

# **Jill Bolte Taylor, Ph.D.**

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## **Author**

*My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*

## **Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center**

*National Spokesperson for Psychiatric Disorders  
(1-800-BRAIN BANK)*

## **Indiana University School of Medicine**

*Adjunct Instructor Bloomington Medical Sciences Program*

## **Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI)**

*Consulting Neuroanatomist for Brain Cancer*

## **Artist**

*Creates and sells anatomically correct stained glass brains (Taylor Brains)*

## **Current Brief Biography**

Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor is a Harvard-trained and published neuroanatomist, who keynotes throughout the country. She is committed to educating the public about the beauty and resiliency of the human brain, neurological rehabilitation, and the value of brain donation for research. Having experienced a rare form of stroke and major brain surgery, she published a book for the lay public titled *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*. This book is about how the human brain creates our perception of reality and includes tips about how Dr. Taylor rebuilt her own brain from the inside out.

She also keynotes and consults for the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center as their "National Spokesperson for Psychiatric Disorders."

Dr. Taylor is currently an Adjunct Instructor in the Indiana University School of Medicine's Medical Sciences Program in Bloomington, Indiana, where she teaches Neuroscience to first-year medical students.

In addition, Dr. Taylor is the consulting neuroanatomist for the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI) housed at the Indiana University Cyclotron.

And in her spare time, Dr. Taylor creates and sells anatomically correct stained glass brains, when commissioned to do so. There are currently 13 brains in existence.

## **Education**

- 1993-1995 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry (Dr. Francine Benes), Boston, MA
- 1991-1993 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Medical School Department of Neuroscience (Dr. Roger B.H. Tootell in the labs of Dr. David Hubel), Boston, MA
- 1991 Ph.D., Indiana State University Department of Life Science, with research through the Terre Haute Center for Medical Education. Research specialty Neuroanatomy in the laboratory of Dr. William J. Anderson
- 1982 B.A. Indiana University, Double Major in Biology and Physiological Psychology, Bloomington, IN

## **Teaching Experience**

- 2006 Designed an undergraduate curriculum for a Mind/Body Course for the Indiana University Department of Kinesiology
- 2005- Indiana University School of Medicine's Medical Sciences Program  
Adjunct Instructor and Lecturer: Medical Neuroscience (M555)
- 2004-06 Indiana University School of Medicine's Medical Sciences Program  
Volunteer Lab Instructor: Human Gross Anatomy (A550)
- 2004-06 Indiana University Department of Kinesiology  
Course Director: Structural Kinesiology
- 2003 Indiana University Department of Kinesiology  
Course Director: Motor Development and Learning
- 1999 Rose Hulman Institute of Technology Department of Applied Biology and Biomedical Engineering  
Course Director: Anatomy/Physiology, Neuroanatomy/Neurophysiology
- 1993-96 Harvard School of Dental Medicine  
Instructor: Human Head and Neck Anatomy
- 1990-91 Terre Haute Center for Medical Education  
Visiting Lecturer: Medical Human Gross Anatomy Lecture and Lab

- 1989-90 DePauw College  
Visiting Lecturer: Human Anatomy Course Lecture and Lab
- 1988-89 Ivy Tech  
Instructor: Human Anatomy and Physiology Lecture and Lab  
Teaching Assistant, ISU: Anatomy and Physiology
- 1986-87 Terre Haute Center for Medical Education  
Teaching Assistant: Medical Human Neuroanatomy Lab
- 1985-89 Terre Haute Center for Medical Education  
Teaching Assistant: Medical Human Gross Anatomy Lab
- 1985-89 Indiana State University, Life Sciences Department  
Teaching Assistant: Anatomy and Physiology
- 1985-86 Indiana State University, Life Sciences Department  
Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Biology

### **Presentations About the Brain to Professional Organizations**

- Nov 2007 Presented “The Brain and Head in Cross Section” for the MPRI radiation technicians out at the IU Cyclotron Facility, Bloomington, IN.
- Nov 2007 Presented “How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!” for the Bloomington Indiana Center for Behavioral Health Addictions program.
- Nov 2007 Presented “How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!” for the IU Speech and Hearing Aphasia and Brain Trauma Support Groups.
- Nov 2007 Presented “The Head, Skull and Brain” for the MPRI radiation technicians out at the IU Cyclotron Facility, Bloomington, IN.
- Oct 2007 Presented “How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!” for the Bloomington Women’s Club for Sue Talbot.
- Oct 2007 Presented “Expect Recovery!” to the Montana NAMI annual convention.
- Oct 2007 Presented “Our Beautiful Brain” for the staff at the Bloomington Middleway House for Charlotte Zietlow.
- Oct 2007 Presented “The Brain in Wellness and Illness” for the Bloomington Police Department’s Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training.

