



- Neuroscientist Tony Zador awarded 'Transformative' research grant
- DNA double helix-related letters uncovered
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Tony Zador receives prestigious grant for 'transformative' research

CSHL Professor and Program Chair for Neuroscience [Tony Zador](#) has been awarded a 5-year, \$2.17 million grant by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)'s [Transformative Research Projects Program \(T-R01\)](#). This program, which the NIH launched last year, is designed to spur researchers to pursue daring ideas that can create or overturn scientific paradigms and transform some aspect of biomedicine.



Zador will use his [grant](#) to develop an innovative, high-throughput method to analyze the brain's 'connectome' or wiring at the level of individual neurons in mice. His goal is to use this approach to understand how disruptions in brain connectivity contribute to neurological diseases such as autism.

New twists in double helix discovery uncovered in CSHL Archives



A never-before-read stack of letters to and from Francis Crick and other historical materials dating from the years 1950-76 has been [studied](#) for the first time by Alex Gann and Jan Witkowski, both Watson School of Biological Sciences professors. They [reported](#) on the contents in the journal *Nature* on September 30th.

The letters both confirm and extend current knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the epoch-making discovery of DNA's elegant double-helical structure, for which Crick, James D. Watson and Maurice Wilkins were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962. Unlike the structure itself, which amazed even its discoverers in its simplicity, the story of the discovery has revealed a complex tangle of people, ambitions and institutional politics behind the process of scientific investigation.

'Going Mental' on bigthink.com

Ever wonder how your brain navigates you through a cocktail party or how you muster the confidence to make a tough choice? See and hear from CSHL's Program Chair for Neuroscience [Tony Zador](#) and Associate Professor [Adam Kepecs](#) what their research is telling us about how your brain works. Drs. Zador and Kepecs appear on www.bigthink.com as part of this online magazine's series [Going Mental](#).



Upcoming events and announcements:

Walk in support of [small-cell lung cancer](#) research at CSHL! Join the **Diane Emdin Sachs 7th Annual Memorial Walk** at Jones Beach Field #5 on Saturday, October 9, 2010. Registration is at 10:00am and the walk starts at 11:00am.

Diane Esposito will present "**Genetic Insights Into Breast Cancer**" at The DeMatteis Center for Research and Education at St. Francis Hospital October 6, 2010. Call 516-629-2140 to reserve your space at the 9th Annual Women's Health Seminar from 6:00pm-9:00pm.

Adults and kids 10 and up can participate in the **DNA Learning Center's Saturday DNA programs** -- 2 hour hands-on laboratory experiences that make science fun and easy to understand. To register, visit www.dnalc.org/programs/saturdaydna.html. Upcoming programs:

- Classify Me!* -- October 16
- DNA Barcoding* -- November 13
- What Does Your Nose Know?* -- December 11

The **2010 CSHL Cultural Series concerts** conclude on October 29, 2010 with the [Aaron Goldberg Trio](#) - "One of jazz's most delectable trios...a superlative group" - The Boston Globe. Tickets for the 6:00pm performance can be purchased at the door.

The **Don Monti Memorial Research Foundation**, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, North Shore University Hospital and Long Island University will host the 39th Anniversary Ball of the Year on November 6, 2010 at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury, New York. For more information call 516-367-5036

The [Double Helix Medals Dinner](#) to be held on November 9, 2010 will honor Evelyn H. Lauder, John F. Nash, Jr. and Mary-Claire King. To purchase tickets for the event at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, New York City, please contact Diane Fagiola at 516-367-8471.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) is a private, non-profit research and education institution at the forefront of research in cancer and molecular biology, neuroscience, plant genetics, and bioinformatics and genomics. Under the leadership of Dr. Bruce Stillman, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the Royal Society (London), more than 400 scientists conduct groundbreaking research to advance the understanding and ability to diagnose and treat cancers, neurological diseases, and other causes of human suffering.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory is one of sixty-three institutions supported by the Cancer Centers Program of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and has been designated as an NCI Cancer Center since 1987.

We would like to hear from you!
Contact us at pubaff@cshl.edu