

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jane Ni was born on December 17th, 1987 in Shanghai, China to Kang Mei Wang and Wei Hua Ni. She moved to Montreal, Canada at age 3, and then to Toronto during the third grade, where her parents currently reside. She has loved swimming from a very young age, and continues to do so today. During high school, she also enjoyed sailing, especially in the beautiful lakes of Northern Ontario, and learning karate.

At the University of Toronto, she had the good fortune of having amazing chemistry professors, including Profs. Ronald Kluger and Robert Batey, and learned that chemistry actually is not a collection of foreign-looking symbols. During her second year, she had the opportunity to conduct research in the laboratory of Prof. Andrew Woolley. Later, after developing an interest in organic chemistry, she decided to conduct research in the lab of Prof. Vy Dong, where she investigated transition metal-catalyzed C–H activation reactions. It was this experience that inspired Jane to apply to graduate school.

Upon obtaining her undergraduate degree in 2009, she decided to venture to sunnier climates to conduct doctoral research in the lab of Professor Sarah E. Reisman at the California Institute of Technology. Her graduate work focused on the development of asymmetric protonation methods for the synthesis of indoline alkaloids. In October 2014, Jane will commence a postdoctoral fellowship with Prof. Martin F. Semmelhack in the Chemistry Department at Princeton University.