- Oct 2007 Presented "Expect Recovery!" to the Texas NAMI annual convention.
- Sept 2007 Presented "How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!" for the Fort Wayne, NAMI.
- Sept 2007 Presented "How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!" for the AVIVA Insurance Company Underwriter's annual convention.
- Aug 2007 Presented "How to Get Your Brain to Do What You Want It to DO!" for the Mitchell Indiana Library and general public.
- June 2007 Presented "Building a NAMI Brain Bank Network" at the National NAMI annual convention.
- May 2007 Presented "The Brain in Wellness and Illness" for the Indianapolis Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training.
- April 2007 Presented "This is Your Brain On Drugs" for the inmates at the Monroe County Jail.
- April 2007 Presented "Our Beautiful Brain" for the staff at the Bloomington Boys/Girls Club.
- April 2007 Presented "Tending the Garden of Your Brain" for the in-service forum at Trinity Episcopalian Church in Bloomington, IN.
- Mar 2007 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" for the IU Wells Library's Women in History and Disability Month
- Mar 2007 Presented "The Brain and Mental Illness" for a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for various Bloomington police forces
- Mar 2007 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" for the Bloomington Rotary Club
- Feb 2007 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" for the Bloomington Hospital Heart Attack and Stroke Awareness group
- Dec 2006 Presented "Art and the Brain" for the Bloomington Mental Health Association's fundraiser
- Oct 2006 Participated in a panel discussion for the City of Bloomington, Indiana on the subject of methamphetamine and the brain

- Oct 2006 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" at the annual Compassion in Medicine Conference at Bloomington Hospital, Bloomington IN
- Oct 2006 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" at the annual Purdue Speech and Hearing Crossroads Conference in Lafayette, IN
- Oct 2006 Presented "The Brain and Mental Illness" at the Bloomington Stigma-Busters Fall Meeting in Bloomington, IN
- Oct 2006 Presented "The Brain and Mental Illness" at the NAMI-GBA Fall Annual Meeting in Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" with a focus on the brain and trauma, and gender differences, for the staff at the Middle Way House, an abuse and rape shelter for women in Bloomington, IN
- Jun 2006 Presented "This Is Your Brain On Drugs" to inmates at the Monroe County Jail
- Jun 2006 National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual National Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Jun 2006 Presented "The Brain and Mental Illness" for a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for various Bloomington police forces
- Jun 2006 Presented "This Is Your Brain On Drugs" to inmates at the Monroe County Jail
- May 2006 Presented "This Is Your Brain On Drugs" to inmates at the Monroe County Jail
- Oct 2005 North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND  
Keynote: "My Stroke of Insight"
- Jul 2005 Kentucky Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Jun 2005 National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual National Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- May 2005 Presented at the opening of the NAMI Walk in St. Louis, MO with Dr. Sarah Stevens on the accordion singing/playing "Show Up For Your Life!"

- May 2005 Keynote for the American Heart/Stroke Association of Oklahoma, Stroke of Courage Conference: "My Stroke of Insight!"
- Apr 2005 Community Care Behavioral Health Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Mar 2005 Bloomington Hospital Conference Keynote: "My Stroke of Insight!"
- Jan 2005 Arizona Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Sept 2004 Keynoted for the Katherine Hamilton Annual Awards Convention in Terre Haute, IN
- Sept 2004 National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual National Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Jun 2004 Siouxland Mental Health Service Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Sept 2003 Iowa Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Sept 2003 Texas Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Aug 2003 Deaconess Hospital annual Neurological Conference in Evansville, Indiana. Keynote: "My Stroke of Insight!"
- Jul 2003 Indiana Division of Addiction and Mental Health Services, coffee house style presentation, with guitar and slides, titled: The Beauty and Resiliency of the Human Brain, Indianapolis, IN.
- Jun 2003 National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual National Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- May 2003 Dallas/Fort Worth Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Apr 2003 Pittsburgh Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Convention Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Mar 2003 Presented "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!" to an annual conference for a judge in Lebanon, IN

