

JAMES ALEXANDER BONUS

Curriculum Vitae

School of Communication, The Ohio State University
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2017 - Present Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University
School of Communication

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Communication Science, August 2017
University of Wisconsin - Madison

M.A. Communication Science, May 2014
University of Wisconsin – Madison

B.A. Sociology and Journalism, May 2012
Flagler College

RESEARCH FUNDING

2019 **Mattox Research Award** (\$11,000), School of Communication, for research productivity

2018 **School of Communication RFP Seed Grant**, *Communicating Gender Through Depictions of Careers in Children's Media* (\$49,943), joint award with Drs. Teresa Lynch, Amy Nathanson, and Susan Kline

2015 **Early Career Fellowship**, Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media (\$10,000), joint award with Alanna Peebles

RESEARCH AWARDS

2020 **Top 3 Paper**, Mass Communication Division, 106th National Communication Association (NCA) Conference, with N. Matthews.

Top Paper, Children Adolescents, & Media Division, 70th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, with J. Watts.

2019 **Top Paper**, Children, Adolescents, & Media Division, 69th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference

Top 3 Paper, Mass Communication Division, 69th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, with N. Matthews & T. Wulf.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Bonus, J. A., Lynch, T., Nathanson, A., & Watts, J. (in press). Counter-stereotypical, yet counterproductive? How families at a science museum respond to narratives that defy gender stereotypes. *Media Psychology*. doi:10.1080/15213269.2021.1971093

Bonus, J. A., Watts, J., & Stemen, D. (in press). Won't somebody think of the parents? Reevaluating the audience for children's educational media. *Journal of Children and Media*.

Bonus, J. A., Wing, H., & Watts, J. (in press). Finding refuge in reverie: The terror management function of nostalgic entertainment experiences. *Communication Monographs*. doi:10.1080/03637751.2021.1962933

Matthews, N. L. & **Bonus, J. A.** (in press). How moral expectancy violations influence audiences' affective dispositions toward characters. *Communication Research*. doi:10.1177/00936502211039959

Mares, M. L., **Bonus, J. A.**, & Peebles, A. (in press). Love or comprehension? Exploring strategies for children's prosocial media effects. *Communication Research*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1177/0093650218797411

McAndrew, J. & **Bonus, J. A.** (in press). I've got a girl crush: Parents' responses to stories about sexuality in children's television. *Journal of Homosexuality*. doi:10.1080/00918369.2021.1917222

Bonus, J. A. (2021). The influence of exposure to science television on U.S. parents' science explanations to their children. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 49(5), 569-588. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00909882.2021.1912376>

Bonus, J. A. (2021) Who I am is not who I was: Temporal comparisons mediate the effect of listening to nostalgic music on well-being. *Communication Research*, 48(8), 1091-1109. doi:10.1177/0093650218793806

Bonus, J. A., Matthews, N. L., & Wulf, T. (2021). The impact of moral expectancy violations on audiences' parasocial relationships with movie heroes and villains. *Communication Research*, 48(4), 550-572. doi:10.1177/0093650219886516

Bonus, J. A., & Watts, J. (2021). You can[?]t catch the sun in a net! Children's misinterpretations of

educational science television. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 202.
doi:10.1016/j.jecp.2020.105004

Watts, J., & **Bonus, J. A.** (2021). What do mothers learn from children's science television? *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 65(2), 228-247.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08838151.2021.1925281>

Bonus, J. A., Wulf, T., & Matthews, N. L. (2020). The cost of clairvoyance: Enjoyment and appreciation of a popular movie as a function of affective forecasting errors. *Journal of Media Psychology*, 32, 216-222. doi:10.1027/1864-1105/a000268

Watts, J., **Bonus, J. A.**, & Wing, H. (2020). Celebrating your Circle of Life: Eudaimonic responses to nostalgic entertainment experiences. *Journal of Communication*, 70(6), 794-818.
doi:10.1093/joc/jqaa030

Bonus, J. A. (2019). The impact of pictorial realism in educational science television on U.S. children's learning and transfer of biological facts. *Journal of Children and Media*, 13(4), 433-451. doi:10.1080/17482798.2019.1646295

