

erin & michela's 2024 consumer biotech gift guide



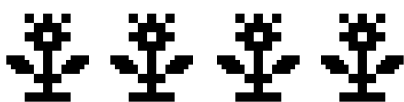
science, bio-extravagance, & luxe whimsy

Another gift guide? Really? We know. But hear us out. This isn't your run-of-the-mill list of scented candles and socks. We've painstakingly curated a selection of biotech-inspired gifts that are equal parts fascinating, oddly covetable, and maybe slightly absurd... by today's standards, anyway. We have something for everyone, from the conscious foodie to the bio-curious skincare enthusiast.

beauty, fashion, & home

[science, but make it aesthetic]

1.



2.



5. Bacteria Cap

Finally, an actually stylish way to signal your love for microbes. It's giving "science nerd, but make it fashion." Perfect for a casual fermented sip with friends, or the next SynBioBeta conference.

Photo Credit: David Zilber @david_zilber

3.



4.

1. Light.Bio Firefly Petunia

Regular houseplants are great, but bioluminescent ones are next level. Insiders (s/o to our friend Kristin / @SexyLikeMeiosis) say this took over 10 years to bring to market. Childhood dreams do come true... sometimes they just take a decade and some serious scientific dedication.

2. K18 Hair Mask

For when you've put your hair through a lot and it needs serious TLC. This hair mask is a favorite of salon professionals, the bleach-weary, and anyone who's ever looked in the mirror and thought, "My hair deserves better."

3. EleMind Sleep Tech Device

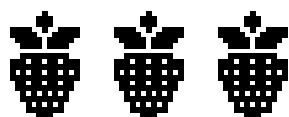
OK, we snuck some neurotech into the list - because the quest for optimization doesn't stop in our unconscious hours. This personal sleep gadget promises the ability to hack your circadian rhythm with "high-performance sleep" on demand, without drugs or side effects. Pre-order and maybe you'll finally decode the cryptic language of your subconscious. Or at least wake up feeling more rested.

4. Sick Science Neck Cream

In an era where our necks bear the weight of constant screen time, this serum emerges as a curious antidote to "tech neck." SickScience Labs' "ShapeShift" Neck Cream is a delightfully indulgent nod to our collective vanity. Plus, it's oddly satisfying to imagine our cells receiving coded messages to tighten up.

food & drink

(for enhanced palates)



4. ZBiotics Pre-Alcohol Probiotic Drink

The hangover cure with a devoted cult following. Some users even swear it helps combat the dreaded "Asian glow" (IYKYK). Try it - and if you wake up feeling surprisingly chipper after a night out, you can thank us later.



5. Equii Bread

High-protein, low-carb bread that keeps you satiated on days full of back-to-back Zoom meetings. Crafted by a Meilleur Ouvrier de France titleholder (basically a culinary knighthood), it's the kind of bread that makes you ~wonder~ if we've finally cracked the code on guilt-free carbs. Oh, and Oprah's a fan. Need we say more?

1. Pinkglow Pineapple

Del Monte's 16-year commitment to fruit alchemy has yielded a genetically engineered, millennial pink pineapple. It's less acidic, "almost strawberry-like," and a testament to our unrelenting desire to improve upon nature. When we tried it, the flavor was indeed milder, with hints of strawberry in some bites—as if a pineapple had a brief fling with a strawberry patch. It's a whimsical nod to pineapples' history as a status symbol, updated for an era where even our fruits need a glow-up.

2. Mellody Plant-Based Honey

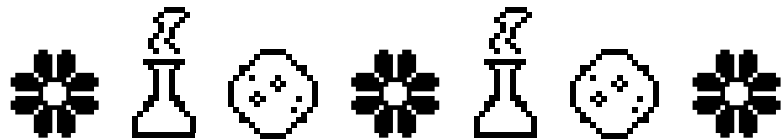
Turns out that commercial beekeeping comes with serious drawbacks. Who knew? Mellody's plant-based honey is here to save the day - and the bees. The spicy habanero flavor is surprisingly versatile. We've been drizzling it on pizza, cocktails, and yes, even topping our (full fat, real dairy, sea salted) olive oil ice cream.

3. Driscoll's Patented Specialty Strawberries

What can we say, we're fruitpilled. Driscoll's went all in on "flavormaxxing" (wait - should we trademark this?) to selectively breed three new strawberry varieties. We tried the "Sweetest Batch", which taste more like actual strawberries (with notes of strawberry candy and fruit punch!) than those sad catfish berries that we've settled for for too long. Fruit producers, take note: we're here for aggressive flavor optimization.

experiences

(for those who prefer gifts intangible and mind-expanding)



Ionat Zurr (left) and Oron Catts (right)

1. Emergence Exhibit

If you're in LA, don't miss PST ART, an exploration of art and science featuring over 70 exhibitions. Our friends Oron Catts and Ionat Zurr are exhibiting at Emergence until December 15th, which examines synthetic biology's potential to reshape modern life. Through iconic bio artworks and cutting-edge discoveries, it probes profound questions: What forms of life will we cultivate? What's natural, synthetic, or essential to existence?

There you have it – a gift guide for the biotech savvy, or just someone who likes their presents with a side of "wait, what?"

Happy shopping, and may your holidays be as merry and bright as bioluminescent petunias.

XOXO,

Erin & Michela

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