- Mar 2003 Presented "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!" to a conference of Caregivers of children age's 0-5, French Lick, IN
- Feb 2003 Presented "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!" to a group of Jr. HS teachers in Bedford, IN
- Oct 2002 Presented "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!" to the NAMI Concho Valley and MHMR Services, San Angelo, TX
- Sept 2002 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" to open the educational series of the Dewey Institute for Learning in Retirement, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana. (There is a video tape available of this presentation)
- Jul 2002 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" to the annual convention for the Midwest Region American Heart Association, Chicago, IL
- Jun 2002 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to Upward Bound at ISU in Terre Haute, IN
- Jun 2001 Southeastern Wisconsin Area Agency on Aging Annual Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- May 2001 Spoke at lunch to the Massachusetts Alliance on Mental Illness about "The Beautiful Brain and Recovery"
- Feb 2001 Indiana Division of Addiction and Mental Health Services, Indianapolis, IN  
Keynote: Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Jan 2001 Florida's Protection and Advocacy Organization  
Keynote: Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Oct 2000 Kansas Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Oct 2000 Menninger Psychiatric Hospital  
"Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Oct 2000 Genesis Mental Health Organization, Laconia, NH  
"Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!"
- Sept 2000 Presentation to medical professionals for STROKE rehabilitation, St. Petersburg, FL

- Apr 2000 Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems, in conjunction with the Michigan Alliance on Mental Illness. Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Mar 2000 Wisconsin Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Feb 2000 Indiana University Consortium: "Brain Research and the Severe Mental Illnesses"
- Feb 2000 Met with the NAMI National Board of Directors and signed almost everyone up as brain donors to the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center, Arlington, VA
- Jan 2000 Project Pro-Brain, a professional presentation about the beauty and resiliency of the brain to a group of high school teachers, Decatur, IN
- Oct 1999 Presentation on the beauty and resiliency of the human brain in relation to the development of personality profiles. Delivered at the Bartholomew School Corporation Annual Teenage Leadership Conference
- Sept 1999 Texas Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jul 1999 NAMI NATIONAL Annual Convention: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come A Cure!", Chicago, IL
- May 1999 PACT of Cleveland Ohio, Annual Convention and 10 year celebration.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Apr 1999 New Jersey Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Mar 1999 Mississippi Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Mar 1999 Lafayette Indiana Alliance on Mental Illness, "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jan 1999 Leader of the Indiana NAMI state board retreat for board development and education
- Oct 1998 Tucson Arizona Alliance on Mental Illness Educational Program.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"

- Oct 1998 Montana Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention.  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Oct 1998 Oklahoma Department of Mental Health convention for Case Managers  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Sept 1998 Massachusetts Mental Hospital Annual Convention  
Spokesperson for families with mental illness
- Sept 1998 Tennessee Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jul 1998 NAMI Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.  
"Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- May 1998 Welcome address for Mrs. Rosalynn Carter for her presentation in Ft. Wayne, IN
- May 1998 Wisconsin Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- May 1998 Tarrant County, Texas Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Apr 1998 North Carolina Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jan 1998 Arizona Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Nov 1997 Oklahoma Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Oct 1997 South Carolina Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Oct 1997 Marion, Ohio Co. Department of Mental Health educational program:  
"Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Sept 1997 Quebec Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Sept 1997 Washington Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"

- Jul 1997 NAMI Annual Convention, Albuquerque, NM  
"Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jul 1997 NAMI Annual Convention: "Siblings, Connected By the Womb!"
- Apr 1997 Wisconsin Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Apr 1997 South Dakota Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "A Fresh View of Brain Research!"
- Apr 1997 Keynote Address for the Fitchburg College Psychology Department Honor  
Society Induction Ceremony "The Human Brain, Be Your Own Director!"

**Note:** On December 10, 1996, I experienced a severe hemorrhage in the left cerebral cortex of my brain that rendered me completely disabled. On the morning of the stroke I could not walk, talk, read, write, or recall any of my life. On December 27, 1996, I underwent a stereotactic craniotomy to remove a golf ball sized blood clot and the process of recovery began.

