

ADRIEL JOHN ORENA

Postdoctoral Researcher, University of British Columbia

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EDUCATION & RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2019 –** **FRQNT Postdoctoral Researcher**, Infant Studies Centre, Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia
Advisor: Dr. Janet Werker
- 2013 – 2018** **Ph.D. Communication Sciences and Disorders**, Infant Speech Perception Lab, McGill University
Advisor: Dr. Linda Polka
Dissertation: Growing up bilingual: examining the speech input and word segmentation abilities of bilingual infants
- 2008 – 2013** **B.A. Honours Psychology and Business**, Specialization in Digital Arts Communications, University of Waterloo
Advisor: Dr. Katherine White
Thesis: Toddlers' Processing of Speech Disfluencies

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2019 – 2020** Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Fonds de recherche Nature et Technologies (FRQNT), \$110,000
- 2017 – 2018** Raymond H. Stetson Scholarship in Phonetics and Speech Science, Acoustical Society of America, \$20,000 USD
- 2017** Internal Studentship, Faculty of Medicine, McGill University, \$12,000
- 2014 – 2017** Postgraduate Scholarship (Doctoral), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), \$63,000
- 2013 – 2014** Canada Graduate Scholarship (Masters), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), \$17,500
- 2011** Undergraduate Student Research Award; Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), \$4,500

AWARDS

- 2019** Mission Award, as contributor to the ManyBabies1 Collaboration, Society for Improvement of Psychological Science
- 2018** "Silence to Sound" Award, IODE, \$1,000
- 2018** Student Poster Award; Acoustical Society of America, \$200 USD
- 2017** Graduate Travel Award, Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music, \$700
- 2017** Drs. Annalee & Mark Abelson Travel Fund in Medicine, McGill University, \$700
- 2015** Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, McGill University, \$700
- 2013** Certificate of Academic Excellence for outstanding Honours thesis in Canada, Canadian Psychological Association

PUBLICATIONS

- The ManyBabies Consortium (2020). Quantifying sources of variability in infancy research using the infant-directed speech preference. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*.
- Orena, A.J.**, Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2019). What do bilingual infants actually hear? Evaluating measures of caregiver speech to 10-month-old, bilingual-learning infants. *Developmental Science*. doi:10.1111/desc.12901
- Orena, A.J.**, Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2019). Reliability of the Language Environment Analysis (LENA) in a French-English bilingual speech context. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*. doi:10.1044/2019_JSLHR-L-18-0342
- Orena, A.J.**, & Polka, L. (2019). Monolingual and bilingual infants' word segmentation abilities in an inter-mixed dual-language task. *Infancy*. doi:10.1111/infa.12296
- Orena, A.J.**, Theodore, R.M., & Polka, L. (2019). Identifying bilingual talkers across languages: Language experience matters. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 145(4), EL303. doi:10.1121/1.5097735
- Polka, L., **Orena, A.J.**, Sundara, M., & Worrall, J. (2017). Segmenting words from fluent speech during infancy - challenges and opportunities in a bilingual context. *Developmental Science*, 20(1). doi:10.1111/desc.12419
- Kadam, M.A., **Orena, A.J.**, Theodore, R.M., & Polka, L. (2016). Reading ability influences native and non-native voice recognition, even for unimpaired readers. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 139(1), EL6-EL12. doi:10.1121/1.4937488
- Orena, A.J.** & White, K.S. (2015). I forget what that's called! Children's on-line processing of disfluencies depends on speaker knowledge. *Child Development*, 86(6), 1701-1709. doi:10.1111/cdev.12421
- Orena, A.J.**, Theodore, R.M. & Polka, L. (2015). Language exposure facilitates talker learning prior to language comprehension, even in adults. *Cognition*, 143, 36 - 40. doi:10.1016/j.cognition.2015.06.002

WORK IN PREPARATION & UNDER REVISION

- Kremin, L., **Orena, A.J.**, Polka, L., & Byers-Heinlein, K. (under review). Code-switching in parents' everyday speech to bilingual infants.
- The ManyBabies Consortium (under review). A multi-lab study of bilingual infants: Exploring the preference for infant-directed speech.
- Theodore, R.M., Monto, N.R., **Orena, A.J.**, & Polka, L. (revising to resubmit). The language familiarity effect for voice recognition is not contingent on lexical access. *Data collected and analyzed, manuscript in revision to resubmit*.

Xu, K., **Orena, A.J.**, Ruan, Y., & Polka, L. (in preparation). The influence of bilingual input on infant volubility and turn-taking at 10-months of age. *Data collected and analyzed, manuscript in progress.*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

Ruan, Y., Polka, L., **Orena, A.J.**, & Xu, K. (2020). Factors affecting the vocalization of bilingual infants across development, 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Dec 2020 [poster], Chicago, Illinois

Orena, A.J., & Werker, J.F. (2020). Learning the voices of unfamiliar people: evidence from 4- and 8-month-olds, XXII ICIS Biennial Congress, July 2020 [poster], Virtual Conference.

Kremin, L., **Orena, A.J.**, Polka, L., & Byers-Heinlein, K. (2020). Changes in parental code-switching across infant development, XXII ICIS Biennial Congress, July 2020 [poster], Virtual Conference.

Ruan, Y., **Orena, A.J.**, Polka, L., & Xu, K. (2020). The effects of language and social contexts on bilingual infant vocalization, XXII ICIS Biennial Congress, July 2020 [poster], Virtual Conference.

