Michelle Dong

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Experience

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

UX/UI Designer   February 2024 – Present

1 of 2 mobile designers for Merlin Bird ID and eBird at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, a non-profit organization dedicated to interpreting and conserving the Earth's biodiversity through research, education, and participatory science focused on birds and nature.

- Shipped improvements to Merlin Bird ID's search functionality across iOS and Android to over 7.5M monthly active users, reducing search-related support tickets by over 80%
- Collaborated with mobile and web engineers, project leads, and eBird Science team to release eBird track editing experience, improving data quality for one of the world's largest participatory science projects
- Spearheaded initiatives to integrate user research and usability testing into product development workflow. Enhanced design system using Material and Human Interface guidelines and improved color accessibility across platforms. Established team alignment on best practice location privacy practices

User Interface Design Intern   January 2021 – August 2022

- Led and shipped redesign of Merlin sound recordings library to support sorting, filtering, and searching. Built cross-platform design reference files to document releases and ensure implementation consistency

Amazon Alexa, Multimodal UX Design Intern   May 2023 – August 2023

- Developed an interaction framework to collect in-the-moment customer sentiment across AI-powered voice and touch experiences, including scalable GUI patterns, voice UI models, and an internal sentiment dashboard
- Prototyped high-fidelity design patterns based on voice interaction guidelines and hardware constraints, achieving alignment with product, design, and research stakeholders

Cornell App Dev, Product Designer   September 2021 – May 2023

- Designed and launched MVP of Scooped, an app to help Cornell students share car rides. Conducted user interviews and designed pre-enrollment notifications for CourseGrab, an app helping students get into courses

Community

The Ethical Tech Project, Fellow   October 2025 – December 2025

- 1 of 14 in Fall 2025 cohort. The ETP Fellows program is designed to ground tech ethics, responsible AI practices, privacy, and responsible tech in real-world context that technology and AI builders encounter in their jobs

Introduction to Digital Product Design, Course Instructor   August 2022 – May 2023

- Lectured and created content for student-led course on product thinking, interaction, and visual design for 100+ Cornell students. Managed 20+ teaching assistants and organized monthly community-building events

Education

Cornell University,   2020 – 2023
B.S. Information Science (UX Design + Behavioral Science)

Digital Product Design, App Design and Prototyping, Qualitative User Research and Design Methods, Computing and Global Development, Design and Programming for the Web, Data-Driven Web Applications. GPA: 3.94

Skills

Figma, Adobe Creative Suite, Miro, Dovetail, ProtoPie, HTML/CSS