Your support allows us to fund promising eye and vision researchers.

Fight for Sight’s mission is to support and inspire eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers. This mission has been fulfilled consistently and with passion throughout our history.

Our Scientists

1989 Grant-in-Aid recipient, Joel S. Schuman, MD, FACS, Chair of Ophthalmology at NYU Langone Medical Center, received FFS’s 2018 Alumni Achievement Award at the annual ARVO meeting.

Dr. Jordan Greco received a 2018 FFS Grant-In-Aid award for developing a protein-based artificial retina at the Univ. of Connecticut.

Our Fundraising

American sports icon Nancy Kerrigan returned as the 2018 Lights-On emcee, shown here with Gala Chair, John LaSpina and Board President, Dr. Norman Kleiman.

Renowned Broadway Producer Barry Brown was honored with the 2018 Special Star Award. He recounted his recent personal confrontations with eye disease during his acceptance speech.

Special guest Bernadette Peters introduced Barry Brown to the Gala audience. Ms. Peters also read congratulatory letters from actors Angela Lansbury and Tyne Daly.

Dr. Jordan Greco received a 2018 FFS Grant-In-Aid award for developing a protein-based artificial retina at the Univ. of Connecticut.

FFS maintains an alumni network that mentors future eye researchers. Pictured: Roy S. Chuck, MD, PhD, Chair of Ophthalmology, Montefiore Medical Center; Davis Uzo Anugo, 2017 Summer Student Fellowship recipient; Selma S. Solomon, PhD, 2017 Postdoctoral Award; and Rebecca S. McGreal, PhD, 2016 Postdoctoral Awardee.

Our Outreach in the Eye and Vision Community

Mary Elizabeth Hartnett, MD, FARVO, surgeon and researcher at the University of Utah’s John A. Moran Eye Center, received ARVO’s 2018 Weisenfeld Award at the organization’s international conference in Honolulu.

Janice Benson, FFS Associate Director, speaks about Mildred Weisenfeld’s legacy. Ms. Benson was hired by Mildred Weisenfeld in 1993.

Saving Sight is a new FFS grant partner. Arthur Makar is shown with Patrick Gore, Chief Business Development Officer and Lynn Forest-Smith, Director of Business Development, at the ARVO Conference.

FFS was represented at a Research to Prevent Blindness sponsored meeting of vision research funders and other stakeholders in Washington, DC in April.

...and our commitment to eye and vision research continues with grants to the twenty promising scientists highlighted on the other side of this report.
**2018 Grants-in-Aid**

**Gregory Bramblett, M.D., Ph.D.**  
US Army Institute of Surgical Research  
**Project Title:** Preservation and Restoration of Vision after Traumatic Optic Nerve Injury  
*FFS – MTEC Grant-in-Aid*

**Jae-Hyun Jung, PhD**  
*FFS – International Retinal Research Foundation Grant-in-Aid*

**Jordan Greco, PhD**  
University of Connecticut  
**Project Title:** Characterization of an Ion-Mediated Protein-Based Retinal Implant  
*FFS – International Retinal Research Foundation Grant-in-Aid*

**Henri Leinonen, Ph.D.**  
Case Western Reserve University  
**Project Title:** Preventing retinal degeneration with FDA-accepted compounds  
*FFS – Curing Retinal Blindness Postdoctoral Award*

**Mohamed M. Ibrahim, PhD**  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
**Project Title:** Novel glaucoma therapy  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Jae-Hyun Jung, PhD**  
Schepens Eye Research Institute  
**Project Title:** Field Expansion for Acquired Monocular Vision  
*FFS – American Macular Degeneration Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**Keirnan Willett, MD**  
University of Pennsylvania  
**Project Title:** Vascular biomarkers in retinal gene therapy for Leber Congenital Amaurosis & Choroideremia  
*FFS – Choroideremia Research Foundation Postdoctoral Award*

**Kore Chan**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
**Project Title:** Rapalog therapy to mitigate Vigabatrin retinal toxicity  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Amy Evans**  
University of Iowa  
**Project Title:** Molecular mechanisms of signal transmission in retinal photoreceptor cells  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Nicole Mattson**  
University of Washington  
**Project Title:** CRISPR/Cas9-based gene therapy for inherited visual disorders  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Christopher Le**  
Case Western Reserve University  
**Project Title:** Biomarkers for measuring glaucoma progression  
*FFS – American Macular Degeneration Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**George Tye**  
Case Western Reserve University  
**Project Title:** Glaucoma risk and structural differences between ethnicities  
*FFS – Earl & Shirley Herbst Eye Research Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**Sean Wang**  
Harvard Medical School  
**Project Title:** Therapeutic targets for treating Retinitis Pigmentosa  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Collin Richards**  
Wayne State University  
**Project Title:** Retinal rod cell mitochondrial reserves during oxidative stress  
*FFS – American Macular Degeneration Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**Nicole Mattson**  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

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**2018 Postdoctoral Awards**

**David Castillejos**  
Columbia University  
**Project Title:** Small molecule regulators of retinal cell function  
*FFS – Curing Retinal Blindness Postdoctoral Award*

**Rossella Titone, PhD**  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
**Project Title:** Autophagy in corneal infection  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Kore Chan**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
**Project Title:** Rapalog therapy to mitigate Vigabatrin retinal toxicity  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Amy Evans**  
University of Iowa  
**Project Title:** Molecular mechanisms of signal transmission in retinal photoreceptor cells  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Daniel Hoxa**  
Pennsylvania State University  
**Project Title:** Glaucoma therapy  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Jaeyoung Heo**  
Case Western Reserve Univ.  
**Project Title:** Primary open-angle glaucoma (POAG)  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Min Tae Kim**  
Boston University  
**Project Title:** Corneal wound healing in diabetes  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Christopher Le**  
University of Maryland  
**Project Title:** Biomarkers for measuring glaucoma progression  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Laure Pardon**  
University of Houston  
**Project Title:** Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) diagnosis in Papilledema  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Nicole Mattson**  
University of Washington  
**Project Title:** CRISPR/Cas9-based gene therapy for inherited visual disorders  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**George Tye**  
Case Western Reserve University  
**Project Title:** Glaucoma risk and structural differences between ethnicities  
*FFS – Earl & Shirley Herbst Eye Research Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**Sean Wang**  
Harvard Medical School  
**Project Title:** Therapeutic targets for treating Retinitis Pigmentosa  
*FFS – Earl & Shirley Herbst Eye Research Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

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**2018 Summer Student Fellowships**

**Christopher Le**  
**Project Title:** Biomarkers for measuring glaucoma progression  
*FFS – American Macular Degeneration Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**George Tye**  
**Project Title:** Glaucoma risk and structural differences between ethnicities  
*FFS – Earl & Shirley Herbst Eye Research Foundation Summer Student Fellowship*

**Kore Chan**  
**Project Title:** Rapalog therapy to mitigate Vigabatrin retinal toxicity  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Amy Evans**  
**Project Title:** Molecular mechanisms of signal transmission in retinal photoreceptor cells  
*FFS – Saving Sight Summer Student Fellowship*

**Nicole Mattson**  
**Project Title:** CRISPR/Cas9-based gene therapy for inherited visual disorders  
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