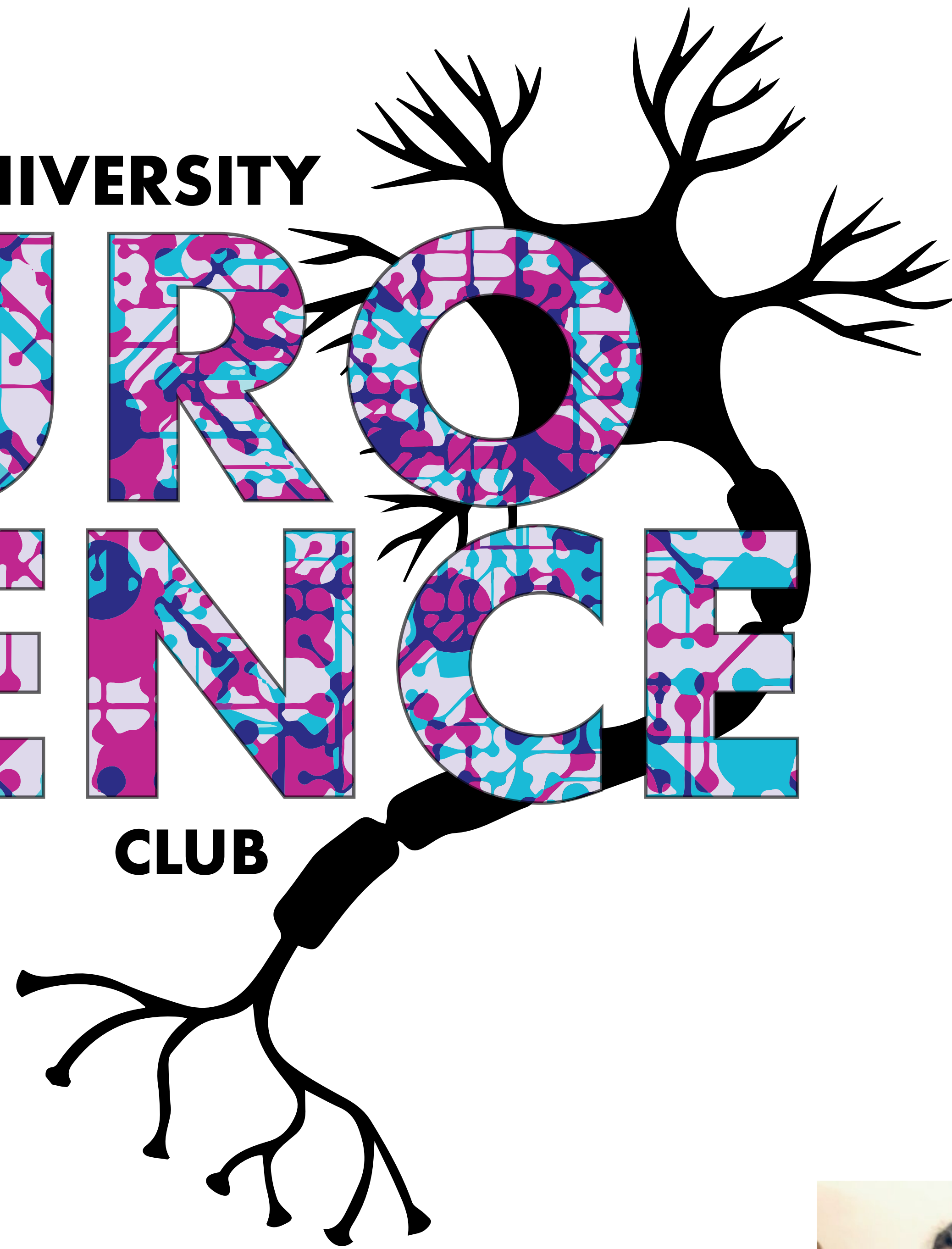


PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

NEUROSCIENCE

CLUB



NW NOGGIN

NW Noggin is an innovative, dynamic non-profit organization that uses artistic media as a mechanism for K-12 and public neuroscience awareness. NW Noggin seeks to spark excitement for scientific research and art in the community by offering creative and collaborative programs that connect students in various stages of their academic careers. By embracing inclusion and equitable acquisition of learning resources, community enthusiasm for brain research reaches diverse communities throughout the region. NW Noggin's unique art-and-science integration strategy makes science a more tangible and personal subject for all.

