AUTISM SCIENCE FOUNDATION

8th ANNUAL

DAY OF LEARNING

VIRTUAL INFORMATION TABLE

AutismBrainNet
Advancing research through the gift of brain donation.

NACS
Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Consulting Services

5 YEARS OF SPARK

EV extraordinary VENTURES
NEW YORK

Baby BIBS
Baby Brain Imaging & Behavior Study

Baylor College of Medicine

BSRC
AUTISM BABY SIBLINGS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

Children's Specialized Hospital
An RWJBarnabas Health facility

RUTGERS
Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

RUTGERS
UNIVERSITY | NEWARK

Mount Sinai
Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

SEIZURE ACTION PLAN COALITION
SAP

Stanford MEDICINE | Stanford Autism Center at Packard Children's Hospital

UCDAVIS HEALTH | MIND INSTITUTE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover®
Twin Cities · Duluth

WALL STREET RIDES FAR
FOR AUTISM RESEARCH

YALE CHILD STUDY CENTER
Where discovery inspires care

AutismBrainNet

Advancing research through the gift of brain donation.

Autism BrainNet promotes rigorous research on postmortem brain tissue to better understand the biological causes of autism and related neurodevelopmental conditions. For the latest information about the program and research findings, visit **autismbrainnet.org** and subscribe to our newsletter at **autismbrainnet.org/newsletter**.

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EVNY is excited to offer to ASF attendees an exclusive
10% discount at our web store.
Use code ASF21 to secure the discount.
Offer expires May 21, 2021.

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At **Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Consulting Services (NACS)**, Dr. Celine Saulnier specializes in gold standard diagnostic evaluations for autism and rare genetic disorders for both clinical and research purposes. She consults on grants and clinical trials, including characterization and phenotyping, clinician best estimate, and using the Vineland-3 as an outcome measure.

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SPARK's response to COVID-19, including all COVID-related content and resources can be found **here** and is updated frequently.

As we celebrate our 5th Anniversary, Wendy Chung, M.D., Ph.D. shares the story of SPARK — what we've accomplished, but also our mission and vision, and why it is critical that everyone in the autism community does their part. To learn more or join, please visit **www.SPARKforAutism.org**.

How Has the COVID-19 Pandemic Affected Independent Adults with Autism?

The COVID-19 pandemic caused disruptions in daily life for many people beginning in March 2020. Researchers wanted to find out how these disruptions affected adults on the autism spectrum.

How Did the COVID-19 Pandemic Affect People with Autism and their Caregivers?

The COVID-19 pandemic caused many schools, clinics, and community programs to close in early 2020. SPARK researchers wanted to find out how these disruptions affected people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families.

What Have Researchers Learned about Special Interests in Autism from SPARK participants?

A common symptom of autism is having an intense focus on a topic or object, called a special interest. Researchers wanted to learn more by using a new tool, the Special Interest Survey, that measures the types, number, duration, and perceived effect of special interests on people with autism.

Camouflaging Autism: Do Autistic Teenagers Hide Their Autism Traits?

Researchers compared the ways that teenagers who have autism, and teens who don't, try to fit in socially. They wanted to know if autistic teenagers, particularly girls, hide or "camouflage" their autism traits more often than other teens in social situations.

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Baby BIBS

Baby Brain Imaging & Behavior Study

Researchers at the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART) are looking for families with newborn babies to participate in a research study that aims to identify signs of autism early in infancy.

Visit **www.babybibs.org** to learn more.

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TeleASD is a treatment study that provides free parent-led cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for children aged 7–13 in Texas who have Autism Spectrum Disorder and anxiety symptoms (fears and worries). Therapy is delivered through Zoom over 12 weeks. Participants will be asked to complete three assessments, compensated with $40 each.

https://bit.ly/TeleASDflyer

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The Baby Siblings Research Consortium (BSRC) is a multidisciplinary, collaborative community of researchers and clinicians committed to understanding the developmental origins and earliest signs of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) by studying infants at familial risk for ASD. Over the last decade, through rigorous studies conducted by investigators across multiple sites, the BSRC has identified both behavioral and biological markers of risk and disrupted development prior to the age of diagnosis, sparking studies of early intervention in infancy. The BSRC shares this knowledge with investigators, parents, and clinicians who provide care to communities and families, and shares research strategies with all those investigating high risk populations.

Visit **https://www.babysiblingsresearchconsortium.org/** for more information.

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Children's Specialized Hospital designed an educational community outreach initiative to **educate children about autism spectrum disorder** and provide the tools necessary to facilitate friendships.

Children's Specialized Hospital produced a **webinar series featuring real life tips for kids with autism**.

Children's Specialized Hospital created an **autism safety handbook** covering topics ranging from fire and water safety to escaping and wandering.

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RUTGERS

Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

Researchers from Rutgers University are recruiting autistic adults for a research study to learn their perspectives on their interests and behaviors. Participants in the study will be asked to complete a set of online questionnaires (30–60 minutes). Some participants will then be invited to participate in a video conference interview (60–120 minutes).

