Ines Patop is a PhD student at Brandeis University. She studies how cells in the brain code information and how they differ from one another.

Originally from Argentina, she studied art, music, anthropology and biology, but she was not sure how she would combine all of her interests into a career until she learned about synthetic biology, a field that mixed art, communication and science. Once engaged in the work, she realized it also required creativity and teamwork. To her delight, she realized that the common belief, that scientists are boring and never left the lab, was wrong and did not match her lived reality.

After graduating, she did what she always wanted to do: travel the world and do science. She started her PhD in Israel, went next to Berlin and is now in the US at Brandeis. She is passionate about biology and how cells organize. She loves teaching, teamwork and science communication.