

CURRICULUM VITAE
LAURA A. ALBA

CURRENT POSITION

Child and Adolescent Psychologist, Center for Autism Care, UT Southwestern and Children's Medical Center

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, UT Southwestern Medical Center

EDUCATION

- | | | |
|-------|--|------|
| Ph.D. | Education, Specialization in School Psychology School of Education, University of California, Riverside <i>Advisors</i> : Shulamite Green, Ph.D. and Austin H. Johnson, Ph.D. <i>Dissertation title</i> : <i>Behavioral and Biological Markers of Sensory Over-Responsivity in Youth with Early Caregiving Adversity: Associations with Social Emotional Development</i> | 2022 |
| M.A. | Education, Specialization in School Psychology School of Education, University of California, Riverside <i>Advisor</i> : Austin H. Johnson, Ph.D. | 2020 |
| M.S. | Neuroscience and Education Teachers College, Columbia University <i>Advisor</i> : Nim Tottenham, Ph.D. and Christine B. Cha, Ph.D. | 2017 |
| B.A. | Psychology Department of Psychology San Diego State University | 2015 |

LICENSES

Licensed Psychologist, Texas (#39736)
Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Texas (#72385)
Nationally Certified School Psychologist (#65611)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent in writing, reading, and speaking)
Spanish (native speaker and fluent in writing, reading, and speaking)

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Mercado-Anazagasty, J., Ramirez, A., **Alba, L. A.**, & Johnson, A. H. (2024). Exploring differences in spanish-and english-speaking parents' experiences with individualized education program meetings. *Remedial and Special Education*, 07419325241267240.
- Fallon, L., Robinson-Link, P., Womack, T.A., **Alba, L.A.**, Sunda, R., Ballard, S., Veiga, M., Johnson, A. H. (2023). Learning to decenter whiteness in schools through teacher professional development. *School Psychology*, 1-17.
- Méndez Leal, A.* , **Alba, L. A. ***, Cummings, K., Jung, J., Waizman, Y., Guassi Moreira, J., Saragosa-Harris, N., Ninova, E., Waterman, J., Langley, A., Tottenham, N., Silvers, J.+ , Green, S.+ (2022). Sensory processing challenges as a novel link between early caregiving experiences and mental health. *Development and Psychopathology*, 1-14.
- Johnson, A. H., Yu, R., Bains, B. K., **Alba L. A.**, & Womack, T. A. (2022). Understanding preferences of general educators for addressing disruptive classroom behavior. *School Psychology*, 38(2), 100.
- Alba, L. A.**, Mercado Anazagasty, J., Ramirez, A., & Johnson A. H. (2022). Parents' perspectives about special education needs during Covid-19: Differences between Spanish and English-speaking parents. *Journal of Latinos and Education*. doi: 10.1080/15348431.2022.2056184
- Waisman, T. C., **Alba, L. A.**, & Green, S. A. (2022). Barriers to inclusive learning for autistic individuals. *Pediatrics*, 149 (Supplement 4).
- Katic, B.* , **Alba, L. A.***, & Johnson, A. H. (2020). A systematic evaluation of restorative justice practices: School violence prevention and response. *Journal of School Violence*, 1-15. doi: 10.1080/15388220.2020.1783670
- Losh, A.* , **Alba, L. A.***, Blacher, J., & Stavropoulos, K. K. M. (2020). Neuroimaging research with diverse children with ASD: Impact of a social story on parent understanding and likelihood of participation. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 71, 101511. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2020.101511>
- Alba, L. A.**, Flannery, J., Shapiro, M., & Tottenham, N. (2019). Working memory moderates the association between early institutional care and separation anxiety symptoms in late childhood and adolescence. *Development and Psychopathology*, 31(3), 989-997. doi:10.1017/S0954579419000452
- Abbott, A. E., Linke, A. C., Nair, A., Jahedi, A., **Alba, L. A.**, Keown, C. L., ... & Müller, R. A. (2018). Repetitive behaviors in autism are linked to imbalance of corticostriatal connectivity: A functional connectivity MRI study. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 13(1), 32-42. doi: 10.1093/scan/nsx129

Stavropoulos, K. K., & **Alba, L. A.** (2018). "It's so cute I could crush it!": Understanding neural mechanisms of Cute Aggression. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, 12, 300.