- Oct 1996 Ohio Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Oct 1996 Connecticut Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Sept 1996 Indiana Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jul 1996 Plenary Speaker for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Nashville, TN  
"The Singin' Scientist: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Jul 1996 Convention Chair for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual  
Convention held in Nashville, TN
- May 1996 Florida Local meeting  
Keynote: "The Singin' Scientist: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Apr 1996 New England Regional Sibling, Spouse and Offspring Conference Chair
- Mar 1996 TexArkana Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Regional Convention  
Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"

- Feb 1996 Inspirational Speech at Indiana State University Alumni Leadership Speaker Series, presentation title: "Be Your Own Director!"
- Feb 1996 Lecture presentation to Indiana State University Department of Life Sciences "Brain Research: From Knowledge Will Come a Cure!"
- Nov 1995 Presentation to Boston University students in the Rehabilitation Program "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Oct 1995 Speech at the "Annual Congressional Luncheon" held by the American Psychiatric Association and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill "One Siblings Quest to Help Science Find the Key to Unlock Insanity!"
- Oct 1995 New Hampshire Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Oct 1995 Vermont Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Sept 1995 Texas Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Morphologic Views of Brain Illness with Emphasis on Schizophrenia!"
- Sept 1995 Rhode Island Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Sept 1995 Tennessee Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- May 1995 Massachusetts Alliance on Mental Illness Annual State Convention Keynote: "Mental Illness is Physical Brain Disease!"
- Apr 1995 Chaired the first New England Regional Sibling, Spouse and Adult Children Conference for family members of individuals with mental illness Keynote: "Mental Illness is Physical Disease!"
- Dec 1994 Central Massachusetts Alliance on Mental Illness Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Dec 1994 McLean Hospital DMDA Keynote: "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"
- Apr 1994 Haverhill Massachusetts Northern Essex Community College "Mental Illness is Physical Brain Disease!"

### **Presentations About the Brain to Schools (K - College)**

- Nov 2007 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" to a graduate class in the History and Philosophy Department at IU, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2007 Presented "The Brain and Leisure" to an undergraduate class in the Recreation and Leisure Department at IU, Bloomington, IN
- Aug 2007 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 4<sup>th</sup> graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- May 2007 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> graders at Honey Creek Junior High in Terre Haute, IN
- May 2007 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of children at Bloomington Tri-North Junior High
- April 2007 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of children at the Boys and Girls Club in Bloomington, IN
- Mar 2007 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" for a class of students in the Fitness Major in the School of HPER at IU
- Feb 2007 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 5<sup>th</sup> graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Feb 2007 Presented "Our Beautiful Brain" to an Ethics in Medicine course in the Indiana University Department of Religious Studies
- Dec 2006 Participated in a group discussion with students in a History and Philosophy of Science course that studied My Stroke of Insight
- Nov 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of college students in the Indiana University Department of Kinesiology and Dance
- Oct 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 5<sup>th</sup> graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to students in the Biology of Mental Illness course at Indiana University taught by Dr. Joan LaFuze
- Sept 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to Indiana University students in the Department of Leisure and Recreation

- Mar 2006 Presented "My Stroke of Insight" to the second year Indiana University School of Medicine Students at Bloomington Hospital
- Jan 2006 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to college students at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music for Dr. Katherine Domingo
- Oct 2005 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to 4th graders at Ellettsville Elementary, Ellettsville, IN
- Oct 2005 Presented "Our Amazing Brain" to a class at Indiana University
- Sept 2005 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 5th graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2005 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to college students at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music for Dr. Katherine Domingo
- Jan 2005 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to college students at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music for Dr. Katherine Domingo
- Nov 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 4th graders at Ellettsville Elementary, Ellettsville, IN
- Oct 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of junior high school students at Honey Creek Junior High, Terre Haute, IN
- Oct 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to two groups of 4th graders at Ellettsville Elementary, Ellettsville, IN
- Oct 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 5th graders at Childs Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to college students at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music for Dr. Katherine Domingo
- Apr 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to 4th graders at Ellettsville Elementary, Ellettsville, IN
- Mar 2004 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Templeton Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Oct 2003 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 5th graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN

