

Public Programs at the Zuckerman Institute

Science and community come together at Columbia's Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute

The Zuckerman Institute is delighted to call Manhattanville home and eager to share with our neighbors the challenge and excitement of learning how our minds and brains work. Our Education Lab, located near the 129th Street entrance of the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, is open year round and hosts a variety of hands-on brain science programs. Designed with feedback from the community, these programs harness the groundbreaking research of the institute in creative ways for school children, families, after-school groups, teachers and adults. Contact us to learn more about our programs; we have only just begun!

Saturday Science

Families and community groups join scientists in the Zuckerman Institute's Education Lab to explore the workings of the brain through hands-on activities and unique scientific resources. Visitors put their minds to the test as they learn about how the senses work, how memories are formed, and much more. Themes and materials change each month to incorporate the wide ranging topics in neuroscience and the latest discoveries coming from Zuckerman Institute labs. Saturday Science events are free, open to the public, and held monthly throughout the school year. Content is geared toward middle school students, but learners of all ages are welcome. Reservations are encouraged to guarantee entrance.





BRAINYAC: Brain Research Apprenticeships in New York at Columbia

Hands-on experience in a laboratory is essential for preparing today's youth to become tomorrow's scientists. With this in mind, the Zuckerman Institute's Brain Research Apprenticeships in New York at Columbia (BRAINYAC) program provides an immersive science research experience in which high school students train and work in neuroscience laboratories at Columbia University. The BRAINYAC program is open to students from select partner programs and schools that serve students in Upper Manhattan and the Bronx. Each student is matched with a Columbia neuroscientist, a mentor who guides the student through a research project. Students come away from the experience with an enhanced understanding of how laboratory research leads to transformative discovery, exposure to a professional academic environment and a stronger connection to science as a career. BRAINYAC receives generous support from the Pinkerton Foundation and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

For more information about the public programs at Columbia's Zuckerman Institute, please contact:

publicprograms@zi.columbia.edu

212-853-0600

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Brain Insight Lectures and Teacher-Scholar Program

At the Brain Insight Lectures, free and open to the public, eminent Columbia scientists and scholars examine how brain science intersects with everyday life. Speakers have included Olajide Williams, MD, who spoke about how to prevent strokes in communities of color; Frances Champagne, PhD, who discussed how our early experiences shape our behavior; and Nobel laureate Richard Axel, MD, who shared his acclaimed research and insights into how the brain knows what the nose is smelling. These lectures are the scientific cornerstone of our Teacher-Scholar Program, which introduces middle and high school science teachers in New York City to cutting-edge brain science for the duration of the school year. Using the lectures as case studies, the teachers participate in workshops and create a lesson plan each semester that brings neuroscience back to their classrooms. Teachers who complete the program emerge with greater knowledge of neuroscience, a deeper understanding of the scientific process and a toolbox of concrete ways to implement their knowledge in the classroom. These programs are made possible with generous support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.