



Aging Initiative

2026

NOVA

NEUROSCIENCE OF VITALITY AND AGING CONFERENCE

APRIL 25TH, 2026

Time	Session	Location	Speakers
8:30 AM	Networking and Coffee	-	-
9:00 AM	Opening Remarks	Canopy Hall	Aging Initiative Team
9:15 AM	Keynote 1: Finding Your Why	Canopy Hall	Joanne Smikle Board of Directors, American Brain Foundation
9:45 AM	Clinical Progress in Neurodegeneration Panel	Canopy Hall	John Sims (Eli Lilly), Wendy Yau (MGH, HMS), Annie Yang (Yale)
10:15 AM	Break/Transition	-	-
10:30 AM	Studying the Biology of Brain Aging with New Tools Panel	Canopy Hall	Ed Boyden (MIT/HHMI), David Salat (MGH/HMS), Stuart Lipton (Scripps), Eric Sun (MIT)
	Translational Discovery Panel	Riverbend	Heike Hering (Biogen), Merit Cudkowicz (MGB), Dennis J. Selkoe (BWH)
	Economics, Policy, and Ethics Panel	Cedar Grove	Audrey Medeiros (MLSC), Arielle Galinsky (HKS, Yale)
	Flash Talks	Lane's Edge	Olivia Walch (Arcascope), Danica Chen (UCBerkeley), Emad Eskandar (Neuradaptive), Sufal Deb (Norn Group)
	Early Career Workshop	Branch View	Kat Kajderowicz (age1/MIT), Heer Joisher (Nucleate)

For more info contact:
nova@aging-initiative.org



For more info visit:
novaneuro.org

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Time	Session	Location	Speakers
	Poster Session A	West Hollow	-
11:30 AM	Lunch	TBD	-
12 PM	Mainstage Presentations	Canopy Hall	Raiany Romanni-Klein (Amaranth)
12:45 PM	Neurotechnology and Brain-Computer Interfaces Panel	Canopy Hall	Christian Howell (Cognito), Oliver Armitage (Axoft), Dan Rizzuto (Nia Tx), Leigh Hochberg (BrainGate/MGH), Alan Mardinly (Science Corp)
1:15 PM	Investment Landscape Panel	Canopy Hall	Alex Colville (age1), Karen Harris (ADDF), Danny Carbonero (PsyMed Ventures), Jarod Rutledge (Starbloom capital)
1:45 PM	Repair and Regeneration Panel	Canopy Hall	Mark Tomishima (BlueRock Tx), Jean Hébert (ARPA-H), Nabiha Saklayen (Cellino), Parastoo Khoshakhlagh (GC Tx)
2:15 PM	Break/Transition	-	-
2:30 PM	Flash Talks	Canopy Hall	J Ross (Alleo Labs), Martin Jacko (Aperture Tx), Neal Amin (Sculpta Bio), Chelsea Trengrove (Neoclease)
	Cell-Type Specific Delivery and Brain Shuttles Talks	Riverbend	Jim Gorman (Wyss), Brandi Simpson (Switch Tx), Kirk Brown (Alnylam), Kimberely Scarce-Levie (Manifold Bio)
	Immunology and NeuroInflammAging Panel	Cedar Grove	Karen Thornber (Harvard), Kevin Rhodes (AFTD), Carolyn Lowe (Parkinson's Foundation)
	Patient Advocacy	Lane's Edge	Ande Shafer (NIH/NIMH), Miguel Marin Rodero (HMS), Michael Wheeler (HMS/MGB)

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Time	Session	Location	Speakers
	Oral Research Presentations	Branch View	TBD
	Poster Session B	West Hollow	-
3:30 PM	Afternoon Break	-	-
4:00 PM	Keynote 2: TBD	Canopy Hall	TBD
4:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Canopy Hall	Aging Initiative Team

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THE AGING INITIATIVE



Aging Initiative

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The Aging Initiative is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit advancing the future of aging biology through high-impact educational programming, translational innovation, and science-informed advocacy. We bring together students, researchers, clinicians, and industry leaders through symposia, expert-led workshops, policy briefings, and collaborative forums that accelerate aging research, biotech translation, and public engagement.



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