- May 2003 Wrote and performed "The Brain Extravaganza" with the graduating 6th grade class at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Mar 2003 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Templeton Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Oct 2002 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders at Clear Creek Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2002 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 4th graders at University Elementary, Bloomington, IN
- Apr 2002 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 6th, 7th and 8th graders in Terre Haute, IN
- Mar 2002 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of Kindergarteners in Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2001 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 4th graders in Bloomington, IN
- May 2001 Presented "My Bucket of Beautiful Brains" to a group of 4th graders in Terre Haute, IN
- Feb 2001 Presented "Beautiful Brains" to a group of Honey Creek Junior High School students Terre Haute, IN
- Feb 2001 Presented "The Brain and Music" to an Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Course, Bloomington, IN
- Apr 2000 Presented "The Brain and Music" to an Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Course, Bloomington, IN
- Oct 1999 Presentation about the beauty and resiliency of the human brain, Indiana University Department of Psychology.
- Nov 1999 Presented "Beautiful Brains" to a group of Honey Creek Junior High School students, Terre Haute, IN
- Sept 1999 Presented "Beautiful Brains" to a group of gifted 4th graders at the Indiana University School, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 1997 Presentation to Boston University students in the Rehabilitation Program "Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation!"

## **Community Service**

- 2007- Founder and facilitator of the Bloomington Brain Tumor Support Group
- 2007- Mentors the Indiana University Women's Basketball team
- 2006- Mentors various middle school children and Eagle Scouts in Bloomington, Terre Haute, and Columbus for their Science Fair or Eagle Scout Projects.
- 2007- Serves on the advisory committee for the Crane Learning and Employment Center for Veterans with Disabilities Pilot program
- 2006- Serves on the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Planning Committee for training the Indianapolis Police Department
- 2006- Serves on the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Planning Committee for training the Bloomington Police Department
- 2006- Faculty Advisor for the Indiana University Bloomington NAMI Affiliate
- 2006- Presents "This is Your Brain On Drugs" routinely to the inmates at the Monroe County Jail
- 2006 Sang routinely with the female inmates in Block E at Monroe County Jail
- 2005- Serves as President of the Greater Bloomington Area NAMI local affiliate
- 2000-02 American Heart Association/American Stroke Association local and state Operation Stroke efforts in Indiana
- 1996-97 National Alliance on Mental Illness, Member National Board of Directors
- 1995-96 National Alliance on Mental Illness, 2nd Vice President, National Board of Directors
- 1994-95 National Alliance on Mental Illness, Member National Board of Directors
- 1995-96 Chair, New England Regional Sibling, Spouse and Offspring Conference
- 1993-94 National Alliance on Mental Illness, Member Board for Sibling and Adult Children Council
- 1993-95 McLean Brain Tissue Resource Center: Brain Bank Associate and Spokesperson.

### **Special Awards, Recognition, Projects**

- Oct 2007 Recipient of the Indiana State University *Distinguished Alumni Award*
- May 2007 Recipient of the Indianapolis Mini-Marathon *Celebration of Life Award*, along with a \$5,000.00 donation to charity of choice - NAMI Greater Bloomington Area
- May 2007 Participated in The Amazing Brain project/program put on by Luke Kleinhenz for his Eagle Scott program
- Feb 2007 Created an art piece under the direction of local artist Joe Lamantia for ArtsWeek 2007. The piece was titled "Neural Processing."
- Feb 2007 Mentored a local 7th grader for her school's annual Science Fair. She won a Superior and advanced to the Ivy Tech Science Fair where she won first place in her division as well as an award from the Behavioral and Psychological Group sponsoring the event. She advanced to the Regional Science Fair.
- Feb 2007 Honored as a Phenomenal Woman and VIP (Very Influential Professor) by the Indiana University Women's Basketball Team
- Oct 2006 Self-published *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*
- Apr 2006 Inducted into the *Hall of Distinction* from Terre Haute South Vigo High School, Terre Haute, IN
- Jul 2003 Received the "NAMI Member of the Year" award at the annual convention for the National Alliance on Mental Illness. This is the most prestigious award that National NAMI gives to one of its own advocates.
- May 2003 Created and filmed the music video production "Free To Be" with Dr. Sarah Stevens and Dwayne Busick
- Jun 2000 Recorded "1-800-Brain Bank" for the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center on WFHB, Bloomington, IN
- May 2000 Recorded three high energy advertisements for the local Operation Stroke efforts of the American Heart Association, Spirit 95, Bloomington, IN
- Oct 1995 "Award for Excellence and Contribution in Advocacy in Behalf of People with Serious Mental Illness" awarded by the Massachusetts Alliance on Mental Illness at a fund-raiser starring Bill Cosby

