Mentoring in Neuroscience Discovery at Sinai (MiNDS)
MiNDS is a graduate student-run community volunteer initiative based out of ISMMS. Our program strives to make neuroscience education fun and accessible in order to empower and inspire students and adults alike. Find us in East Harlem and greater NYC schools and community centers.

The Friedman Brain Institute
Founded in 2008, the FBI trains the next generation of researchers and clinicians in cutting-edge brain science from neural injury and repair to cognitive function and neuropsychiatry. The FBI leadership advocates unanimously for proactive promotion of diversity and inclusivity at all levels of its activities, both on campus and off.

ISMMS Digital Media Center
The Digital Media Center, located within the Department of Neuroscience, provides media and marketing services to Neuroscience faculty and staff, as well as to other departments within the Mount Sinai Health System. The DMC is dedicated to finding creative ways to communicate and promote science and medicine to all audiences.

This event is part of Brain Awareness Week, an annual, global event sponsored by The Dana Foundation. For more brainy events in NYC, check out www.comebebrainy.com.

Do you have a science story to tell?
Pitch us at sinaistorytellers@gmail.com.

special thanks to
Daniela Schiller, PhD
Deena Walker, PhD
Eric Nestler, MD, PhD

Extra special thanks to Veronica Szarejko, without whom the show would not go on!
storytellers

Joe Borrello is currently a biomedical engineer and PhD Candidate at Mount Sinai, working in the labs of Drs. Kevin Costa and Junqian Xu, in addition to managing digital fabrication operations within the Sinai BioDesign innovation team. Previously, he worked at 3D Systems on technical development in the consumer marketing department and as a liaison with engineering project management teams, in addition to an earlier stint at experiential marketing firm Affinitive. Joe received his bachelor’s in Biomedical Engineering from Macaulay Honors College at The City College of New York, where he remains active in the Zahn Innovation Center, an on-campus tech startup incubator, in addition to other entrepreneurial groups within the New York City startup community.

Anastasia Efthymiou is a PhD candidate in neuroscience at Mount Sinai, where she uses functional genomics approaches to study Alzheimer’s disease. When she isn’t growing cells in the lab, she’s trying to grow plants in her apartment. She is more successful in one endeavor than the other.

Joseph Simon, IV is a California native, growing up in Sacramento and receiving his Bachelor’s degree in Neuroscience from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2014. Currently, Joe is a second-year Neuroscience PhD student studying the neural dynamics underlying choice behavior in social-context. Outside of the lab, he is an avid photographer and enjoys walks through Central Park in the spring.

Allison C. Waters, PhD is a clinical psychologist and neuroscientist. In 2018, she joined the faculty at Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine, Center for Advanced Circuit Therapeutics. Her research involves emerging approaches to the measurement and modulation of brain electrophysiology for treatment of brain circuit pathology. Waters earned a BSc from Stanford University and a PhD from the University of Oregon. She completed her clinical training at the University of Arizona Medical Center and postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University. Her work emphasizes the growing prospect of rehabilitative services that integrate treatments for the mind with treatments for the brain, to maximize the lasting benefit from both.

Stefanie Busgang is a Biostatistician in the Environmental Medicine and Public Health Department at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She got her B.A in neuroscience from Johns Hopkins University and went on to get her Master’s in Public Health from Columbia University. Her research interest is in life course epidemiology with a focus on neurodevelopment and neurodegeneration. When the weather is nice, you can find Stefanie rollerblading along the west side highway.

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Casey Lardner is PhD candidate in neuroscience at Mount Sinai, where she studies the molecular mechanisms underlying depression and addiction. Before moving to New York, she earned a BS in Biology at the College of William and Mary. She co-leads MiNDS, a community outreach initiative that owns a giant, inflatable brain and focuses on making neuroscience accessible and fun.