

## Bio

Nao Kondo is a Japanese multidisciplinary teaching artist whose work navigates the intersection of art, technology, and human-nature interaction. She is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts from Pratt Institute, NY, and received a B.A. in Environment & Information Studies focused on computer science from Keio University, Japan. Nao's academic background is as diverse as her projects, from music videos to ceramics and robotics. She has been exploring human-robot communication. The underwater penguin robot project "TRYBOTS" (2013-2018) that she led has been exhibited and hosted workshops in several museums in Japan such as the Hamamatsu Science Museum, TEPIA Technology Museum, and Misawa Aviation Science Museum. She also has her character brand, Usagiduck, selling children's books and merchandise at the San Jose and New York local art markets. She received several grants and awards such as the Masason Foundation Scholarship(2019-present) and Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia (2016) recognition. Along with the MFA study, she is pursuing community art education and an internship at Recess Art, Brooklyn, NY.

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