

Stanford



Valerie Tsai

Ph.D. Student in Neurosciences, admitted Autumn 2024

Bio

BIO

I am a PhD student in the Neurosciences Program interested in understanding the neural and behavioral dynamics underlying social interaction, and how they become disrupted in neuropsychiatric conditions like autism.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation (2024)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Science, University of Washington , Neuroscience (2022)

LINKS

- My Website: <https://vtsai881.github.io/>
- Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=72-Br0AAAAAJ&hl=en>

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Concerted actions of distinct serotonin neurons orchestrate female pup care behavior.** *bioRxiv : the preprint server for biology*
Xiao, S. A., Chen, C. C., Horvath, P., Tsai, V., Cardenas, V. M., Biderman, D., Deng, F., Li, Y., Linderman, S. W., Dulac, C., Luo, L.
2025
- **The transcriptional response of cortical neurons to concussion reveals divergent fates after injury.** *Nature communications*
Alkaslasi, M. R., Lloyd, E. Y., Gable, A. S., Silberberg, H., Yarur, H. E., Tsai, V. S., Sohn, M., Margolin, G., Tejada, H. A., Le Pichon, C. E.
2025; 16 (1): 1097
- **Dissociable control of motivation and reinforcement by distinct ventral striatal dopamine receptors** *NATURE NEUROSCIENCE*
Enriquez-Traba, J., Arenivar, M., Yarur-Castillo, H. E., Noh, C., Flores, R. J., Weil, T., Roy, S., Usdin, T. B., Lagamma, C. T., Wang, H., Tsai, V. S., Kerspern, D., Moritz, et al
2024
- **Individual Differences in Volitional Social Self-Administration and Motivation in Male and Female Mice Following Social Stress.** *Biological psychiatry*
Navarrete, J., Schneider, K. N., Smith, B. M., Goodwin, N. L., Zhang, Y. Y., Salazar, A. S., Gonzalez, Y. E., Anumolu, P., Gross, E., Tsai, V. S., Heshmati, M., Golden, S. A.
2024
- **Dynorphin / kappa-opioid receptor regulation of excitation-inhibition balance toggles afferent control of prefrontal cortical circuits in a pathway-specific manner.** *Molecular psychiatry*
Yarur, H. E., Casello, S. M., Tsai, V. S., Enriquez-Traba, J., Kore, R., Wang, H., Arenivar, M., Tejada, H. A.

2023; 28 (11): 4801-4813

- **Sex differences in appetitive and reactive aggression.** *Neuropsychopharmacology : official publication of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology*

Aubry, A. V., Joseph Burnett, C., Goodwin, N. L., Li, L., Navarrete, J., Zhang, Y., Tsai, V., Durand-de Cuttoli, R., Golden, S. A., Russo, S. J.
2022; 47 (10): 1746-1754