- Apr 1995 Mysell Award winner for most outstanding research poster presentation by a research fellow in the Harvard Department of Psychiatry
- Apr 1995 Cover of *BioTechniques Journal* was my digital confocal micrograph of fluorescent triple co-localization of three neurotransmitter systems: Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase (GABA), Serotonin and Dopamine (tyrosine hydroxylase)

### **Media Features**

- Dec 2007 Interviewed by Chris Anderson, curator for TED 2008 Conference
- Dec 2007 Interviewed by Jim Ingalls on Eye on Indiana, WGCL
- Nov 2007 Interviewed by Adele Purlee on Talk of the Town!
- Oct 2007 Interviewed on Bennie Randall Radio Show, New York City
- Aug 2007 Interviewed for Talk of the Town! In Bedford Indiana
- July 2007 Interviewed for Oprah and Friends Radio, Marianne Williamson
- June 2007 Interviewed for WFIU Noon Edition, Bob Zaltsberg
- May 2007 Interviewed on the WFHB Interchange program
- April 2007 Feature article in Bloom Magazine
- April 2007 Radio Interview on WGCL Healthstyles about *My Stroke of Insight* book
- Feb 2007 Interviewed by the Retirement Channel for a documentary about the brain and recovery
- Feb 2007 Radio Interview on WGCL Healthstyles about The Teenage Brain
- Feb 2007 TV Interview on WCLJ, Joy in Our Town program
- Jan 2007 Interviewed on the WFYI Radio Program Sound Medicine
- Jan 2007 Interviewed on the BBC World News Radio for *My Stroke of Insight* book
- Dec 2006 Interviewed on the Unity of Bloomington radio program for *My Stroke of Insight* book

- Nov 2006 Interviewed on the BBC World News Radio for *My Stroke of Insight* book
- Nov 2006 Interviewed by Bloom Magazine for April/May edition
- Nov 2006 Interviewed on the WFYI Radio Program Sound Medicine for *My Stroke of Insight* book
- Nov 2006 Interviewed on FOX 59 TV News for *My Stroke of Insight* book
- Oct 2006 Interviewed with the Indiana University Alumni Media concerning the publication of *My Stroke of Insight*
- Sept 2006 Participated in the filming of a German documentary titled: Fun Things To Do When You Are Dead. (yes, I am serious)
- Sept 2006 Feature article (front page) on the Herald-Times in Bloomington, IN  
Article title: This is Your Brain On Drugs
- Jul 2006 Interviewed as a Medical Expert by ABC News about Terry Wallis who regained consciousness after spending 19 years in a coma
- Oct 2005 WFIU Profiles Interview, Bloomington, IN
- Sept 2002 Feature article titled: Singin' Scientist, published in the Sept/Oct issue of the Stroke Smart Magazine of the National Stroke Association
- Jan 2002 Feature article titled: Singin' in the Brain, published in the January issue of the Indiana State University Alumni Magazine
- Nov 2001 Interviewed as the Singin' Scientist by Gina Barton for a feature article in the National Stroke Association's Stroke Smart Magazine, scheduled for publication in the September, 2002, issue
- Oct 2001 Feature article in Indianapolis Star, City and State, "Scientist Changes Her Tune After 'Losing' Her Mind"
- Oct 2001 Cover/feature story titled: "A Stroke of Insight" in the Stroke Connection Magazine of the American Stroke Association
- Oct 2001 Interviewed as the Singin' Scientist by Patty Krapish for a full feature article in the Indiana State University Alumni Magazine
- Jun 2001 Interviewed as the Singin' Scientist by Kathy Rich for an article in Oprah's O Magazine, to be published in Sep 2002

