

2008 Staglin Music Festival NARSAD Rising Star Research Awards

NARSAD together with the Staglin Family Vineyard Music Festival is announcing four new major research awards related to psychiatric illness. These new awards are in addition to the Staglin Family Vineyard Music Festival Schizophrenia Research Award which was established in 2005. These new awards will emphasize innovative strategies and technologies for elaborating basic mechanisms of psychiatric illness and new approaches to individualized treatment and prevention. The disorders the awards will focus on include schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depression, and the fields of research the awards target include genetics and the development of individualized therapies. Each award will be for \$250,000 in direct costs. The proposals should be innovative and emphasize new technologies and approaches.

Eligibility: Candidates should have an M.D. and/or Ph.D. degree or equivalent doctoral-level degree and postdoctoral training in a scientific field that can be applied to the study of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depression. They should be in the early stages of an independent scientific career, have an appointment at the assistant or associate professor level, and be no more than 45 years old at the time of application.

Nomination and Application: The candidate should be nominated by the Dean, Department Chair, or Head of their Scientific Program of the University in which he or she is employed. The application packet should also include an NIH style biosketch/CV including birthdate, a letter of intent describing in one page the aims and significance of the project, including an outline of the research plan. Additionally, a NARSAD face sheet available on-line at www.narsad.org should accompany the application (a copy is also enclosed). The scientific advisory board will review these letters and select a short list of candidates for each award who will be asked to submit a more detailed three page research proposal.

Application Process: Applications should be sent electronically (as one document) via email to grants@narsad.org. The face sheet, with institutional signatures, may be emailed as a .pdf or mailed separately to:

Attn. Research Grants
NARSAD
60 Cutter Mill Road, Suite 404
Great Neck, NY 11021

The deadline for receipt of the full application package is **April 16, 2008**.

Selection Process: All applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee of the NARSAD Scientific Council consisting of 5 members: Huda Akil (University of Michigan), Samuel Barondes (University of California, San Francisco), Eric Nestler (University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School), Solomon Snyder (Johns Hopkins University), and Daniel Weinberger (NIMH), who will serve as Chair. The successful applicant will be notified by June, 2008, with a grant start date of September 15, 2008.

Other Conditions: If too few suitable candidates are identified in any year award monies will be carried forward, allowing for additional awards in subsequent years. Use of the award will be for research costs rather than the salary of the awardee, and no overhead/indirect costs are allowed. Funds may be used over a period of up to three years, with annual accounting of funds spent and an annual report of research results required.