

Dedication

To my loving wife, Sarah, without whose support, love, encouragement, and commitment this dissertation would not have been completed. She is my wife of noble character; the one I honor and praise.

This dissertation is dedicated to all the students, teachers, professors, and educators that have inspired me to live a life full of service to support life-long learning.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I give thanks to God for giving me the will, purpose, forgiveness, and love to serve others through education. I thank my wife, Sarah for her dedication and sacrifice throughout all the years of graduate school. I thank my parents, Hok Leung and Karen Yip, for teaching me the value of hard work and perseverance. I thank my sisters Jacqueline and Jenny for their support and patience. I thank Grandmother Lu, Deqiang Zhu, and Jing Qiong Chen for all their love.

I thank my adviser, Dr. Allison Druin not only for her time, wisdom, and expertise as a researcher, but as a generous friend and loving mentor. Thank you for teaching me the power of designing with children and challenging me to think about learning beyond classroom walls. I thank Dr. Mike Stieff for providing me the necessary skill sets to be a rigorous and dedicated researcher. I thank Dr. Andrew Elby for always helping me find diamond ideas in the rough. I thank Dr. Tamara Clegg for helping me see science in kitchens, playgrounds, and sports. I thank Dr. June Ahn for always being a listening ear and a great support in my research endeavors. Thank you to all the University of Maryland professors who have taught me and given me the tools I need for research.

I thank my friends and partners in science education research who have walked with me and supported me in this journey: Dr. Minjung Ryu, Dr. Jennifer Richards, Dr. Colleen Gillespe-Nyeggen, Dr. Tiffany Rose-Sikorski, Dr. Brian Danielak, Dr. Luke Conlin, Dr. Eric Kuo, Dr. Ayush Gupta, Dr. Meagan Garvin, Dr. Shannon Mary, Dr. Nathaniel Rudolph and Julie Rudolph, Laura Cathcart, Elaine Henry, Penny Stradley, Lama Jaber, and Kweli Powell. I thank my friends in the

Human-Computer Interaction Lab and Kidsteam who have made this such a wonderful community to work in: Dr. Greg Walsh, Dr. Mona Leigh Guha, Dr. Ben Bederson, Alex Quinn, Elizabeth Bonsignore, Dr. Helene Gelderblom, Elizabeth Foss, Anne Rose, Charley Lewittes, Emily Rhodes, Michael Gubbels, Dr. Evan Golub, Brenna McNally, and Leyla Norooz. I thank Dr. Chris Quintana and Dr. Alex Kuhn for their work on the Zydeco project. I thank all the child design partners and their parents for their support of Kidsteam. I thank all of my Kitchen Chemistry participants, communities of parents, teachers, and administrators that have made my research possible.

Finally, I thank all of my friends outside of my research circle that have supported my graduate school journey through meals, conversations, and fellowship: Edward Choe and Diana Kim, Jimmy Kwak and Jennifer Lee, David Lee, Donald Sohn, Raymond and Eunice Valerio, Dr. Sheena Nahm, Marina Li, Nathan and Susan Kim, Harold and Wendi Park, Jimmy and Agueda Lieu, John Kim, Raymond Liu and Terese Chen, Ksenia and Michael Klein, Raymond Lok, Pastor Justin Bradbury, Dr. Ian and Wendy Swan, Leonard Kostuik, Lloyd Min, Dr. Kyung Kim, and Justin Park and Christine Kim.