* - Shared first author

+ - Shared last author

PUBLICATIONS IN SUBMISSION

Alba, L. A. Emphasizing the experiences of Spanish-speaking parents of children in special education: A review. *Manuscript under review*

BOOK CHAPTERS

Alba, L. A., Baker, E., & Stavropoulos, K. K. (2021). In Vivo Electrophysiology for Reward Anticipation and Processing. In *The Brain Reward System* (pp. 307-326). Humana, New York, NY.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alba, L. A., Womack, T. A., & Katic B. (2021). Fostering social justice and anti-racist approaches in graduate training. *The School Psychologist* 70 (2), 9-14

Alba, L. A. & Bains, B. K. (2022). School psychology graduate training to support students experiencing homelessness. *Communique* 50 (7).

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Alba, L. A., Laurie C. Landrieu, Emily Armstrong, & Kimberly Komon. (in prep). Divergent linguistic perspectives: Contrasting ratings by parents and teachers among autistic youth.

Alba, L. A. (in prep). Breaking barriers: Strengthening family-school communication for culturally diverse families of children in special education.

NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Hogan-Sandi V. & **Alba, L. A.** (February 2025). *Spanish-English Bilingual practitioners: Navigating challenges and leveraging strengths*. Practitioner Conversation to be presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Seattle, WA

Alba, L. A., Laurie C. Landrieu, Emily Armstrong, & Kimberly Komon. (August 2024). *Divergent linguistic perspectives: Contrasting ratings by parents and teachers among autistic youth*. To be presented at the American Psychological Association (APA) Conference, Seattle, WA.

- Lugo-Morales W. & **Alba, L. A.** (February 2023). *Considerations for autism evaluations with Spanish-speaking children*. Practitioner Conversation presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Denver, CO
- Alba, L. A.**, Bains, B.K., Womack, T.A., Johnson, A.H., & Yu, R. (February 2022). *Understanding preferences of general educators for addressing disruptive classroom behavior*. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Boston, MA.
- Alba, L. A.**, Mercado Anazagasty, J., Ramirez, A., & Johnson A. H. (February 2022). *Parents' perspectives about special education needs during Covid-19: Differences between Spanish and English-speaking parents*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Boston, MA.
- Alba, L. A.** *The role of early life stress in children and adolescents' daily lives: Research and educational implications*. (May 2021). Invited Talk for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Noyce Scholars program, Riverside, CA.
- Alba, L. A.**, Bains, B. K., Katic, B., & Johnson, A. H. (February 2021). *Understanding school-based protective factors against out-of-school suspensions*. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Virtual.
- Alba, L. A.**, Youkhanna, V., Baker, B. & Blacher, J. (December 2020). *Individualized transition plans for students with autism spectrum disorder and/or intellectual disabilities: What parents need to know*. Poster presented at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), Virtual.
- Stavropoulos, K. K. M., Baker, E., **Alba, L. A.**, & Veytsman, E. (May 2020). *Impact of PEERS social skills intervention on social motivation and reward*. Paper presented at the International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Virtual.
- Alba, L. A.**, Patterson, G., Narez, J., Cummings, K., Jung, J., Okada, N., Méndez Leal, A. S., Silvers, J., Bookheimer, S., Dapretto, M., Tottenham, N., & Green, S. A. (April 2020). *Sensory over-responsivity and its relationship with socio-emotional functioning in youth with early caregiving adversity*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, Virtual.
- Méndez Leal, A. S., Moreira, J. G., Waizman, Y., Saragosa-Harris, N., Ninova, E., **Alba, L. A.**, Green, S. A., & Silvers, J. (April 2020). *Pre-registration: Moderation of Sensory over-responsivity by neural markers of cognitive control in previously institutionalized youth*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, Virtual.
- Katic, B., **Alba, L. A.**, & Johnson, A.H. (February 2020). *Dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline: Identifying interventions for aggression among adolescents*. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Baltimore, MD.