Bonus, J. A., & Mares, M. L. (2019). Learned and remembered but rejected: Preschoolers' reality judgments and transfer from TV. *Communication Research*, 46(3), 375-400.
doi:10.1177/0093650215609980

Wulf, T., **Bonus, J. A.**, & Rieger, D. (2019). The inspired time traveler: Exploring the nature of nostalgic media experiences. *Media Psychology*, 5, 795-817.
doi:10.1080/15213269.2018.1532299

Bonus, J. A. & Mares, M. L. (2018). When the sun sings science, are children left in the dark? Representations of science in children's television and their effects on children's learning. *Human Communication Research*, 44, 449-472. doi: 10.1093/hcr/hqy009/5055861

Bonus, J. A., Peebles, A., Mares, M. L., & Sarmiento, I. G (2018). Look on the bright side (of media effects): Pokémon Go as a catalyst for positive life experiences. *Media Psychology*, 21(2), 263-287. doi:10.1080/15213269.2017.1305280

Peebles, A., **Bonus, J. A.**, & Mares, M. L. (2018). Questions + answers + agency: Interactive touchscreens and children's learning from a socio-emotional TV story. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 85, 339-348. doi:10.1016/j.chb.2018.03.039

Mares, M. L., Bartsch, A., & **Bonus, J. A.** (2016). When meaning matters more: Media preferences across the adult life span. *Psychology of Aging*, 31(5), 513-531. doi:10.1037/pag0000098

Bonus, J. A., Peebles, A., & Riddle, K. (2015). The influence of violent game enjoyment on hostile attribution bias. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 52, 472-483. doi:10.1016/j.chb.2015.05.044

Book Chapters

Mares, M. L., & **Bonus, J. A.** (2021). Life-span developmental changes in media entertainment

experiences. In P. Vorderer and C. Klimmt (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Entertainment Theory*. Oxford University Press.

Mares, M. L., & **Bonus, J. A.** (2019). Children's judgment of reality and fantasy. In R. Hobbs and P. Mihailidis (Eds.), *The International Encyclopedia of Media Literacy*. John Wiley & Sons.

Toma, C. L., **Bonus, J. A.**, & van Swol, L. (2019). Lying online: examining the production, detection, and popular beliefs surrounding interpersonal deception in technologically-mediated environments. In T. Docan-Morgan (Ed.), *Palgrave Handbook of Deceptive Communication*. Palgrave Macmillan.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Bonus, J. A., Lynch, T., Nathanson, A.,^a & Watts, J. (2021). Counter-stereotypical, yet counterproductive? Investigating children's responses to narratives that defy gender stereotypes. Presented at the *71st Annual International Communication Association Conference*, Virtual Conference.

Bonus, J.A., Wing, H., Watts, J. (2021). Finding refuge in reverie: The terror management function of nostalgic entertainment. Presented at the *71st Annual International Communication Association Conference*, Virtual Conference.

Matthews, N. L. & **Bonus, J. A.** (2020). How audiences update character dispositions in response to moral expectancy violations. Presented at the *106th Annual National Communication Association Conference*, Indianapolis, IN.
[TOP PAPER AWARD]

Watts, J., **Bonus, J. A.**, & Wing, H. (2020). Celebrating your *Circle of Life*: Eudaimonic responses to nostalgic entertainment experiences. Presented at the *106th Annual National Communication Association Conference*, Indianapolis, IN.

McAndrew, J. & **Bonus, J. A.** (2020). I've got a girl crush: Parents' responses to stories about sexuality in children's television. Presented at the *106th Annual National Communication Association Conference*, Indianapolis, IN.

Bonus, J. A., & Watts, J. (2020). "You can't catch the sun in a new!": Children's misinterpretations of educational science television. Presented at the *70th Annual International Communication Association Conference*, Gold Coast, Australia.
[TOP PAPER AWARD]

Watts, J. & **Bonus, J. A.** (2020). It's so easy, not even a grown-up can do it: U.S. mothers' learning from children's educational television. Presented at the *70th Annual International Communication Association Conference*, Gold Coast, Australia.

