

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alexander Mitsuo Shimozone was born on September 2, 1994 to Mark and Tamara Shimozone in Boston, MA. He grew up in Blacksburg, VA where he developed a love and passion for sports (GO HOKIES!), in particular baseball and basketball. Raised by a mathematician father, he was taught to appreciate basic science and encouraged to put a healthy effort into his studies.

In 2013, Alex began his undergraduate education at the University of Richmond, starting Biochemistry and Molecular Biology research in Professor Ellis Bell's lab. After doing summer research back home at Virginia Tech in Dr. Paul Carlier's lab, he returned to the University of Richmond and fell in love with organic chemistry after taking classes with Prof. Kristine Nolin. He then joined the lab of Prof. (Emeritus) John Gupton where he found his passion for research. In his time in Prof. Gupton's lab, Alex had the privilege of working on several projects centered around pyrrole chemistry including contributing to a method for Pd-catalyzed Suzuki cross-coupling of activated bromo-pyrroles.

After earning his B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Richmond, he made the long trek across the country to pursue a Ph.D. under the guidance and mentorship of Prof. Sarah Reisman at Caltech. Though he was intent on braving the trials of total synthesis when he entered graduate school, he eventually found his passion exploring Ni-catalysis. Ultimately, Alex's graduate work has straddled the border between methodology development and total synthesis as unexpected challenges in total synthesis have inspired several of the Ni-catalysis projects he has worked on. Following his Ph.D., Alex will continue to learn more about transition metals in the lab of Prof. Paul Chirik at Princeton as a postdoctoral scholar. He hopes one day to run his own research program.