- Losh, A., **Alba, L. A.**, Blacher, J., & Stavropoulos, K. (May 2019). *Parent understanding of EEG study procedures for culturally and linguistically diverse children with ASD: Impact of a social story*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting (INSAR), Montreal, Canada.
- Ledoux, M. R., **Alba, L. A.**, Stavropoulos, K., & Blacher, J. (May 2019). *The influence of restrictive repetitive behaviors on the relationship between autism severity and sleep problems in children*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Montreal, Canada.
- Veytsman, E., Martin, A.M., **Alba, L. A.**, Blacher, J., & Stavropoulos, K. (May 2019). *Cultural adaptation of an evidence-based social skills intervention for Latino families in the inland empire: A feasibility study*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting (INSAR), Montreal, Canada.
- Katic, B., **Alba, L. A.**, & Johnson, A. H. (February 2019). *Responding to school violence through a restorative justice framework*. Poster presented at the National Association for School Psychology (NASP) Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA.
- Stavropoulos, K.K.M., **Alba, L. A.**, Bolourian, Y. (August 2018). *"It's so cute I could crush it!" Understanding neural mechanisms of cute aggression*. Paper presented at the American Psychological Association (APA) Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Kandlur, R., **Alba, L. A.**, & Cha, C.B. (November 2017). *The relation between executive functioning and lethality of suicide attempts among adolescents*. Poster presented at the 50th Annual International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Washington, D.C.
- Alba L.A.** & Cha C.B. (November 2017). *Timing of adverse childhood experiences and nonsuicidal self-injury: The potential role of executive functioning*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Conference (ABCT), San Diego, CA.
- Kshtriya, S., **Alba, L. A.**, & Cha, C.B. (May 2017). *Exploring the association between timing of adverse childhood experiences and suicide-related outcomes*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), Boston, MA.
- Alba L. A.**, Flannery J., Shapiro M., Caldera C., Goff B., Garbard-Durham L., Humphreys K. H., Telzer E., Louie J., Tottenham N. (April 2017). *Working memory moderates the association between early institutional care and separation anxiety in adolescence*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Austin, TX.
- Alba L. A.**, Ebo T.I., Cha C.B., & Nock M.K. (November 2016). *Who is at risk of self-injuring earlier in life? The role of childhood maltreatment*. Poster presented at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Conference (ABCT), New York, NY.

Alba L. A., DeAnda S., Zesiger P., Poulin-Dubois D., Friend M. (March 2015). *Prediction from early comprehension to vocabulary production in the third year in Spanish-speaking children*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Philadelphia, PA.

REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Alba, L. A. (June 2015). *Predictors for early vocabulary production of 40-month-old monolingual Spanish-speaking children*. Presented at the SDSU Undergraduate Honors Thesis Research Symposium, San Diego, CA.

Olmedo M., Grindrod D. M., Monjaras L. Y., **Alba L. A.**, Gonzalez R., Cala C. M., O'Neal D., Hokoda, A., & Ulloa E. (May 2014). *Helping to empower authentic relationships for teens: violence intervention education*. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association (WPA), Portland, OR.

AWARDS AND HONORARIA

| | |
|---|---------|
| Noyce Scholars Symposia Scholarship National Science Foundation | 2021 |
| Dean Irving H. Balow Fellowship UCR School of Education | 2021 |
| Gates Collegiate Forum Fellowship Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation | 2020-21 |
| Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Fellowship University of California (UC-LEND) | 2019-20 |
| Travel Award University of California, Riverside, School of Education | 2019 |
| Travel Award University of California, Riverside, Graduate Student Association | 2019 |
| Eugene Cota-Robles Award (ECRA) University of California, Riverside | 2017-21 |
| Faculty Mini-Grant for Undergraduate Research San Diego State University | 2014-15 |

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Sensory, Cognitive, and Affective Neurodevelopment Lab, Los Angeles, CA <i>Supervisor: Shulamite Green, Ph.D.</i> | 2020-2022 |
| Social Justice and School Violence Prevention Lab, Riverside, CA Graduate Co-founder | 2018-2022 |
| Inland Behavior Lab, Riverside, CA <i>Supervisor: Austin Johnson, Ph.D.</i> | 2020 |
| Developmental Affective Neuroscience Lab, New York, NY <i>Supervisor: Nim Tottenham, Ph.D.</i> | 2015-17 |
| Clinical and Developmental Studies Lab, New York, NY <i>Supervisor: Christine B. Cha, Ph.D.</i> | 2015-17 |

