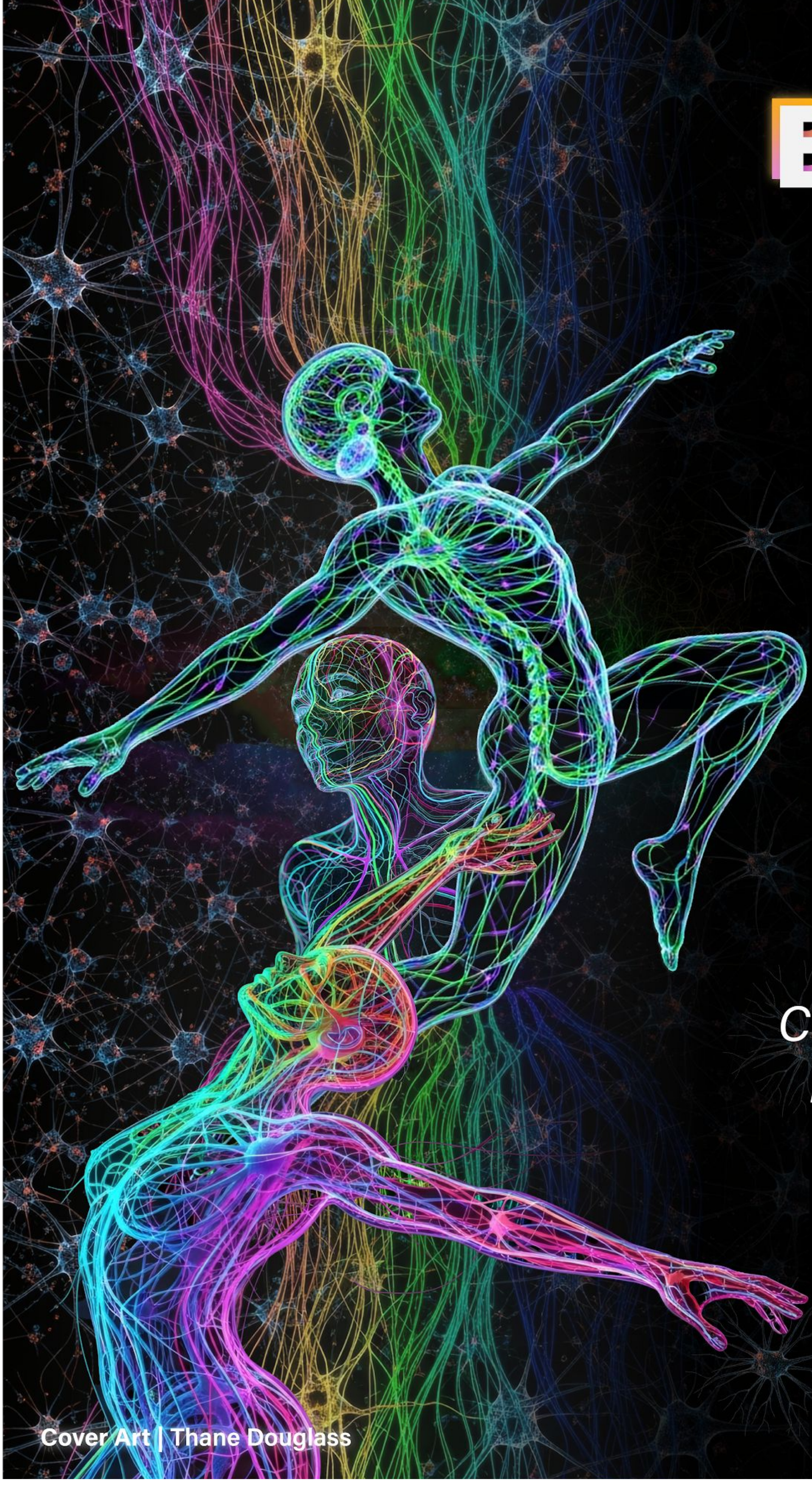


Black In Neuro



*Celebrating 5 years of diversifying the
neurosciences through community,
celebration, and empowerment of
Black scholars & professionals in
neuroscience-related fields*

BIN Year 1

Neurogenesis | *The creation of new neurons*

Catalyzed by a tweet in 2020, Black In Neuro founding members organized over Zoom calls and Google Docs to provide a variety of free networking, professional development, educational, and social programming, including the inaugural Black In Neuro week, the Black In Neuro Conference, and even an Open Mic Night!

