



# CONNECT

Collaborative Outreach Network For Neuroscience  
Education And Community Training

**2025-26**  
**CONNECT**  
**SEMINAR**  
**SERIES**

## INTERESTED IN NEUROSCIENCE OUTREACH AND EDUCATION?

**CONNECT** is an initiative supported by UC Irvine's Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory to **build networks and share resources and expertise in the field of Science Outreach and Education.**

Wednesday | November 12, 2025 | 10:00 AM PST



### ROBERT KNIGHT, M.D.

Distinguished Professor, UC Berkeley,  
Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute;  
Co-Chief Editor,  
Frontiers for Young Minds

Wednesday | December 3, 2025 | 10:00 AM PST



### CAITLIN VANDER WEELE, PH.D.

Founder & CEO,  
Stellate Communications

Wednesday | February 4, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



### MARIA STRANGAS, PH.D.

Assistant Director,  
Science Research Experiences,  
American Museum of Natural History

Wednesday | February 11, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



### CLAIRE WEICHSELBAUM, PH.D.

Education & Engagement Specialist,  
Allen Institute

Wednesday | March 4, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



### JAYATRI DAS, PH.D.

Chief Bioscientist &  
Director of Science Content,  
The Franklin Institute

Wednesday | April 15, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



## JOINT SESSION



### KATHLEEN ROINA

Director,  
Dana Education Program,  
Dana Foundation



### DIANA LI, PH.D.

Associate Director of Education &  
Training Initiatives,  
Public Programs Team,  
Columbia University's  
Zuckerman Institute

Wednesday | April 22, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



### CHINMAYI BALUSU, MPH

Founder & CEO,  
Simply Neuroscience

Wednesday | May 6, 2026 | 10:00 AM PST



### MERCI BEST, PH.D.

Postdoctoral Associate,  
Boston University Medical School;  
Founder of Building B.R.A.I.N. Wealth &  
STEAMKITX, STEM & Arts Kits

This year's series will explore topics spanning program development in neuroscience outreach and education, innovative strategies for engaging youth, tools for communicating science across ages and audiences, pathways to funding impactful outreach, and creating space for community wellness within science.