Undergraduate Student Researcher

| | |
|--|---------|
| Infant and Child Development Lab, San Diego, CA <i>Supervisor: Margaret Friend, Ph.D.</i> | 2013-15 |
| Brain Imaging Lab, San Diego, CA <i>Supervisor: Ralph Axel Müller, Ph.D. and Inna Fishman, Ph.D.</i> | 2013-15 |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Riverside | School of Education

| | |
|---|---|
| Teaching Assistant Research Methods in Education | Spring 2021, Winter 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2020 |
| Guest Lecturer Social Development and Education | Fall 2020 |
| Teaching Assistant Language in Education | Summer 2020 |
| Teaching Assistant Human Development | Winter 2019 |
| Teaching Assistant Social Development and Education | Spring 2018 |

Teaching Assistant
Learning Theory and Psychology in Education

Summer 2018

Columbia University | Department of Psychology

Teaching Assistant
Developmental Psychology

Fall 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

| | |
|---|-----------|
| School Psychologist Lewisville Independent School District Lewisville, Texas | 2023-2024 |
| Post-Doctoral Fellow in Child Clinical Psychology Center for Autism Care, UT Southwestern and Children's Medical Center Dallas, TX | 2022-2023 |
| Pre-doctoral Psychology Intern Lewisville Independent School District, Lewisville, TX APA-Accredited Supervisor: Jenne Simental, Ph.D., LSSP, Licensed Psychologist & Wilbeth Lugo-Morales, Ph.D., LSSP, Licensed Psychologist | 2021-2022 |
| Practicum Student [Year 4] Hemet Unified School District, Hemet, CA <i>Supervisor: Yolanda Haro, M.A., PPS</i> | 2021 |
| Practicum Student [Year 4] Riverside County Department of Mental Health, Lake Elsinore, CA <i>Supervisor: Stephanie Peoples, Psy.D.</i> | 2020 |
| LEND Trainee UCLA Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disorders Clinic, Los Angeles, CA <i>Supervisor: Alice Kuo, MD and Bobby Verdugo, LCSW</i> | 2020 |
| Practicum Student [Year 3] Alessandro School Moreno Valley Unified School District, Moreno, CA <i>Supervisor: Tammy Makela, M.A., PPS</i> | 2019-20 |
| Practicum Student [Year 2] Norco Intermediate School Corona/Norco Unified School District, Norco, CA <i>Supervisor: Ariana Aldon, M.A., PPS</i> | 2018-19 |
| Practicum Student [Year 1] San Jacinto Unified School District, San Jacinto, CA | 2017-18 |

Supervisor: Leslie Finale, M.A., PPS and Kayla Martindale, M.A.

Academic Peer Advisor 2014-15
San Diego State University, San Diego, CA
Supervisor: Emilio Ulloa, Ph.D.

Volunteer, Teen Relationship Violence 2013-14
San Diego State University, San Diego, CA
Supervisor: Audrey Hokoda, Ph.D. and Emilio Ulloa, Ph.D.

Peer Mental Health Counselor 2012-13
Victor Community Support Services, Perris, CA
Supervisor: Danielle Gross, LMFT

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) Training August 2021
 Lewisville Independent School District
Facilitator: Kimberly Komon, Ph.D.

MIGDAS-2 Training (7 hours) August 2021
 Lewisville Independent School District
Facilitator: Kimberly Komon, Ph.D.

PREP_aRE Training May 2019
 WS1: Crisis Prevention and Preparedness (6.5 hours)
Facilitator: Austin Johnson Ph.D.

ADOS-2 Training (16 hours) June 2018
 University of California, Riverside
Facilitator: Themba Carr, Ph.D.

Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS) February 2018
 UCLA Semel Institute of Neuroscience and Human Behavior
Facilitator: Elizabeth Laugeson, Psy.D.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

MCH Leadership Trainee 2019-20
 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Network

Student Affiliates in School Psychology

- **President, UCR Chapter** 2019-20
- **Vice President, UCR Chapter** 2018-19

President, UCR Chapter 2019-20

Student Affiliates in School Psychology, Diversity Subgroup

Search Committee Member

2019-20

Faculty Search, School Psychology, University of California, Riverside

Department Representative

2018-19

University of California, Riverside, Graduate Student Association

MEDIA

Interview with Tess Eyrich for Inside UCR (August 12, 2020). *Restorative Justice Shows Promise in K-12 Schools*. <https://insideucr.ucr.edu/stories/2020/08/12/restorative-justice-shows-promise-k-12-schools>

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association for School Psychologists (NASP)

American Psychological Association (APA)

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)