Black In Neuro, Beyond One Week

D. Murray, L. Richardson, R. Tesfaye, D. Nadin, C. Kelly, & P. Greenwood

"From Monday, July 27, 2020 to Sunday, August 2, 2020, **#BlackInNeuroWeek** brought visibility to Black scientists in neuroscience-related fields and celebrated their often-overlooked contributions...the week encompassed 5 key themes: representation, education, access, community, and outreach"

JNeurosci
THE JOURNAL OF NEUROSCIENCE



Community members showcased their creative side through poetry, song, stand-up comedy, and more to the inaugural **BIN Open Mic Night**



#BIN Open Mic Night

Co-founding team behind #BINWeek 2020



An open letter to past, current and future mentors of Black Neuroscientists

Kaela S. Singleton, Rackeb Tesfaye, Elena N. Dominguez, & Angeline J. Dukes

"To the Black In Neuro Community: we know that many of you lack the mentorship you deserve or have never met another Black neuroscientist. That is why Black In Neuro was created. Founded on the ideals of support & visibility, we welcome you to our family..."

nature reviews



How to better support Black trainees in the biomedical sciences

Angeline J. Dukes, PhD

"Recently, I and other neuroscientists worldwide created an initiative with the goals of celebrating Black excellence in neuro-related fields, building community and helping young Black scholars find mentors"

nature medicine



Collaboration with **Neuromatch** to connect Black scientists in the neuroscience community



#BIN@NeuroMatch

"This week reignited my love for neuro and gave me a sense of community that no other conference, diversity scholarship, or group has, especially in this time of isolation"



