

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David C. Ebner was born on June 26, 1980 in Stillwater, Minnesota to Stephen and Coleen Ebner. He spent his childhood years with his younger sister, Stephanie, in Cottage Grove, Minnesota. In 1989, the family moved to West Lakeland Township. Dave attended Stillwater Area High School, where his interest in math and science developed. Mr. Symalla, his highly entertaining AP Physics teacher, made science exciting by encouraging independent work and a number of scientific construction projects. He managed to convince Dave that physics was the right field to pursue.

In 1998, he began undergraduate studies at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. After taking an outstanding general chemistry course taught by Professor Lynn Hartshorn, Dave developed a new passion and never took another physics course. (Sorry, Mr. Symalla!) After his freshman year, Dave started research in the labs of Professor J. Thomas Ippoliti in organic chemistry. With no previous organic coursework, the learning curve was steep, but Dave enjoyed it so much he continued on in Dr. Ippoliti's labs throughout his undergraduate studies. In 2002, Dave graduated with a B.S. in chemistry, along with a B.A. in mathematics (just for fun).

In 2002, Dave left the snowy winters and humid summers of Minnesota for sunny Pasadena, California. He joined the laboratories of Professor Brian M. Stoltz at the California Institute of Technology, completing his thesis on the palladium-catalyzed enantioselective oxidation of secondary alcohols in 2008. Dave will pursue postdoctoral studies with Professor Erik J. Sorensen at Princeton in October of 2008.