

# Thomas Zauner

## Curriculum Vitae

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Thomas Zauner



## Work Experience

- 2022 – now **Science writer, Freelancer.**  
Selected works: *Feeding plants with electricity (scilog Magazine)*, *Cloud Clustering Causes More Extreme Rain (ISTA)*, *Elephant calls and chirping cheetahs (scilog Magazine)*, *Mit Nanoschwämmen gegen die Klimakrise (Der Standard, German)*, *Sprachmodelle wie ChatGPT könnten lange Medikamentenstudien verkürzen (Der Standard, German)*.
- 2023 **Senior science writer, Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA).**  
Three-month appointment as a Senior Science Writer to provide short-term support to ISTA's communications team with copywriting and media relations.
- 2020 – 2022 **Science writer, Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA).**  
Writing *press releases*, *science stories*, and *dossiers* on the research done at ISTA in both English and German. Coordinating media request and the production of *video* and photo material. Administration of the Institute's customer relations management system and its digital asset management system.
- 2019 – 2020 **Event manager, Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA).**  
Organizing the Science-Industry Talk in 2019 and 2020, the TWIST Talk series for networking between science and industry, the *Top Models in Science summer camp* for teenagers, as well as several other events.
- 2017 – 2018 **Theoretical research assistant, Brukner Group, IQOQI.**  
Theoretical research for my Master's thesis at the IQOQI.
- 2014 – 2015 **Experimental research assistant, Aspelmeyer Group, University of Vienna.**  
Building experimental quantum optics setups, characterizing nano-membranes, digitally designing parts of the experiment, and programming simulations.

## Education

- 2022 **Science Journalism Summer School, Logische Phantasie Lab.**
- 2021 – 2022 **Undergraduate Certificate in Creative Non-Fiction Writing, University of Cambridge.**  
*Remote certificate by the University of Cambridge with a focus on science communication.*
- 2018 – 2019 **Studies in Science and Technology Studies, University of Vienna.**  
On the interactions and mutual influences of science, technology, and society at the *Department of Science and Technology Studies*.
- 2016 – 2018 **Master of Science in Physics, University of Vienna.**  
Specialization on fundamental quantum information theory. Graduation with distinction.
- 2012 – 2016 **Bachelor of Science in Physics, University of Vienna.**  
Focus on quantum theory and statistical physics. Including an Erasmus+ exchange semester at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. Graduation with distinction.

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## Voluntary Engagement

- 2020 – now **Head community organizer**, *Science Communication Meetup*, Vienna.  
Establishment of a community of young science communicators and coordination of regular meetings where community members exchange experiences and network with each other and with invited experts in science communication.
- 2021 – now **Copy editor and fact-checker**, *Science for the People Magazine*, USA.  
Copy editing and fact-checking texts for the *Science for the People Magazine*.
- 2019 – 2020 **Communication manager**, *Klimavolksbegehren*, Vienna.  
Creation, coordination, and mailing of the internal and external newsletters for the national *People's Referendum on Climate Protection*.
- 2018 – 2019 **Head**, *INSIST Group*, Vienna.  
As the INSIST Group, we organized events for students at the Department of Science and Technology Studies at the University of Vienna to provide a platform for interdisciplinary networking.
- 2015 – 2019 **Head**, *THINK Conference*.  
For five years, I served as the head in the team of the annual *THINK Conference*, which provides young people with a platform for interdisciplinary scientific exchange. Since 2017, I also served first as the vice-president and then as the president of the THINK Association. I was responsible for overseeing tasks and meetings, finding locations, mailing invitations, maintaining the website, and managing the THINK Association.
- 2017 **Co-head**, *Shut Up and Contemplate! Symposium*,  
Faculty of Physics of the University of Vienna.  
Head in the team of the *Shut Up and Contemplate! Symposium* on Philosophy, Science and Society. For this event, I managed the official coordination, directed colleagues, hosted a public session, and organized the printing of advertisement materials.

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## Further Skills

- Presentation Talks on scientific topics and moderation in English and German.  
Software Affinity Suite, Adobe Indesign und Illustrator, MS Office, WordPress, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.  
Photography Semi-professional event and portrait photography.  
Design Digital design and professional printing.

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## Scholarships

- 2023 *European Forum Alpbach* scholarship via Club Alpbach Lower Austria.  
2013 – 2018 Six times awarded the merit scholarship of the University of Vienna.  
2017 Lower Austria merit scholarship for my bachelor's degree.  
2014 Lower Austria TOP-Stipendium scholarship for the exchange semester.

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## Languages

- German (native) English (fluent, C2 level, 8.5 IELTS)