

**NEWS**

# Reactions from INSAR 2019

BY CLAIRE CAMERON

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## 30 April 2019: Heading to Montreal

The autism research community is gathering in Montreal, Canada, this week for the meeting of the **International Society for Autism Research** (INSAR). Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the three-day scientific conference continues to be the largest international meeting of autism researchers in the world.

On Wednesday, about 2,200 scientists, clinicians and members of the autism community are

expected to come together at the **Palais des congrès de Montréal** conference center in downtown Montreal. This year, attendees can choose from more than 1,800 posters, oral presentations and panel discussions covering a variety of topics in autism research.

Keynote speakers include **Kathryn Roeder**, who is slated to discuss insights from autism genetics into brain development in autism; and **Jason Lerch**, who studies brain differences among mouse models of autism. **Vikram Patel** is scheduled to share his perspective on global disparities in autism care And **Elizabeth Berry-Kravis** plans to describe new approaches for developing **drugs for fragile X syndrome**.

The program also includes presentations on the cerebellum, adult outcomes and genetic discovery. Members of the local autism community are holding an **Autism Festival** showcasing art, local training initiatives and research involving the community during the meeting.

The *Spectrum* team will be at INSAR, too, reporting on the most notable findings. You can stay up to date with our coverage [here](#) and by following us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#). Check back frequently, as new stories post throughout the day. [Subscribe to our newsletter](#) to receive a roundup of the day's news every evening.

You can also join us for two special *Spectrum* events during the conference: a storytelling event and our traditional Twitter chat.

*Spectrum* is delighted to partner with **The Story Collider**, a science storytelling production company, for a special live show on Thursday, 2 May at the **Centre Phi in Montreal**. In this show, scientists, people on the spectrum and their family members share their experiences with autism research — and one another.

You can purchase tickets [here](#). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show begins at 7:00 p.m. Please arrive promptly, as seating is first come, first served.

Participate in our live Twitter chat about autism research presented at INSAR 2019. At 12:30 p.m. on Friday, 3 May, you can join us online or in person in the press room at the Palais des congrès de Montréal. We will tweet questions and moderate the chat using the handle **@Spectrum** and the hashtag #INSARChat.

*For more reports from the 2019 International Society for Autism Research annual meeting, [please click here](#).*