

# Kelsea Rian Gildawie

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D.</b> in Psychology (Behavioral Neuroscience) <b>Northeastern University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Heather Brenhouse</i>	<b>Sep 2016 – Aug 2021</b>
<b>M.S.</b> in Psychology (Behavioral Neuroscience) <b>Northeastern University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Thesis Advisor: Dr. Heather Brenhouse</i>	<b>Sep 2016 – May 2018</b>
<b>B.S.</b> in Neuroscience and Behavior; Minor in Biostatistics. <b>Simmons University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Magna cum laude   Departmental Distinction (Biology)</i>	<b>Sep 2012 – May 2016</b>

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## FACULTY POSITIONS

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<b>Assistant Professor</b> of Psychology (specialization in Neuroscience) <b>Simmons University</b> , Boston, MA School of Sciences and Health Professions	<b>Aug 2024 – Present</b>
<b>Adjunct Faculty</b> , CompleteDegree@Simmons <b>Simmons University</b> , Boston, MA School of Sciences and Health Professions	<b>Aug 2022 – Jan 2024</b>

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## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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<b>IRACDA Postdoctoral Scholar</b> <b>Tufts University</b> , North Grafton, MA Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine <i>Drs. Elizabeth Byrnes &amp; Fair Vassoler</i>	<b>Oct 2021 – Aug 2024</b>
<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> <b>Northeastern University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Heather Brenhouse</i>	<b>Sep 2016 – Aug 2021</b>
<b>Research Intern</b> <b>Brigham and Women's Hospital</b> , Chestnut Hill, MA <i>Dr. Robert Edwards</i>	<b>Sep 2015 – May 2016</b>
<b>Undergraduate Research Assistant</b> <b>Simmons University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Dr. Gregory Feldman</i>	<b>Jan 2015 – May 2016</b>
<b>Undergraduate Research Assistant</b> <b>Simmons University</b> , Boston, MA <i>Dr. Amanda Carey</i>	<b>Sep 2014 – Aug 2016</b>

## TEACHING

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### Assistant Professor, Simmons University

PSYC 201: Biological Psychology (Lecture & Lab)

31 students with two lab sections

Spring 2026

49 students with four lab sections

Fall 2025

31 students with two lab sections

Spring 2025

30 students with two lab sections

Fall 2024

NB 347: Neuroscience Seminar

20 students

Spring 2026

### Adjunct Faculty, Simmons University

Biological Psychology, *CompleteDegree@Simmons*

Fall 2022, 2023

### Graduate Teaching Assistant, Northeastern University

Lab in Research Design, Dr. Amy DiBattista

Fall 2020

Lab in Biological Psychology, Dr. Craig Ferris

Spring 2020

Lab in Research Design, Dr. Robert C. Eidson

Fall 2019

Drugs and Behavior, Dr. Lesley Ricci

Fall 2018

Lab in Biological Psychology, Dr. Lesley Ricci

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

### Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Simmons University

Biological Psychology, Dr. Rachel Galli

Spring 2015

Biological Psychology, Dr. Amanda Carey

Fall 2014

### Tutor, Simmons University

Introductory Statistics

Spring 2015 – Spring 2016

Biological Psychology

Spring 2015 – Spring 2016

## MENTORSHIP

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### Gildawie Lab Undergraduate Researchers

**Anamaria Rozo ('26)**

**Kaleigh Stout ('27)**

**Déborah Duarte ('26)**, 2025 Summer Training in Academic Research at Simmons (STARS) Scholar  
2025 Simmons Undergraduate Student Research Fund Awardee

**Abby Rish ('27)**, 2025 Summer Undergraduate Research Program at Simmons (SURPASs) Scholar  
2025-2026 Simmons Faculty-Student Collaborative Fellowship Recipient

**Sandra Bartlett ('26)**, 2025 Summer Training in Academic Research at Simmons (STARS) Scholar

### Biological Psychology Teaching Assistants

Anamaria Rozo

Spring 2026

Sandra Bartlett & Anamaria Rozo

Fall 2025

## GRANTS & FUNDING

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**2024 – 2025** “Prenatal exposure to medications for opioid use disorder: Sex-dependent effects on adolescent prefrontal cortex development”  
Yale/NIDA Neuroproteomics Center Pilot Research Project Grant (\$7,500)

