

“Music is the jackpot of the hearing brain”: Nina Kraus to speak at OHSU, May 3



OHSU Research Week 2022 features Nina Kraus, Ph.D., a neuroscientist who thinks about sound and brain health. In her 30-plus career, she’s done pathbreaking research on sound and hearing — and how our ‘sound minds’ make sense of our personal auditory experiences. She is Hugh Knowles Professor of Communication Sciences, Neurobiology, and Otolaryngology at Northwestern University.

[Join the keynote](#) on Tuesday, May 3, from 4-5 p.m.

The sound-brain partnership

Making sense of sound is one of the more challenging tasks we ask our brains to do. With millisecond precision, the auditory system not only encodes important sound ingredients, but also assigns meaning.

[Broadway Books](#) is providing a 15% discount on Kraus’s *OF SOUND MIND: How Our Brain Constructs a Meaningful Sonic World*. Use the code OHSUKRAUS15 before the keynote.

In her award-winning book, *OF SOUND MIND: How Our Brain Constructs a Meaningful Sonic World*, Kraus examines the important partnership between sound and the brain, showing that auditory processing drives many of the brain’s core functions and leaves a fundamental imprint on who we are as human beings. Kraus

has found that our lives in sound, for better (musicians, bilinguals) and for worse (concussion, hearing loss, language disorders, noise), shape how our brain makes sense of the sounds we hear.

The hurting brain

A hurting brain can disrupt this intricate and delicate listening process. To measure the effects of concussion on the hearing brain, Kraus and her colleagues are conducting an NIH-funded longitudinal study examining the effects of sports-related concussion and participation in contact and collision sports in Big 10 collegiate student-athletes and children. Her group, Brainvolts, has shown that even a mild traumatic brain injury can disrupt the auditory system’s ability to encode sound and understanding in noise.

Brainvolts’ scientific approach can help us improve concussion diagnosis, ensure player safety and build a healthier sonic world.

Kraus advocates for biologically informed choices in education, health, and society. See www.brainvolts.northwestern.edu for more information.



This is a must see Research Week event — as with most Research Week events, it is open to the public.

Links:

[OHSU Research Week 2022](#)

[mTBI Symposium 2022](#)

About the author



Casey Williamson

Casey writes about research news and research resources at OHSU.

Other posts by this author:

[Learn about diversity in research and join the one million, Oct. 19-20](#)

[Luiz Bertassoni: Recreating in three dimensions the complexity of the human body](#)

[Addressing the gun violence epidemic with a complex of tools](#)

[Meredith Zauflik: Representing the research mission in the Covington response](#)

[Steven Mansoor, structural biology and drug development](#)

[Full Biography](#)



Subscribe to the Research News blog

Receive an email when there's a new blog post.



Funding Alerts

OHSU Research Development compiles a weekly [list of funding opportunities](#) from internal, government, and private philanthropic sponsors. It's published on Thursdays.

COVID-19 Funding Alerts

The weekly list of COVID-19 funding opportunities has been discontinued. New COVID-19 opportunities will be published in the regular Funding Alerts. You can still view the archive of [COVID-19 funding opportunities](#), and a [list of still-open opportunities](#) will be updated weekly.

Browse Categories



NIH COVID-19 Portfolio Tool

NIH's comprehensive, curated source for publications related to COVID-19. [This portfolio is updated daily](#) and includes articles from PubMed and pre-prints from arXiv, medRxiv, bioRxiv, and ChemRxiv.



COVID-19 updates for OHSU researchers

OHSU researchers, please follow the OHSU COVID-19 updates on the [COVID-19 O2 page](#).

Participation Guidelines

Remember: information you share here is public; it isn't medical advice. Need advice or treatment? Contact your healthcare provider directly. Read our [Terms of Use](#) and this [disclaimer](#) for details.

Archives



[Login](#)