Visit our website to participate in the study: **bit.ly/behaviors-and-interests**

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RUTGERS

UNIVERSITY | NEWARK

The Infancy Studies Laboratory at Rutgers-Newark is inviting 4-month-old siblings of children with autism to participate in an interactive experience that GUIDES discrimination OF INCREASINGLY RAPID sounds SHOWN TO SUPPORT EARLY LANGUAGE MAPPING. Compensation up to $400.00 will be provided for study completion.

For more information, please email us at **babylab@newark.rutgers.edu**, watch our video at **https://youtu.be/OSZJrnsw7jw** and visit our website **https://www.babylab.rutgers.edu/current-studies**

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Mount Sinai

Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

PROMIS-Guided Development and Validation of a Dimensional Observer-Report Measure of Positive and Negative Features of ASD (ages 3-11)

The goal of this project is to develop and validate a new measure that allows for precise characterization and strong discrimination of ASD symptoms along "positive" and "negative" dimensions. Participation in the study involves completing caregiver surveys and clinical assessments over the course of 2-4 visits to the Seaver Center.

Neurocomputational mechanisms of proactive social behavior deficits in autism spectrum disorder (ages 18 to 35)

The goal of this study is to gain new knowledge about the brain mechanisms underlying social deficits in autism spectrum disorder using computational modeling, novel brain imaging tools, and interactive experimental tasks that simulate dynamic social interactions. In contributing to our understanding of the brain basis of ASD, this study may unveil new directions for intervention.

Electrophysiological Markers for Interventions in Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and Idiopathic Autism (ages 2-12)

The goal of this study is to examine the use of electrophysiological markers to detect response to IGF-1 treatment in children 2–12 years old with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) where a specific genetic cause has not been identified and children with Phelan-McDermid syndrome. The study will include routine medical monitoring with frequent visits for safety.

Mapping the Genotype, Phenotype and Natural History of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome (ages 2 to 11)

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome. Individuals older than 18 months with a diagnosis of Phelan-McDermid syndrome may be eligible to participate. The study involves 2–3 visits over a two-year period.

Investigating DDX3X as a sex-specific translational regulator associated with autism

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of individuals with DDX3X syndrome. Participation includes a comprehensive battery of evaluations by experts in psychiatry, psychology, medical genetics, and neurology, with the aim of studying DDX3X syndrome across the life span.

Mapping the Genotype and Phenotype in Individuals with CHAMP1 syndrome

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of individuals with CHAMP1 syndrome. Participation includes a comprehensive battery of evaluations by experts in psychiatry, psychology, medical genetics, and neurology, with the aim of studying CHAMP1 syndrome across the life span.

Mapping the Genotype and Phenotype in Individuals with FOXP1 syndrome

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of individuals with FOXP1 syndrome. Participation includes a comprehensive battery of evaluations by experts in psychiatry, psychology, medical genetics, and neurology, with the aim of studying FOXP1 syndrome across the life span.

Developing precision approaches to the treatment of individuals with ADNP syndrome

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of individuals with ADNP syndrome. Participation includes a comprehensive battery of evaluations by experts in psychiatry, psychology, medical genetics, and neurology, with the aim of studying ADNP syndrome across the life span.

Visit https://icahn.mssm.edu/research/seaver/research/clinical for more information.

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The Seizure Action Plan Coalition created a **seizure action plan** that offers control to patients and caregivers by providing consistent, patient-specific guidance regarding seizure management and emergency preparedness.

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Join the **Stanford Research Registry** to improve our understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Developmental Disorders (DDs). We are currently registering individuals of all ages with a diagnosis of ASD and/or a DD. By enrolling, you will receive notifications about future research studies that may be of interest.

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UC DAVIS HEALTH | MIND INSTITUTE

Researchers at the UC Davis MIND Institute are recruiting families with infants ages 6–12 months, whose parents are concerned about their social communication, to participate in a telehealth assessment of infants' development. The study will follow infants over time and gather feedback from families about their experience in order to refine the assessment. Families will receive written reports and be compensated for their time.

Visit our website to participate in the study.

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Leisure participation is key in physical and mental wellbeing and quality of life. We are recruiting adults with autism who live alone or independently with roommate(s). This study examines the types and frequency of leisure activities that individuals with autism do daily. **Visit our website** to participate in the study.

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WALL STREET RIDES FAR

FOR AUTISM RESEARCH

Join the Autism Science Foundation in person or virtually for our annual **Wall Street Rides FAR** on October 2, 2021.

This event is for everyone with fully supported routes from 4-miles to 62-miles plus a 5K family trail hike!
Use Promo Code DoL21 for 50% off registration.

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YALE CHILD STUDY CENTER

Where discovery inspires care

If your child is between 6 and 18 years of age, you can play an important role in research by volunteering for a free and confidential study conducted by the McPartland Lab at the Yale School of Medicine. The McPartland Lab is currently seeking children diagnosed with either autism, intellectual disability, or are typically developing for studies focused on eye contact, social attention, autism biomarkers and skin fibroblasts.

Visit our website to participate in the study.

If you are between 18 and 40 years of age, you can play an important role in research by volunteering for a free and confidential study conducted by the McPartland Lab at the Yale School of Medicine. The McPartland Lab is currently conducting research on PET imaging, eye contact in adults with ASD, sensory gating and selective attention, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation and adult social interactions.

Visit our website to participate in the study.

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