**2023 – 2024** “Neural mechanisms underlying opioid-induced feeding dysregulation”  
Institutional Research, Academic, and Career Development Award (IRACDA)  
Tufts University & National Institute of General Medical Sciences

- 2022 – 2023** “Sex differences in prenatal opioid-induced feeding dysregulation”  
Natalie V. Zucker Center Research Award (\$10,000)  
Tufts School of Medicine
- 2017 – 2018** “Developmental effects of early life stress on perineuronal net formation and microglial interaction in the rat prefrontal cortex and basolateral amygdala”  
Northeastern University Graduate Thesis/Dissertation Research Grant (\$1,500)

## AWARDS & HONORS

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<b>Postdoctoral Travel Award, <i>International Behavioral Neuroscience Society</i></b>	<b>Jan 2024</b>
<b>Postdoc Poster Award, <i>NeuroBoston Fall Symposium</i></b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>
<b>Travel Award, <i>International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
<b>Postdoc Poster Award, <i>NeuroBoston Fall Symposium</i></b>	<b>Nov 2021</b>
<b>Virtual Travel Award, <i>Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Trainee Professional Development Award, <i>Society for Neuroscience</i></b>	<b>Dec 2020</b>
<b>PhD Network Travel Award, <i>Northeastern University</i></b>	<b>April 2020</b>
<b>Travel Award, <i>International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>Aug 2019</b>
<b>PhD Network Travel Award, <i>Northeastern University</i></b>	<b>April 2019</b>
<b>Student Poster Competition Winner, <i>ISDP Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>Nov 2018</b>
<b>Travel Award, <i>International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>Aug 2018</b>
<b>Florence P. Haseltine Award, Outstanding Poster Presentation by a New Investigator <i>Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting</i></b>	<b>May 2018</b>
<b>The Barbara Gentile Award in Psychological Research, <i>Simmons University</i></b>	<b>May 2016</b>
<b>Departmental Distinction – Biology Department, <i>Simmons University</i></b>	<b>May 2016</b>
<b>Presidential Scholarship, <i>Simmons University</i></b>	<b>Sep 2012</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

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*Cited 550+ times, H-index: 11 (source: Google Scholar)*

^ indicates senior authorship

\* indicates co-first authorship

# indicates undergraduate research assistant supervised/trained by Gildawie, K.R.

@ indicates graduate research assistant or technician supervised/trained by Gildawie, K.R.

- 15) **Gildawie, K. R.**, @Budge, K. E., Vassoler, F. M., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. M. (2026). Effects of prenatal methadone and buprenorphine exposure on motivated responding to sucrose and gene expression in male and female rats. *Addiction Neuroscience*, 100256. DOI: 10.1016/j.addicn.2026.100256.
- **Invited for publication in Special Issue: Early life influences on addiction**
- 14) **Gildawie, K. R.**, @Budge, K. E., Vassoler, F. M., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. M. (2025). Differential effects of prenatal buprenorphine and methadone on postnatal growth and gene expression in the nucleus accumbens. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 67(1), e70015. DOI: 10.1002/dev.70015. PMID: 39648276
- 13) @Fanikos, M., Kohn, S. A., Stamato, R., Brenhouse, H. C., ^**Gildawie, K. R.** (2024). Impacts of age and environment on postnatal microglial activity: consequences for cognitive function following early life adversity. *PLoS ONE*, 19(6). DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0306022. PMID: 38917075