Kremin, L., **Orena, A.J.**, Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2019). Switching it up: investigating naturalistic, infant-directed code-switching, Boston University Conference of Language Development (BUCLD) 44, November 2019 [poster], Boston, MA.

Xu, K., **Orena, A.J.**, Ruan, Y., & Polka, L. (2019). Factors influencing infant volubility and turn-taking in bilingual infants, Boston University Conference of Language Development (BUCLD) 44, November 2019 [talk], Boston, MA.

Orena, A.J., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2019). Examining the dual language input to bilingual infants in a naturalistic context, International Symposium on Bilingualism 12, June 2019 [talk], Edmonton, AB.

Kremin, L., **Orena, A.J.**, Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2019). Investigating Naturalistic Code-Switching Directed Towards Infants, Acoustical Society of America, May 2019 [poster], Louisville, KY.

Xu, K., **Orena, A.J.**, Ruan, Y., & Polka, L. (2019). The effects of parental interaction on French-English bilingual infants' vocalization and turn-taking rates, Acoustical Society of America, May 2019 [poster], Louisville, KY.

Orena, A.J., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2018). How well do parent reports reflect their bilingual children's language environment?, XXI ICIS Biennial Congress, June 2018 [poster], Philadelphia, PA.

Orena, A.J., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2018). Using the LENA recording system to investigate speech input to bilingual infants: challenges and opportunities, Development: A Canadian Conference on Developmental Psychology, May 2018 [poster], Niagara Region, ON.

Orena, A.J., Srouji, J. S., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Polka, L. (2018). Evaluating the LENA recording system for investigating speech input in a French-English bilingual context, Acoustical Society of America,

May 2018 [poster], Minneapolis, MN.

Orena, A.J., & Polka, L. (2017). Segmenting words from bilingual speech: evidence from 8- and 10-month-olds, Acoustical Society of America, December 2017 [poster], New Orleans, LA.

Orena, A.J., & Polka, L. (2017). The relationship between language experience and infants' word segmentation skills, Boston University Conference of Language Development (BUCLD) 42, November 2017 [poster], Boston, MA.

Orena, A.J., & Polka, L. (2017). Bilingual infants' word segmentation abilities in a mixed dual-language task, Workshop on Infant Language Development, July 2017 [talk], Bilbao, Spain.

Theodore, R.M., Monto, N.R., **Orena, A.J., & Polka, L. (2016).** The native language benefit for voice recognition is not contingent on lexical access, Acoustical Society of America, November 2016 [poster], Honolulu, HI.

Orena, A.J., Theodore, R.M. & Polka, L. (2016). Language familiarity mediates identification of bilingual talkers across languages, Acoustical Society of America, November 2016 [poster], Honolulu, HI.

Kadam, M.A., **Orena, A.J., Theodore, R.M., & Polka, L. (2015).** Gradient effects of reading ability on native and non-native talker identification, Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, August 2015 [talk], Glasgow, Scotland.

Orena, A.J., Theodore, R.M. & Polka, L. (2015). Language exposure benefit to talker learning in an unfamiliar language, Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, August 2015 [poster], Glasgow, Scotland.

Kadam, M.A., **Orena, A.J., Theodore, R.M. & Polka, L. (2015).** Effects of reading ability on native and nonnative talker identification, Acoustical Society of America, May 2015 [poster], Pittsburgh, PA.

Orena, A.J., Theodore, R.M. & Polka, L. (2015). Exposure to an unfamiliar language bolsters talker learning, Acoustical Society of America, May 2015 [poster], Pittsburgh, PA.

Orena, A.J. & White, K.S. (2014). Mechanisms Underlying Toddlers' Processing of Disfluent Speech, Boston University Conference of Language Development (BUCLD) 39, November 2014 [poster], Boston, MA.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCES

- 2020 –** **Research Intern**, Virtro Entertainment Inc.
- 2015 – 2016** **Lab Coordinator**, McGill Language Acquisition Laboratory, McGill University
Managed and oversaw the use of lab facilities
- 2011 – 2013** **Research Assistant**, Lab for Infant Development and Language, Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo
Assisted in set-up of laboratory, recruited participants, set-up and ran experiments
- 2012 – 2013** **Research Assistant**, Knowledge Impact Strategies
Conducted systematic reviews for local and provincial community organizations
- 2010 - 2013** **Administrative Assistant**, Office of Research, University of Waterloo
Assisted in the review of +500 grant and contract submissions

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

- 2020** **Psychology of Language (PSYC 336)**, Course Instructor, Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia
- 2013** **Community-based Research (PSYCH 463)**, Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo
- 2010** **Critical Reflection & Report Writing (PD2)**, Teaching Assistant, Waterloo Professional Development, University of Waterloo

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Ongoing* **Ad hoc reviewer** for: *Developmental Science* (2), *Language and Speech* (2), *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, *Annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*
- 2016 – 2018** **Student Representative for Activities Committee**, Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music
- 2016 – 2017** **Reading Group Organizer**, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders, McGill University

RELEVANT COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2017** **“24h de Science” Volunteer**: Presented an introduction to research on language and the brain to Elementary School students
- 2017** **“Let’s Talk Science” Volunteer**: Presented an introduction to Infant Speech Perception to High School students

MEMBERSHIPS

Acoustical Society of America

Daylong Audio Recordings of Children's Linguistic Environments

International Congress of Infant Studies

UBC Language Sciences

MEDIA COVERAGE

2019

Coverage of Orena & Polka (2019), *Infancy*:

- The Conversation: "The amazing baby brain says 'pas de problème' with bilingualism", re-published in several outlets including *Le Soleil* and *News24*