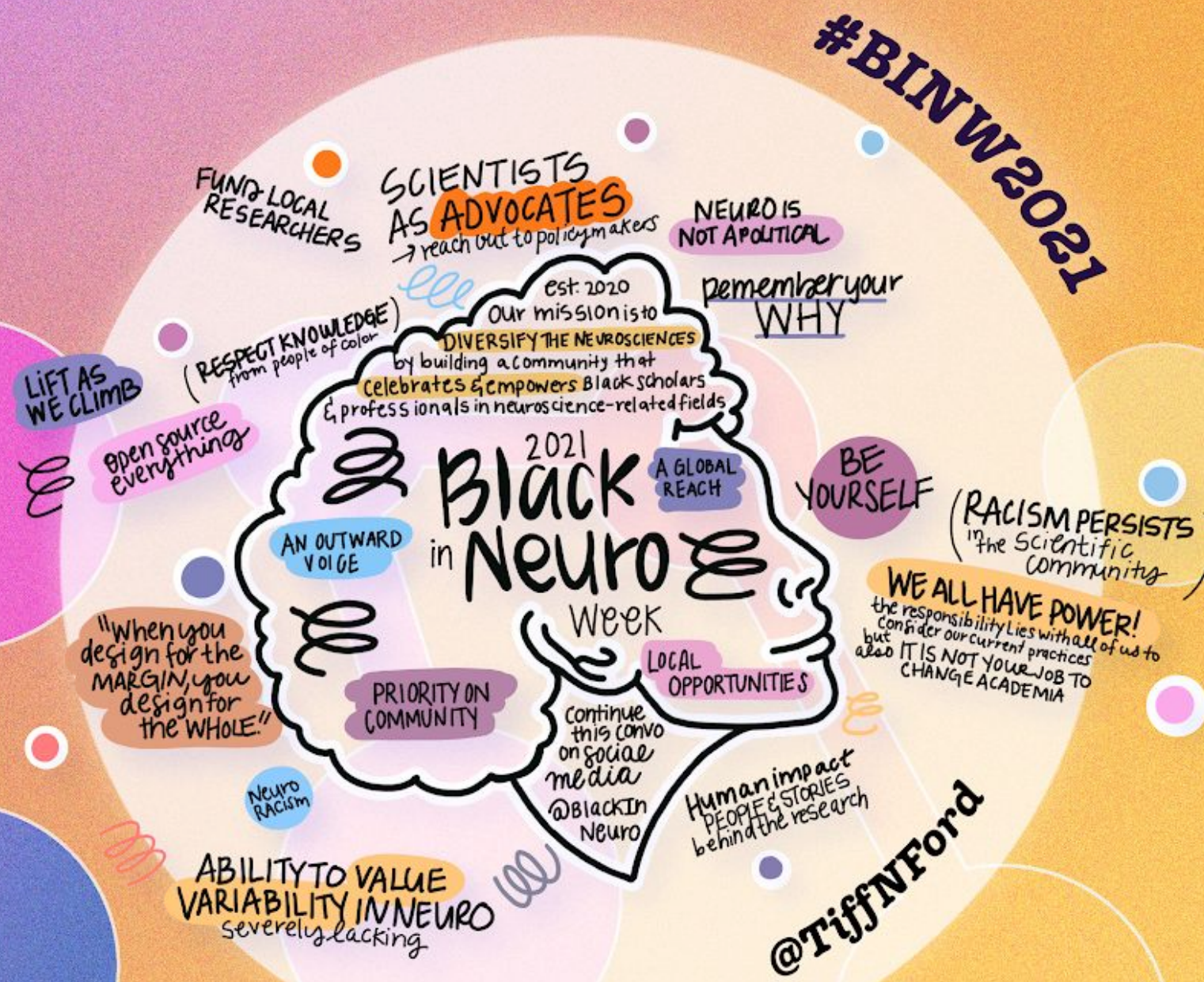
#BlackInNeuroWeek

BIN Year 2

Differentiation | The maturation of unspecialized cells into specific cell types with unique structures and functions

Building on the momentum, Black In Neuro officially became a **non-profit** organization and developed programming to support strategic initiatives and promote a sustainable future for the the community and organizers

Key initiatives, such as mentorship programs, professional development workshops, and the BIN blog start to develop & flourish



BIN Pals is a collaborative mentorship program with Letters to a Pre-Scientist that pairs mentees with mentors to provide support & empowerment to Black scholars and professionals in neuroscience



The **BIN Seminar Series** is a program that celebrates & highlights the contributions of **Black neuroscientists** through science talks & discussions. This program features speakers from various career levels & neuroscience disciplines

A year in review: Are diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives fixing systemic barriers?

Singleton K.S., Murray D., Dukes A.J., Richardson, L.

"By expanding DEI efforts to include representation and accountability, from both top-down and bottom-up movements, the neuroscience community can change our culture, redefine our values, and ensure that the field represents and celebrates the rich differences within personal identities..."



BIN Year 3

Circuitry | *Organized networks of cells, molecules, and genes*
Black In Neuro community members around the world began firing and wiring together, expanding our in-person presence with informal and planned events



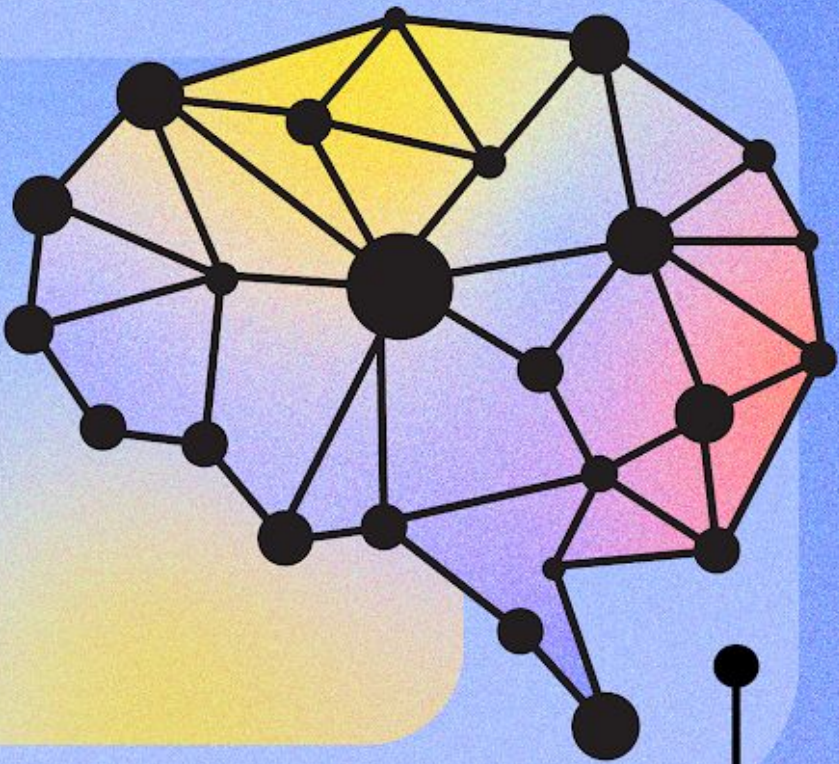
Neuroscience
2022

**Members
connecting at the
BIN SfN Social in
2022 — BIN's 1st
in-person social
event!**



**Black In Neuro
member registration
surpasses**

1,000 +



United Kingdom



**The Black In Neuro
community connecting
more than ever, both
virtually and
in-person around the
world**

**Black In Neuro
Manhattan Chapter
Launch**



**Black In Neuro Chapters is
a BIN initiative that is
committed to building local
communities & fostering
networks for individuals
who identify as 'Black In
Neuro' at all career levels**