- 12) Vassoler, F. M., Budge, K. E., Isgate, S. B., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Byrnes, E. M. (2024). Neuroplasticity-related genes correlate with individual differences in distinct phases of oxycodone self-administration in male rats. *Neuropharmacology*, 109972. DOI: 10.1016/j.neuropharm.2024.109972. PMID: 38710443
- 11) **Gildawie, K. R.**, Wang, K., Budge, K. E., Byrnes, E. M. (2024). Sex-dependent effects of maternal separation on effort-based responding for palatable food are associated with c-Fos expression in the nucleus accumbens. *Neuroscience*, 537, 174-188. DOI: 10.1016/j.neuroscience.2023.11.030 PMID: 38036058
- 10) Granata, L., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Ismail, N., Brenhouse, H. C., Kopec, A. M. (2022). Immune signaling as a node of interaction between systems that sex-specifically develop during puberty and adolescence. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 57, 101143. DOI: 10.1016/j.dcn.2022.101143 PMID: 35933922
- 9) **Gildawie, K. R.**, #Ryll, L., #Hexter., J. C., Peterzell, S., Valentine, A. A., Brenhouse, H. (2021). A two-hit adversity model in developing rats reveals sex-specific impacts on prefrontal cortex structure and behavior. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 48, 100924. DOI: 10.1016/j.dcn.2021.100924 PMID: 33515957
- 8) \***Gildawie, K. R.**, \*@Orso, R., Peterzell, S., Thompson, V., Brenhouse, H. (2020). Sex differences in prefrontal cortex microglia morphology: Impact of a two-hit model of adversity throughout development. *Neuroscience Letters*, 135381. DOI: 10.1016/j.neulet.2020.135381 PMID: 32927000
- 7) #Soares, A. R., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Honeycutt, J. A., Brenhouse, H. (2020). Region-specific effects of maternal separation on oxidative stress accumulation in parvalbumin neurons of male and female rats. *Behavioural Brain Research*, 112658. DOI: 10.1016/j.bbr.2020.112658 PMID: 32339550
- 6) **Gildawie, K. R.**, Honeycutt, J. A., Brenhouse, H. (2020). Region-specific effects of maternal separation on perineuronal net formation around parvalbumin-expressing interneurons in male and female rats. *Neuroscience*, 428, 23-37. DOI: 10.1016/j.neuroscience.2019.12.010 PMID: 31887358
- 5) Carey, A. N., Pinteá, G. I., Van Leuven, S., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Squicimara, L., Fine, E., Rovnak, A., Harrington, M. (2019). Red Raspberry (*Rubus ideaus*) Supplementation Mitigates the Effects of a High Fat Diet on Brain and Behavior in Mice. *Nutritional Neuroscience*, 1-11. DOI: 10.1080/1028415X.2019.1641284. PMID: 31328696
- 4) **Gildawie, K. R.**, Galli, R. L., Shukitt-Hale, B., Carey, A. N. (2018). Protective Effects of Foods Containing Flavonoids on Age-Related Cognitive Decline. *Current Nutrition Reports*, 1-10. DOI: 10.1007/s13668-018-0227-0. PMID: 29892789
- 3) Ganguly, P., Thompson, V., **Gildawie, K.**, Brenhouse, H. (2018). Adolescent food restriction in rats alters prefrontal cortex microglia in an experience-dependent manner. *Stress*, 1-7. DOI: 10.1080/10253890.2017.1423054. PMID: 29307257
- 2) Carey, A. N., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Rovnak, A., Thangthaeng, N., Fisher, D. R., Shukitt-Hale, B. (2017). Blueberry supplementation attenuates microglia activation and increases neuroplasticity in mice consuming a high-fat diet. *Nutritional Neuroscience*, 22(4), 253-263. DOI:10.1080/1028415X.2017.1376472. PMID: 28931353
- 1) Feldman, G., Lavallee, J., **Gildawie, K.**, Greeson, J. M. (2016). Dispositional Mindfulness Uncouples Physiological and Emotional Reactivity to a Laboratory Stressor and Emotional Reactivity to Executive Functioning Lapses in Daily Life. *Mindfulness*, 7(2), 527-541. DOI:10.1007/s12671-015-0487-3. PMID: 27087863

## CHAired SYMPOSIA

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- June 2023** *A Double-Edged Sword: Medication Assisted Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder during Pregnancy*; Co-Chair: Elizabeth Byrnes. International Behavioral Neuroscience Society. Niagara Falls, CA
- April 2019** *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston Area Psychology Graduate Student Symposium*; Lead Organizer. Psychology Department Graduate Student Organization. Northeastern University. Boston, MA

## ORAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- June 2024** *Long-term effects of gestational exposure to medication for opioid use disorder: Neural correlates underlying offspring feeding dysregulation*. International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Travel Award Blitz. Panama City, Panama
- June 2023** *Neural mechanisms of feeding dysregulation following prenatal opioid exposure in male and female rats*. International Behavioral Neuroscience Society. Niagara Falls, Canada
- Nov 2022** *Neural mechanisms of feeding dysregulation following prenatal opioid exposure in male and female rats*. International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Perinatal Pre-Conference. San Diego, CA
- Nov 2021** *A mediating role for microglia in the sex-dependent cognitive and neurostructural consequences of neonatal and juvenile adversity*. International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL
- May 2021** *Cumulative impacts of developmental adversity on parvalbumin-positive perineuronal nets*, Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Virtual Travel Award Blitz
- May 2021** *Impacts of early life adversity on neurostructural development and cognition: A role for sex-dependent neuroimmune priming*, Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting, Virtual (originally May 2020, conference delayed due to COVID-19)

## INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

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- Feb 2024** *From womb to cradle: Preclinical models of early life adversity on reward-motivated behavior*, Invited Presentation, Psychology Department, Simmons University
- Dec 2023** *A double-edged sword: Neural correlates of feeding dysregulation following prenatal exposure to medication for opioid use disorder*, Neuroscience Research Series, Tufts University
- April 2021** *Sex-specific neuroimmune mediation of cognitive impairment following early life adversity*, Virtual Data Blitz, Columbia/Brown/Northeastern University
- April 2021** *The role of microglia in the sex-dependent response to early life adversity*, Virtual Invited Presentation, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Feb 2020** *Sex-specific impacts of early life adversity on neural structure and behavior: A two-hit model*, Data Blitz, Northeastern University
- Feb 2020** *Microglia: Defenders and sculptors of the brain*, Guest Lecture, Simmons University
- March 2018** *Microglial activation and perineuronal net formation in the developing rat prefrontal cortex*, Invited Presentation, Simmons University

## STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

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# indicates undergraduate research assistant supervised/trained by Gildawie, K.

- Aug 2025** #Sandra Bartlett, *Effects of prenatal methadone exposure on neuroimmune signaling in the prefrontal cortex and hippocampus of male and female rats*, New England Addiction Neuroscience (NEAN) Conference Data Blitz, Brown University
- June 2025** #Abby Rish, *Impact of neonatal microglia depletion on morphological changes in the brain following early life adversity*, Summer Undergraduate Research Program at Simmons (SURPASs) Summer Showcase

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

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# indicates undergraduate research assistant supervised/trained by Gildawie, K.

@ indicates graduate student or technician supervised/trained by Gildawie, K.

### **2025**

- @Budge, K., Isgate, S.B., @Aaron, C., **Gildawie, K.**, Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Effects of prenatal oxycodone exposure on gestational outcomes* (Dec 2025). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.
- **NeuroBoston Research Assistant/Technician Poster Award to Budge, K**
- #Duarte, D., Granata, L., Parakoyi, A., Brenhouse, H., **Gildawie, K.** *Effects of maternal separation on cellular activation following exposure to ambiguous threat* (Dec 2025). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.
- #Rish, A., Fanikos, M., Brenhouse, H., **Gildawie, K.** *Sex-dependent effects of early life adversity on microglia morphology: Mediating effects of neuroimmune development in rats* (Dec 2025). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.
- #Bartlett, S., Budge, K., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E., **Gildawie, K.** *Effects of prenatal methadone exposure on neuroimmune signaling in the prefrontal cortex and hippocampus of male and female rats* (Dec 2025). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.
- #Rish, A., Fanikos, M., Brenhouse, H., **Gildawie, K.** *Impact of neonatal microglia depletion on morphological changes in the brain following early life adversity* (April 2025). Simmons University STEM Colloquium. Boston, MA.
- #Bartlett, S., Budge, K., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E., **Gildawie, K.** *Sex-dependent effects on neuroimmune signaling in rat brains after prenatal opioid exposure* (April 2025). Simmons University STEM Colloquium. Boston, MA.
- Kaneko-Tarui, T., Singh, K., Carasi-Schwartz, F., **Gildawie, K.**, Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Sex-specific molecular pathways in neonates exposed to maternal opioid use* (April 2025). Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting. Honolulu, HI.

