Rife

May-August 2007

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates

Lab Assistant, Lab of Dr. Matthew Hardy

June-August 2005

Rockefeller University Population Council, New York, NY

Education

Doctorate, Microbiology and Immunology

September, 2014

UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

Advisor: Dr. Barbara Vilen

Thesis: B Cell Responses to *Staphylococcus aureus* infection

Bachelors of Science, Biology, Minor Chemistry (GPA, 3.7)

May, 2008

Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, VA

Study abroad, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland

January-May, 2007

Activities and Awards

Member, National Association of Science Writers

Research trainee, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Med-into-Grad Translational, 2009-2014

Trainee, National Institutes of Health Basic Immune Mechanisms, 2012-2014

Member and former chapter Vice President of Alpha Lambda Delta, Sweet Briar College Chapter

Member, Phi Beta Kappa, Sweet Briar Chapter

Awardee, the Sweet Briar College President's Office Student Research and Creative Endeavors Grant