**San Diego at
SFN 2022**



**District of
Columbia**



New York City



BIN Year 4

Synaptic Plasticity | *The ability for neurons to strengthen & weaken based on activity*

In response to the changing social media environment and the increasing return to in-person activities, BIN organizers adapted BIN Week activities to maintain engagement, launched the Mentorship Program, and created more opportunities for community members to come together

**Black In Neuro
E.E. Just Ceremony
at the Smithsonian
National Museum of
African American
History & Culture**

**The Black In Neuro community
joined together to celebrate &
highlight the journeys of
African Americans in STEM**



**Ernest Everett Just was
a pioneering African
American cell biologist
who made seminal
contributions to cell &
developmental biology**

**Black In Neuro
Inaugural Mentorship
Program Launch**

**Connecting
undergrad, post-bac,
& grad students with
mentors in the BIN
community to support
their academic &
professional growth**



Thoughts from our community

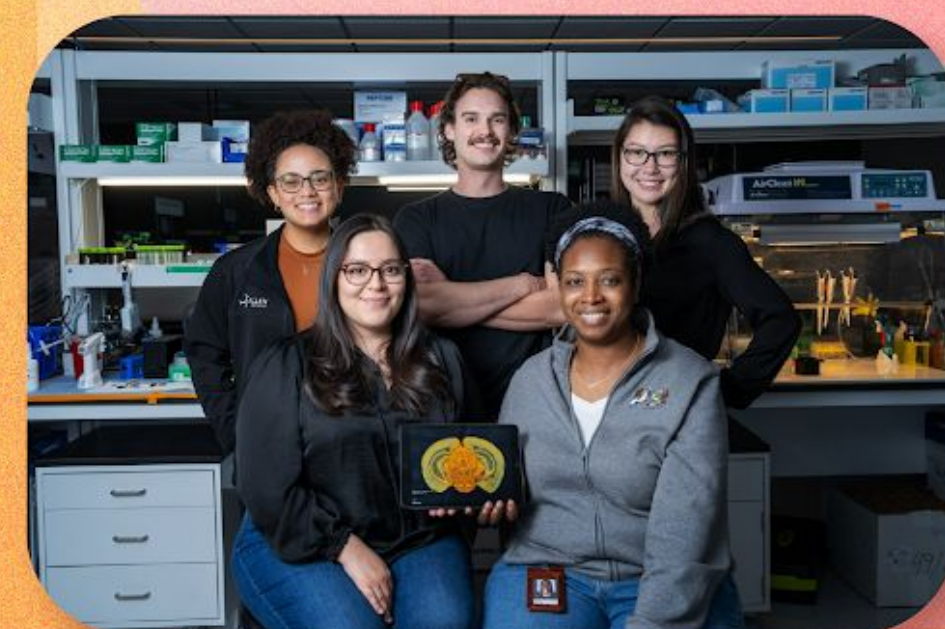
**“BIN Week is one of my favorite
weeks of the year! I always look
forward to my timeline filling up
with my Black neuroscientists,
and it expands my community
further as the years go by.”**

#BINW2023

#BlackJoyInNeuro

**“One of my #BlackjoyinNeuro is my
#spatialtranscriptomics team! This week they
were absolutely amazing as we presented our
pipeline to the entire @AllenInstitute I could
not have been more proud #BIN23”**

@Delissa76



BIN Year 5

Neurotransmission | *The process of neurons communicating with each other*
BIN organizers and community members launched multiple new initiatives and partnerships, with two new BIN chapters, a Brain Carnival, a collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association International Conference, and a two-week hackathon in Malawi



Black In Neuro Brain Carnival

The inaugural BIN Brain Carnival was an interactive, educational, and community-focused event. BIN members made neuroscience more accessible & exciting through hands-on activities, discussions on brain health, and opportunities for all ages to learn and connect