### **2024**

- Gildawie, K.**, @Budge, K., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. *Prenatal exposure to methadone and buprenorphine: Developmental and long-term effects on reward motivation and gene expression* (October 2024). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.

Budge, K., **Gildawie, K.**, @Aaron, C., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Effects of prenatal oxycodone exposure on maternal care and the maternal brain through CLARITY and immunohistochemistry* (October 2024). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA.

- **NeuroBoston Tech/Research Assistant Poster Award to Budge, K.**

**Gildawie, K.**, Budge, K., Isgate, S., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. *Long-term effects of gestational exposure to medication for opioid use disorder: Neural correlates underlying offspring feeding dysregulation* (June 2024). International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting. Panama City, Panama; Institutional Research, Academic, and Career Development Award (IRACDA) Annual Meeting. Chapel Hill, NC.

- **IBNS Travel Award to Gildawie, K.**

Vassoler, F., Budge, K., Isgate, S., **Gildawie, K. R.**, Byrnes, E. *Neuroplasticity-related genes correlate with individual differences in distinct phases of oxycodone self-administration in male rats* (Planned June 2024). International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting. Panama City, Panama.

## **2023**

**Gildawie, K.**, Budge, K., Isgate, S., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. *Long-term effects of gestational exposure to medication for opioid use disorder: Neural correlates underlying offspring feeding dysregulation* (November 2023). Society for Neuroscience Conference. Washington D.C.

@Aaron, C., **Gildawie, K.**, Budge, K., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Involuntary administration of oxycodone during pregnancy & high motivation for cocaine in male adult offspring* (November 2023). Society for Neuroscience Conference. Washington D.C.

Budge, K., @Lopes, J.-L., **Gildawie, K.**, Vassoler, F., Sesenoglu-Laird, O., Moen, R., Cooper, M., Elsworth, J., Pothos, E., Waszczak, B., Byrnes, E. *An intranasal GDNF gene therapy for opioid relapse reduction: Neural modifications associated with reduced opioid reinstatement following intranasal administration of GDNF plasmid DNA nanoparticles* (November 2023). Society for Neuroscience Conference. Washington D.C.

@Aaron, C., **Gildawie, K.**, Budge, K., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Oxycodone self-administration during pregnancy & adult risk of substance use disorder* (June 2023). International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting. Niagara Falls, ON, Canada.

- **IBNS Travel Award to Aaron, C.**

## **2022**

**Gildawie, K.**, Isgate, S., Budge, K., @Jackson, L., Vassoler, F., Yen, E., Byrnes, E. *Neural mechanisms of feeding dysregulation following prenatal opioid exposure in male and female rats* (November 2022). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA; The International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA; Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. San Diego, CA.

- **Chosen for ISDP Perinatal Pre-Conference Oral Poster Pitch**
- **ISDP Travel Award to Gildawie, K.**
- **NeuroBoston Postdoc Poster Award to Gildawie, K.**

@Aaron, C., **Gildawie, K.**, Celatka, J., Budge, K., Isgate, S., Fleming, K., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Oxycodone self-administration during pregnancy: Do neonatal ultrasonic vocalizations predict adult risk of substance use disorder?* (November 2022). NeuroBoston Fall Symposium. Boston, MA; Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. San Diego, CA.

@Fanikos, M., **Gildawie, K.**, Valentine, A., Parakoyi, A., Brenhouse, H. *Microglia depletion alters the impact of a two-hit model of early life adversity on cognitive behavior and perineuronal net formation* (2022). Frontal Cortex Gordon Research Conference. Ventura, CA; The International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA; Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. San Diego, CA.

Chen, Y., Budge, K., Isgate, S., Papa, D., **Gildawie, K.**, Aaron, C., Jackson, L., Cunningham, C., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Effects of Infusion of Glial Derived Neurotrophic Factor DNA Nanoparticles on Opioid Relapse Behaviors* (2022). National Veterinary Scholars Symposium. St. Paul, MN

**Gildawie, K.**, Celatka, J., Budge, K., Isgate, S., Fleming, K., Vassoler, F., Byrnes, E. *Oxycodone self-administration during pregnancy disrupts offspring ultrasonic vocalizations: Role of the dam-pup dyad in symptoms of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome* (2022). International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting. Glasgow, Scotland, U.K.

