



Veronica Allen



ASTROCHEMIST + SCIENCE COMMUNICATOR

After spending the past 10 years as a successful researcher, I found that my heart lies more with bringing astronomy to others. With a lifelong passion and a decade of sharing my knowledge with the public, I am now making the transition fully to communication.

AstrochemistVeronica.com - AstrochemistVeronica@gmail.com

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- **Translating research** into graphics, text and presentations
- Adapting for **specific age groups** from 4-year-olds to retirees
- **Advising researchers** how to communicate their research according to personal style
- **Visual Design**
- **Creative**, non-linear, divergent thinking

EDUCATION

* University of Groningen 2014 - 2018

PhD Astrochemistry

- Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Floris F. S. van der Tak
- **Thesis Title:** "Organic chemistry around young high-mass stars: observational and theoretical"

* University of Leeds, UK 2009 - 2013

MPhys/BSc Physics w/ Astrophysics

- MPhys thesis: "Accretion rates and CO disk analysis in massive young stellar objects"

MEDIA COLLABS

Quest.nl Sept 2024

"Wat is een planetoïde en wat gebeurt er als er een inslaat op aarde?"

Stadium Generale Dec 2022

"KennisCafé In Het Licht" (panel)

Linda.nl Meiden Oct 2022

"Noord, oost, zuid of west: zò bekijk jij de sterren het best"

UKrant Oct 2022

"Staren naar driekwart van de zon"

oogTV Oct 2022

"Kom naar Zpannend Zernike"

LANGUAGES

English: Native

Nederlands: CEFR B2/C1

Français: A2/B1

WORK EXPERIENCE

SCIENCE COMMUNICATOR

2014 - Now

Astrochemist Veronica

- Volunteered at events with **Blaauw Sterrenwacht** (RUG) and **NASA GSFC** 2014-2020.
- Co-organizer and activity creator for the three annual events at **Blaauw Sterrenwacht** since 2021.
- Writing and delivering astronomy lessons for children ages 4-12 since 2017
- Creating science interpretation graphics as **Astrochemist Veronica** since March 2024
- Collaborations with BijVRIJDAG, Biblionet Groningen, IMC Weekendschool, Stichting Technasium, SparkLab, and others.
- Organized month-long **outreach tour** of South Africa and Namibia for summer 2024 reaching over 1000 students in seven cities.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

University of Groningen,

2021 - Now

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

2018 - 2021

- **NWO Veni** Fellowship and **NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP)** fellowship
- Research focus : **astrochemistry**, the origin of life, solar system, and star formation using sub-millimeter telescopes (mostly ALMA)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ADVOCATE

University of Groningen,

2017 - Now

European Astronomical Society,

2023 - Now

International Astronomical Union

2023 - Now

- **March for Science NL** - co-organizer 2017/18
- **International Day for Women and Girls in Science** - co-organizer/chair 2024
- **EAS EDI Advisory Council** - active member. Organized and chaired 2024 sessions
- **IAU EDI for Astronomy Working Group** - Mental Health and Neurodiversity sub-group co-chair