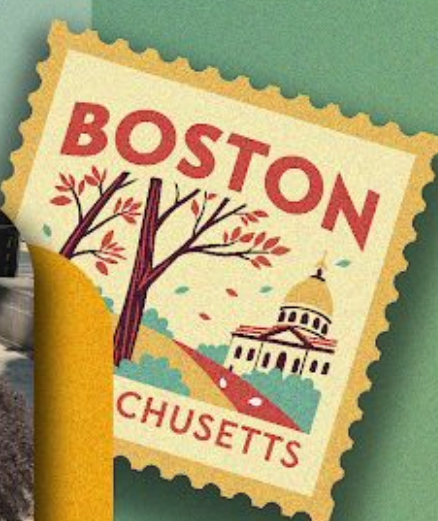
Open Science Neuro Hackathon

Two-week program that bridged interdisciplinary topics such as neuroscience, data science, ethics, and open access frameworks. Attendees received hands-on instruction and problem-solving experience by developing **novel hackathon solutions**



BIN DMV & Boston Launch

Since their inception, BIN DMV and BIN Boston have been powerhouses in their respective areas, holding various events to bring community together



BIN @AAIC Fellowship

The Alzheimer's Association provided conference fellowships to Black In Neuro members **Elizabeth Adejoke Memudu & Oluwagbemiga Oyinlola** to present their work at AAIC 2025



BIN Today | BIN Week Conference 2025

Black In Neuro hosted their 1st in-person **Black In Neuro Conference** at the University of the District of Columbia, Washington DC. Starting on September 10th, 2025, this three-day event showcased a variety of speakers, seminars, & workshops focused on themes such as: **#NeuroRacism**, **#NeuroAcrossTheDiaspora**, **#BlackInNeuroFutures**, community & belonging, mental health, mentorship, and professional development. Together, BIN members **celebrated the organization's fifth year anniversary** by continuing to champion and uplift Black neuroscientists and neurodiverse communities



BIN President Message

"I for one believe that if you give people a thorough understanding of what confronts them and the basic causes that produce it, they'll create their own program, and when the people create a program, you get action."

Those words were spoken by Malcolm X in 1965. 60 years later, they still ring true. 5 years after the conditions of our environments catalyzed the creation of our own program, Black In Neuro is continuing to push forward with its own action. Our response to the treatment of Black individuals, in neuro-related fields, STEM and societally is here to stay. We have the vehicle to get things moving and our first 5 years have shown us that the power of this community is limitless, the ingenuity of this movement is boundless and we will make the most of the resources at our disposal.

As we press forward beyond five years, I want to reassure you all that despite changes in the climate, we will never just be a moment. Black institutions are vital for our progression, advancement and quality of life. There is so much that we can do with our own avenues, when things are curated for us and by us. Gone are the days where we have to wait for permission, be sidelined due to bias, or be dictated to about matters that we have the lived experiences and expertise for. Our presence as Black neuroscientists literally save lives. You are needed! Whether it be for advancing our understanding and treatment of the neurodegeneration that affects our elders, the protection of our communities from disruptive technologies that may cause us harm, or the leading of research that will enfranchise our people. Your scholarship matters, your ideas are valuable, you are important.

At Black In Neuro, we want to reaffirm our focus for the next few years. We will continue to **(1)** fortify our present and future within the higher education sector, **(2)** Expand our reach beyond academia to create our own pipelines that identify, nurture and propel Black talent into and within the neurosciences, **(3)** Connect with and center the global Black In Neuro diaspora, **(4)** Cement Black In Neuro as a trusted source for our community through the sharing of knowledge and advocacy on diseases, disparities and technologies that we may encounter and 5) collaborate and align with organizations committed to ensuring a better future for all of us. **This work is too critical to be paused, too important to be stopped and WILL not be derailed.**

We thank you for your support from 2020 until now and ask for your continued involvement in the future. We will soon be looking to expand our volunteer base, to begin implementing the necessary work to achieve these goals. Many hands make light work. We also ask that everybody does their part to support one another beyond our initiatives. Share your experiences and best practices, take a mentee under your wing and be responsible leaders in your spheres of influence. There is so much that we can do within our community to strengthen and uplift one another. In the words of Coretta Scott King, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." Let's use this period to band together and unify as we build a brighter future.

Sending love, light and strength during these times. The mission continues.

De-Shaine Murray, PhD