## **2021**

**Gildawie, K.**, Fanikos, M., #Thamarai Kannan, L., Valentine A., Parakoyi, A., Brenhouse, H. *Differential impacts of neonatal microglia depletion on social and working memory in males and females following early life adversity* (2021). Boston Area Neuroscience Group Fall Symposium, Virtual.

- **Postdoc Poster Award to Gildawie, K.**

**Gildawie, K.**, #Ryll, L., #Thamarai Kannan, L., #Hexter, J., Peterzell, S., Valentine, A., Brenhouse, H. *Sex-specific neurostructural and cognitive consequences of early life adversity: Mediating effects of microglia* (2021). Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting, Virtual.

- **Virtual Travel Award to Gildawie, K.**

**Gildawie, K.**, #Ryll, L., Orso, R., #Hexter, J., Peterzell, S., Valentine, A., Brenhouse, H. *Cumulative effects of early life adversity on prefrontal cortex microglia morphology and perineuronal net integrity: A role for sex-dependent neuroimmune priming* (2021). Society for Neuroscience Global Connectome, Virtual.

- **Trainee Professional Development Award to Gildawie, K.**

## **2020**

**Gildawie, K.**, #Ryll, L., Orso, R., #Hexter, J., Peterzell, S., Valentine, A., Brenhouse, H. *Multiple hits of adversity: Sex-specific neuroimmune and neurostructural effects throughout development* (2020). The International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting, Virtual; Boston Area Neuroscience Group Fall Symposium, Virtual.

**Gildawie, K.**, #Ryll, L., #Hexter, J., Peterzell, S., Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Potentiated anxiety-like behavior and prefrontal cortex perineuronal net-enwrapped parvalbumin-expressing interneuron disruption: Sex-specific impact of a two-hit model of developmental adversity* (2020; canceled due to COVID-19). Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting. Marina del Rey, CA.

## **2019**

Granata, L., **Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Maternal separation paradigms differentially influence pup communication and prefrontal cortex perineuronal net development in male and female rats* (2019). American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL.

**Gildawie, K.**, Peterzell, S., #Ryll, L., #Hexter, J., Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Effects of maternal separation paired with juvenile social isolation on adult anxiety-like behavior and perineuronal net-ensheathed parvalbumin interneurons in male and female rats* (2019). The International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL; Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. Chicago, IL.

- **ISDP Travel Award to Gildawie, K.**

#Soares, A., **Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Developmentally-dependent effects of maternal separation on oxidative stress accumulation in parvalbumin neurons of male and female rats* (2019). Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. Chicago, IL.

- **Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) Travel Award to Soares, A.**

**Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Maternal separation leads to sex-specific alterations in the formation of perineuronal nets around parvalbumin-expressing interneurons in the developing rat prefrontal cortex and basolateral amygdala* (2019). Organization for the Study of Sex Differences/International Society of Gender Medicine Joint Meeting. Washington D.C.

#Soares, A., **Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Developmental effects of maternal separation on oxidative stress accumulation in fast-spiking parvalbumin neurons in the prefrontal cortex in male and female rats* (2019). Northeastern University Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo (RISE). Boston, MA; Northeast Under/Graduate Research Organization for Neuroscience (NEURON) Conference. Hamden, CT.

- **Self-Authored Integrated Learning (SAIL) Award to Soares, A.**
- **Susannah Bliss Tieman Outstanding Poster Award to Soares, A.**

## **2018**

**Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Early life stress leads to sex-specific alterations in the formation of perineuronal nets around parvalbumin-expressing interneurons in the developing rat prefrontal cortex* (2018). The International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA.; Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference. San Diego, CA.

- **ISDP Student Poster Competition Winner Award to Gildawie, K.**
- **ISDP Travel Award to Gildawie, K.**

**Gildawie, K.**, Honeycutt, J., Brenhouse, H. *Early life stress leads to sex-specific alterations in perineuronal net formation in the rat prefrontal cortex* (2018). Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA.

