

Dr. Melissa Ramirez obtained her B.A. in chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania in 2016, having worked as an undergraduate researcher in the laboratory of Professor Gary Molander. In 2021, she earned her Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles. During her doctoral studies, she was trained as a computational and synthetic organic chemist under the guidance of Professors Ken Houk and Neil Garg. Her Ph.D. research centered on investigating the reactivity of strained cyclic intermediates and the mechanism of pericyclic reactions for complex molecule synthesis. Currently, Dr. Ramirez is an NIH K99/R00 MOSAIC Scholar, NSF MPS-Ascend Fellow, and Caltech Presidential Postdoctoral Scholar in the laboratory of Professor Brian Stoltz where her research focuses on enantioselective quaternary center formation using experiments and computations.