Watts, J. & **Bonus, J. A.** (2020). Finding meaning in the meaningless: Autobiographical transportation and appreciation as responses to nostalgic entertainment. Presented at the *70th*

Annual International Communication Association Conference, Gold Coast, Australia.

Bonus, J. A., Matthews, N. L., & Wulf, T. (2019). The impact of moral expectancy violations on audiences' parasocial relationships with movie heroes and villains. Presented at the 69th *International Communication Association Conference*, Washington D.C.
[TOP 3 PAPER AWARD]

Bonus, J. A. (2019). The impact of pictorial realism in educational science television on U.S. children's learning and transfer of biological facts. Presented at the 69th *International Communication Association Conference*, Washington D.C.
[TOP PAPER AWARD]

Wulf, T., **Bonus, J. A.,** & Matthews, N. L. (2019). The cost of clairvoyance: Enjoyment and appreciation of popular movies as a function of affective forecasting errors. Presented at the 69th *International Communication Association Conference*, Washington D.C.

Bonus, J. A. & Watts, J. (2019). Treasuring the past, savoring the present: The influence of nostalgic entertainment on enjoyment, appreciation, and vitality. Presented at the 69th *International Communication Association Conference*, Washington D.C.

Bonus, J.A., & Mares, M.-L. (2018). The effects of exposure to misinformation in science TV on children's science knowledge. Presented at the 68th *International Communication Association Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic.

Bonus, J.A. (2018). Temporal comparisons mediate the effect of listening to nostalgic music on well-being. Presented at the 68th *International Communication Association Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic.

Wulf, T., **Bonus, J. A.,** & Rieger, D. (2018). The inspired time traveler: Media-induced nostalgia fosters self-continuity. Presented at the 68th *International Communication Association Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Fall 2021	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 185), Rating: 4.60/5
Spring 2021	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 231), Rating: 4.73/5 Comm 3610: Communication Research Methods (<i>N</i> = 120), Rating: 4.81/5
Fall 2020	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 196), Rating: 4.78/5
Spring 2020	Comm 3513: Video Games and the Individual (<i>N</i> = 65), Rating: 4.80/5 Comm 3610: Communication Research Methods (<i>N</i> = 122), Rating: 4.85/5
Fall 2019	Comm 3513: Video Games and the Individual (<i>N</i> = 65), Rating: 4.81/5

Spring 2019	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 115), Rating: 4.67/5 Comm 3610: Communication Research Methods (<i>N</i> = 115), Rating: 4.70/5
Fall 2018	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 48), Rating: 4.77/5 Comm 3610: Communication Research Methods (<i>N</i> = 118), Rating: 4.66/5
Spring 2018	Comm 3440: Mass Communication & Society (<i>N</i> = 84), Rating: 4.1/5 Comm 3620: Interpersonal Communication (<i>N</i> = 105), Rating: 4.6/5
Fall 2017	Comm 3513: Video Games and the Individual (<i>N</i> = 22), Rating: 4.6/5

TEACHING AWARDS AND ENDORSEMENTS

2019	University Institute for Teaching and Learning Endorsement Course Design Institute Pathway
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EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial Board Member

Communication Research
Media Psychology
Journal of Children and Media

Peer Reviewer

	# of reviews performed
Communication Research	15
Media Psychology	10
Journal of Children and Media	9
Journal of Media Psychology	3
Journal of Communication Technology	2
Communication Reports	3
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology	2
Mobile Media Communication	2
Communication Monographs	2
Frontiers in Psychology	1
Psychology of Popular Media	2
Cognitive Development	2
PLOS One	1
Journal of Applied Communication Research	1

SERVICE

2020 – Present	Secretary
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ICA Children, Adolescents, and Media Division

2018 - Present

Member
School of Communication Diversity Committee

2018 - Present

Member
School of Communication Undergraduate Studies Committee

2016 - Present

Peer Reviewer
International Communication Association