- **Florence P. Haseltine Award for the Outstanding Poster Presentation by a New Investigator to Gildawie, K.**

## **2017**

**Gildawie, K.**, Goff, S., Rowe-Hill, J., Ganguly, P., Honeycutt, J., Thompson, V., Brenhouse, H. *Alterations in developmental microglia morphology resulting from early life stress paired with lipopolysaccharide injection and food restriction in the rat prefrontal cortex* (2017). Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference, Washington D.C.

**Gildawie, K.**, Goff, S., Rowe-Hill, J., Ganguly, P., Honeycutt, J., Thompson, V., Brenhouse, H. *Early life stress alters microglia activation in juvenile rats and confers sensitization in microglia to LPS induced immune activation* (2017). Boston Area Neuroscience Group (BANG) Symposium. Boston, MA.

## **2016**

**Gildawie, K.**, Rovnak, A., Harrington, M., Carey, A. *Age of high-fat diet implementation and raspberry supplementation affects weight gain in mice* (2016). Simmons Undergraduate Symposium. Boston, MA.

Rovnak, A., **Gildawie, K.**, Gilman, C., Carey, A. *Influence of age of high fat diet implementation on performance in the novel object recognition task* (2016). Simmons Undergraduate Symposium. Boston, MA.

Derkevorkian, L., **Gildawie, K.**, Harrington, M., Henry, R., Galli, R. *The effect of sucrose supplementation and environmental enrichment on spatial memory in the Morris Water Maze* (2016). Fenway Psychology Research Conference. Emmanuel College, Boston, MA; Simmons Undergraduate Symposium. Boston, MA.

## **2015**

Feldman, G., **Gildawie, K.**, Potter, M., & Greeson, J. *Dispositional Mindfulness Buffers Emotional Reactivity to Physiological Arousal* (2015). 49th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy. Chicago, IL.

Rovnak, A., **Gildawie, K.**, Gilman, C., Carey, A. *Blueberry supplementation attenuates microglia activation and increases neuroplasticity in the brains of mice consuming a high fat diet* (2015). 73<sup>rd</sup> Eastern New England Biological Conference. Boston, MA; Simmons College Undergraduate Research Conference. Boston, MA; Fenway Psychology Research Conference. Emmanuel College, Boston, MA.

Carey, A., **Gildawie, K.**, Gilman, C., Rovnak, A. *Blueberry supplementation attenuates inflammation and oxidative stress and increases BDNF in the brains of middle-aged mice consuming a high fat diet* (2015). Experimental Biology. Boston, MA.

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## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Society for Neuroscience, International Behavioral Neuroscience Society, International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Organization for the Study of Sex Differences, Boston Area Neuroscience Group, Sigma Xi (Delta Chapter) – The Scientific Research Society, Psi Chi (Simmons University Chapter) – National Honor Society in Psychology

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## **AD HOC REVIEWER**

Nature Reviews Neurology, Journal of Neural Transmission, Frontiers in Neuroscience, Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience, Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience, Frontiers in Nutrition, Developmental Psychobiology, Neuroscience Letters

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## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SERVICE**

<b>Mentor</b> , First to FINish, First-Generation Student Support Program <i>Simmons University</i>	<b>Feb 2026 – Present</b>
<b>Poster Judge</b> , NeuroBoston Fall Symposium	<b>Dec 2025</b>
<b>Committee Member</b> , Education & Training Committee <i>International Behavioral Neuroscience Society</i>	<b>July 2025 – Present</b>
<b>Faculty Advisor</b> , Neuroscience & Psychology Liaison <i>Simmons University</i>	<b>March 2025 – Present</b>