OMSI BRAIN DAY

Together the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI), and OHSU (Oregon Health and Science University) host an annual Brain Fair with various local non-profits and research groups. PSU Neuroscience club works with NW Noggin by having interactive arts and crafts as well as animal and human brains for examination. Neuroscience becomes a lot more tangible when holding an actual brain and asking questions specific to it. Our collection ranges in size from fish and frog brains to mammal brains like monkey and human. Since OMSI does not regularly have brains on display, this access takes many people by surprise. Alongside the brains, we have 3D printed models and crafts like the colorfully famous pipe cleaner neuron station

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PROVIDENCE BRAIN SURGERY AND OHSU

Our students work with professionals in local hospitals such as OHSU and Providence St. Vincent through volunteer work and medical scribing. Through these connections we have access to specialists and hearing them speak about their field, and viewing live neurosurgeries. For pre-med undergraduates, this brings the possibility of medical school to life, and includes them in the professional culture they aspire to enter.

The Portland State Neuroscience Club's goal is to increase undergraduate access to neuroscience for students of all majors interested in pursuing careers or degrees in the field. PSU is currently working on implementing an official neuroscience minor, which would allow increased access to resources afforded by traditional departments. Our club's outreach spans from volunteering with K12 schools to viewing live brain surgeries and establishing professional networks. Through art, policy and even goats, we aim to enhance neuroscience knowledge in the Pacific NW.

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MAC LAREN YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY P:EAR AND YOUTHLINE

Several times throughout the year we visit facilities that offer assistance to at-risk youth. We understand that many issues in these situations relate to the brain, and hope to educate people on their brain and behavior, while connecting with same-age peers. The Mac Laren Youth Correctional Facility, P:EAR, a creative mentoring space for homeless youth, and Youthline for suicide prevention have all welcomed our volunteers for a straightforward, honest breakdown of neuroscience and real-world situations not frequently spoken about in the community.

NOGGINFEST

Nogginfest is an all-day celebration of art and science featuring speakers, bands, performers and DJs. With live music, art galleries, games and interactive exhibits for all ages, the day draws a great crowd. With an emphasis on making science creatively expressive we successfully bring two diverse intellectual crowds closer and allowed people to relate to thinkers that come from separate backgrounds. We are really proud to host an event where creative energy excites so much diverse inspiration, and allows for reimagining of binary projects, whether in art or science, with the other.

Whether discussing brain scans, playing with multi-sensory music installations, or appreciating the gallery of local painters and printmakers, we dynamically bring STEM to life.

MISSION FOR DIVERSE OUTREACH

Oregon's High school graduation rate is 10% lower than the national. Along with the schools in Metro PDX, we visit schools in rural Oregon and Washington, and visiting communities such as Honolulu, San Diego, and Chicago. Last year our outreach trips included towns as far as 4 hours away, where access to STEM education and neuroscience is limited. All events involve making neurons out of pipe cleaners, seeing a real human brain, and playing games with a portable EEG. The actions of the outreach has sparked the interest of underrepresented students and given them confidence that neuroscience is unambiguous and accessible. The enthusiasm they displayed shows that they believe in their own ability to study the brain.

One of our excursion highlights was visiting the Confederate Tribes of the Siletz Indians located on the Oregon Coast. Our volunteers brought with them brains and crafts, and left with knowing more about the Tribe's culture, including the word for brain: Ahm-Pook-Pook!

AT PORTLAND STATE

Back on home campus our main goal is community building at a peer level, and welcoming new students into neuroscience. We host weekly events such as research reviews, professional speakers, educational trips, neuro-related movie nights, de-stress sessions during Finals with Rojo the goat, and collaborative meetings with other clubs on campus like the Pre-Med Association. This is a great opportunity for peer advice and networking, which includes connecting members to research, outreach opportunities, and professionals working in the field. We bond together and build one other up as lifelong students and community role models.