- Jul 2000 Interviewed as the "Singin' Scientist" by Dawn Reed for Fox59 TV in Indianapolis, IN
- Jun 2000 Indianapolis Magazine, "Gray Matters," small feature of the Singin' Scientist and brain donation
- Mar 2000 Feature article and picture, Herald-Times, Lifestyle, "Singin' of the brain" by Dann Denny, Bloomington, Indiana
- Feb 2000 Interviewed as the "Singin' Scientist" by Rhonda Brown for Health Matters, TV program in Nova Scotia, Canada
- Dec 1999 Interviewed as the "Singin' Scientist" for Ripley's Believe It or Not
- Nov 1999 Featured on The Learning Channel program titled, "Understanding The Amazing Brain" about the plasticity of the human brain (aired Nov 14)
- Nov 1999 Featured in an Associated Press Article: Scientists Seek a Few Good Brains; published throughout the country
- Nov 1999 BBC radio interview as the "Singin' Scientist" on the program "Outlook" Sang the brain bank jingle "1-800 Brain Bank" around the world.
- Nov 1999 KNDD in Seattle, radio Interview as the "Singin' Scientist" and sang the brain bank jingle "1-800 Brain Bank" live on the radio FM 107.7
- Nov 1999 WWDM in North Carolina, radio Interview as the "Singin' Scientist" and sang the brain bank jingle "1-800 Brain Bank" live on the radio
- Jun 1999 Feature article and picture, Terre Haute Tribune Star - Valley Profile of The "Singing Scientist"
- May 1999 A "Learning Channel" interview for the program "Understanding the Amazing Brain" about brain plasticity, aired on November 14, 1999.
- Apr 1999 Feature article interview, the Boston Phoenix cover story "How To Get Ahead in Science" about brain donation and the Harvard Brain Bank
- Mar 1999 National Radio 30 minute interview and singing of the Brain Bank Jingle titled 1-800-Brain Bank for "The Infinite Mind" program.
- Feb 1999 Feature article, Lafayette Indiana Journal and Courier, Scientist endorses "Brain Bank"

- May 1998 National Radio interview and singing of the Brain Bank Jingle titled 1-800-Brain Bank for “The Infinite Mind” program
- Sept 1997 Feature article and picture, Quebec Gazette Home and Family section: “At the Heart of the Brain: Stroke Gave Her Insight Into Mental Illness”
- Sept 1997 Feature article and picture, Boston Phoenix Urban Eye section: “Will Sing For Brains”
- Jun 1997 “Boston Cable TV” hour-long interview of the “Singin’ Scientist” about my science, stroke and brother with schizophrenia
- Jun 1997 “Boston Cable TV” interview of the “Singin’ Scientist” for the Massachusetts Alliance on Mental Illness
- May 1997 Article, Staten Island Register, “Brain Donation Can be Vital to Research” interview about brain donation
- Nov 1996 Article, Harvard Magazine, “Frozen Brains”, interview about brain donation to the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center
- Nov 1996 CNN Cable TV interview about having a brother with severe mental illness in response to the death of John Salvi
- Jun 1996 “Boston Cable TV” interview about the role of siblings in the Alliance on Mental Illness of Massachusetts
- Apr 1996 Discovery Channel program “The Cutting Edge: Schizophrenia II” interview on postmortem research
- Mar 1996 Feature article with picture on the cover of the Science section of The Patriot Ledger, “Research On Her Mind”
- Mar 1996 “Boston Cable TV” interview about postmortem brain research and brain donation to the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center
- Oct 1995 Cover page story and picture, Chattanooga Free Press Medical News Section: “Brain Specialist Says Research Suffering From Donor Shortage”
- Oct 1995 Article and picture, Boston Sunday Herald Health and Fitness Section: “Mind’s Eye View: Probing Inside the Brain”
- Jun 1995 Cover page story and picture, Norwich Connecticut Sunday Bulletin: “Singer-Scientist Wants Your Brain”

- Jun 1995 Radio Interview for Brain Bank, singing debut of the “Singin-Scientist” special article write up in local CT newspaper
- Apr 1994 Created a video for Brain Banking Public Relations titled: “Lifespan: Research Takes Brains,” 1994
- Feb 1994 Cover page story and picture, The Boston Globe Living Arts Section: “Picking Our Brains.” Article about the brain bank and the shortage of brain tissue available for research into the severe mental illnesses
- Jan 1994 McLean Hospital 1993 Annual Report

### **Research Experience**

- 1993-97 Research Associate, Assistant Neuroanatomist, Lab for Structural Neuroscience, McLean Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, Belmont, MA
- 1991-93 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Neurobiology, Lab for Visual Physiology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA (labs of David Hubel)
- 1983-91 Research Assistant, Indiana University and the Terre Haute Center for Medical Education Medical Gross Anatomy Lab, Neuroscience Lab, Medical Histology Lab

### **Educationally Relevant Publications**

*My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*, October 2006, Lulu.com

1999 “A Blow To The Brain,” Discover Magazine

1999 “A Blow To The Brain,” YOU Magazine

1999 “A Blow To The Brain,” Catholic Digest

1995 “Future Prospects In Postmortem Brain Research of Severe Mental Illness - The Tissue Issue” with Vincent, S.L. The Advocate, National Alliance on Mental Illness

- 1995 "The Tissue Issue - Future Prospects in Postmortem Brain Research of Severe Mental Illness" with Vincent, S.L. Impact, Newsletter of Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services.