<b>Council Representative for Trainees</b> <i>International Behavioral Neuroscience Society</i>	<b>April 2023 – July 2025</b>
<b>Panelist</b> , NeuroBoston Career Panel <i>Boston Area Neuroscience Group Fall Symposium</i>	<b>Nov 2022</b>
<b>Certificate of Completion</b> , Basics of Teaching Short Course <i>Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, Tufts University</i>	<b>Oct 2022</b>
<b>Science Communications Committee Member</b> , ISDP	<b>Jan 2021 – Jan 2022</b>
<b>Accepted Attendee</b> , New England Future Faculty Workshop	<b>July 2020</b>
<b>Graduate Student Mentor</b> , Graduate School Mentoring Program <i>Department of Psychology, Northeastern University</i>	<b>March 2020 – August 2021</b>
<b>Lead Organizer</b> , 8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Boston Area Psychology Graduate Student Symposium <i>Psychology Department Graduate Student Organization, Northeastern University</i>	<b>April 2019</b>
<b>Committee Member</b> , Outstanding Graduate Student Awards <i>Outstanding Graduate Student Awards, Northeastern University</i>	<b>March 2018, 2019</b>
<b>Member</b> , Future Faculty Program <i>Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Through Research, Northeastern University</i>	<b>Feb 2018 – August 2021</b>
<b>President</b> , Psychology Department Graduate Student Organization <i>Northeastern University</i>	<b>Sep 2018 – August 2021</b>
<b>Graduate Innovator Judge</b> , Research, Innovation and Scholarship Expo <i>Northeastern University</i>	<b>April 2018, 2019, 2020</b>
<b>Alumni Guest</b> , Psychology/Neuroscience Alumni Breakfast <i>Department of Psychology, Simmons University</i>	<b>Nov 2017, 2019 – 2021, 2023 – 2025</b>
<b>Graduate Student Liaison</b> <i>Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Through Research, Northeastern University</i>	<b>Aug 2017 – May 2019</b>

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## OUTREACH

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<b>Alumni Panelist</b> , STEM Alumni Night <i>Chemistry &amp; Physics Liaison, DREAM-WSTEM</i>	<b>March 2025</b>
<b>Alumni Panelist</b> , Alumni Career Panel <i>BIOL 350, Simmons University</i>	<b>Oct 2024, 2025</b>
<b>Panelist</b> , Gender Diversity in STEM Panel <i>NeuroNetwork, WHEN, Girls in STEM; Tufts University</i>	<b>March 2024</b>
<b>Demonstration Leader</b> , “Scientific Exhibition” <i>Josiah Quincy Upper School &amp; Tufts University School of Medicine</i>	<b>July 2023</b>
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , “Careers in Psychology Research” <i>Experimental Psychology course, Tufts University</i>	<b>April 2022</b>
<b>Panelist</b> , “Defending your Thesis – The Final Step” <i>Ask A Scientist Series</i>	<b>Jan 2022</b>
<b>Guest Speaker</b> , Research Adjacent Program <i>Tufts University Biology Research Club</i>	<b>October 2021</b>

<b>Facilitator</b> , Greater Boston AP Research Symposium <i>Framingham, Needham, and Norwood High Schools</i>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Panelist</b> , Brain Awareness Week Ask a Scientist Panel <i>Northeastern University Community Liaisons for Education Using STEM (NUCLEUS)</i>	<b>March 2021</b>
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , “How early life shapes social and working memory” <i>Thesis Pieces, Northeastern University Community Liaisons for Education Using STEM (NUCLEUS)</i>	<b>March 2021</b>
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , “Lighting up the brain: How experience changes brain structure” <i>Thesis Pieces, Northeastern University Community Liaisons for Education Using STEM (NUCLEUS)</i>	<b>Nov 2020, Oct 2021</b>
<b>Judge</b> , Boston Public Schools Citywide Science and Engineering Fair	<b>Feb 2020</b>
<b>Member</b> , NUCLEUS	<b>Sep 2019 – Aug 2021</b>
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , “Postgrad Life: Graduate School and Beyond” <i>Simmons University</i>	<b>April 2019, Feb 2020, Oct 2024</b>
<b>Campus Mentor</b> , She’s the First	<b>June 2016 – Sep 2018</b>
<b>Founding President</b> , She’s the First at Simmons <i>Simmons University</i>	<b>Sep 2013 – May 2016</b>

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#### **MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH**

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*Science Featured*. “Multiple traumas in early life change the brain of females differently than males, and we need to pay attention.” (June 2021)