

ROSA VÁSQUEZ ESPINOZA

SCIENTIST, ARTIST, & EDUCATOR

Rosa Vásquez Espinoza, a chemical biologist and conservationist, has focused her work on engineering medicines derived from microbes. These tiny organisms on Earth outnumber the stars in our galaxy, and they might help create life-saving antibiotics and cancer-fighting drugs. Microbes provide lessons in the value and limits of our perception. "My ultimate goal with all of this is when we think about the Amazon rainforest biodiversity, we think beyond what we see with our eyes."



STEPHANIE KING

About Rosa Vásquez Espinoza

Rosa Vásquez Espinoza is a chemical biologist, microbial natural products researcher, educator, and conservationist. After earning a dual degree in biochemistry and molecular biology, she is now completing her Ph.D. in chemical biology at the University of Michigan.

She has created MicroAmazon, a multidisciplinary project that explores the extraordinary microscopic universe of one of the world's largest thermal rivers, the Boiling River in the Peruvian Amazon. Combining rigorous scientific research with captivating, thought-provoking media, MicroAmazon aims to discover undocumented microbial species, investigate their potential to produce new medicines, and provide insightful details about the evolution of Amazonian life. MicroAmazon's mission is to communicate the importance and urgency of biodiversity conservation in these fragile areas for a more sustainable future.

This presentation is available in English and Spanish.

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