

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alan Hayden Cherney was born on April 28, 1988 to Marc and Leora Cherney in Chicago, Illinois. He was raised in nearby Skokie and Morton Grove, graduating from Niles North High School in 2006. That same year, Alan moved downstate to pursue his undergraduate education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While an interest in the chemical sciences compelled him to pursue a degree in chemical engineering, a passion for the complexities of organic synthesis was fostered during his second year of education. Joining the laboratory of Prof. Martin Burke gave Alan his first taste of organic chemistry research, resulting in a study on the scope of Suzuki–Miyaura cross-couplings of allenes. After receiving his B.S. degree in chemical engineering in 2010, Alan decided to join the dark side and pursue a future as a chemist.

This future took Alan from the golden cornfields of Illinois to the golden skies of California, where he enrolled at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. He commenced his doctoral studies under the supervision of Prof. Sarah Reisman and focused his research on the development of asymmetric nickel-catalyzed reductive cross-coupling reactions. His time in Pasadena came to a happy end when he was awarded his Ph.D. in chemistry in 2015. In the fall of 2015, Alan will remain in California, making the short move to Thousand Oaks to begin his industrial career within a process chemistry group at Amgen.