American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

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Ian Maze, Ph.D. given the ACNP Daniel H. Efron Research Award

The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) has named Ian Maze, Ph.D. as a winner of the 2025 Daniel H. Efron Research Award for outstanding basic research contributions to neuropsychopharmacology.

Dr. Maze is a Professor of Neuroscience and Pharmacological Sciences and Director of the Center for Neural Epigenome Engineering at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Dr. Maze is a pioneer in the field of molecular neuropharmacology and neuroepigenetics, where he has significantly advanced our understanding of the role of chromatin regulatory processes in neural function and disease. Dr. Maze has received numerous honors for his outstanding contributions to the field, including the Dr. Harold and Golden Lamport Award in Basic Research, the Society for Neuroscience Jacob P. Waletzky Award, and a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. In 2021, Dr. Maze became one of the youngest investigators to be named as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and was recently named as a finalist for the Blavatnik National Awards for Young Scientists.

Dr. Maze's work challenges our traditional thinking of how monoaminergic signaling contributes to brain function. In particular, he was among the first to demonstrate that monoaminergic neurotransmitters, such as serotonin and dopamine, post-translationally monoaminylate histone and synaptic proteins, thereby directly regulating gene expression and synaptic plasticity. With numerous publications in top journals, such as *Nature* and *Science*, Dr. Maze's research leverages state-of-the-art multidisciplinary approaches to provide critical mechanistic insight into the role of monoaminergic function with broad relevance to basic, translational, and pharmacological research.

Dr. Maze's work has been described as "transformative" and "paradigm-shifting," with immense potential to improve not only our understanding of basic brain function but also illuminate novel therapeutic interventions. His creativity, innovation, and expertise embody the founding mission of ACNP, making him an eminently deserving investigator for the 2025 Daniel H. Efron Research Award.

The Daniel H. Efron Research Award presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the ACNP is in recognition of outstanding basic research contributions to neuropsychopharmacology. The selection of the awardee is based on the quality of the contribution and its impact in advancing neuropsychopharmacology.

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ACNP, founded in 1961, is a professional organization of more than 1100 leading scientists, including four Nobel Laureates. The mission of ACNP is to further research and education in neuropsychopharmacology and related fields in the following ways: promoting the interaction of a broad range of scientific disciplines of brain and behavior in order to advance the understanding of prevention and treatment of disease of the nervous system including psychiatric, neurological, behavioral and addictive disorders; encouraging scientists to enter research careers in fields related to these disorders and their treatment; and ensuring the dissemination of relevant scientific advances.