Hundreds of small articles about Brain Research, Mental Illness and Brain Donation have been published in the past few years in newsletters all over the country.

### **Published Scientific Journal Articles**

- 2000 "Convergence and Plasticity of Monoaminergic Systems in the Medial Prefrontal Cortex during the Postnatal Period: Implications for the Development of Psychopathology." Francine M. Benes, Jill Bolte Taylor and Miles C. Cunningham. Cerebral Cortex, Oct 2000; 10:1014-1027.
- 1998 "Neonatal Raphe Lesions Increase Dopamine Fibers In Prefrontal Cortex of Adult Rats." Taylor, J.B., Cunningham, M., Benes, F.M. NeuroReport 9, 1811-1815 (1998).
- 1997 "Differential Distribution of Tyrosine Hydroxylase Fibers on Small and Large Neurons in Layer II of Anterior Cingulate Cortex of Schizophrenic Brain." F.M. Benes, M.S. Todtenkopf, J.B. Taylor. Synapse, Jan. 1997:25:80-92.
- 1996 "Colocalization of Glutamate Decarboxylase, Tyrosine Hydroxylase and Serotonin Immunoreactivity in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex." Neuroscience-Net, April 24, 1996. Vol 1, Article #10001. J.B. Taylor and F.M. Benes (This was the first article ever to be published by the first purely internet scientific journal "Neuroscience-Net.")
- 1994 "Anatomical Evidence for MT/V5 and Additional Cortical Visual Areas in Man." R.B.H. Tootell and J.B. Taylor. Cerebral Cortex, Jan/Feb 1995:1:39-55; 1047-3211/95

### **Professional Research Presentations**

- 1997 Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience; New Orleans, LA. "Effect of Dorsal Raphe (DR) Lesions on D1 Receptor Binding Activity (RBA) in Rat mPFCx."
- 1996 Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience; Washington, D.C. "Sprouting of Catecholaminergic Fibers In The Cortex Of Rats With Neonatal Lesions Of The Raphe Nuclei."

- 1996 Annual Research Day for the Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry. "A Developmental Analysis of 5HT and TH Immunoreactive Varicosities (IRv) in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."
- 1995 Annual Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience; San Diego, CA. "A Developmental Analysis of 5HT and TH Immunoreactive Varicosities (IRv) in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."
- 1995 Winner of the prestigious "Mysell Award" at the Annual Research Day for the Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry: Poster title: "Colocalization of Glutamate Decarboxylase (GAD), Tyrosine Hydroxylase (TH) and Serotonin (5HT) Immunoreactivity in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."
- 1994 Annual Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience; Miami, FL "Colocalization of Glutamate Decarboxylase (GAD), Tyrosine Hydroxylase (TH) and Serotonin (5HT) Immunoreactivity in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."
- 1989 Annual Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience; Phoenix, AZ "A Quantitative Developmental Analysis of the Morphological Orientation of the Motoneurons in the Cervical Region of the Spinal Cord."
- 1988 Annual Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience; Toronto, Canada "A New Cervical Medullary Motor Neuron Dendrite Bundle: Functional Implications of Brainstem Spinal Cord Interactions."
- 1987 Annual Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience; New Orleans, LA "Development of Cervical Spinal Cord Dendrite Bundles in the Rat."

### **Abstracts Presented at Professional Meetings**

- 1997 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in New Orleans, LA. "Effect of Dorsal Raphe (DR) Lesions on D1 Receptor Binding Activity (RBA) in Rat mPFCx."
- 1996 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in Washington, D.C. "Sprouting of Catecholaminergic Fibers in the Cortex of Rats With Neonatal Lesions of the Raphe Nuclei."
- 1995 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in San Diego, CA. "A Developmental Analysis of 5HT and TH Immunoreactive Varicosities (IRv) in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."

- 1995 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in San Diego, CA. "A Shift in Tyrosine Hydroxylase-Immunoreactive Varicosities from Pyramidal to Nonpyramidal Neurons Occurs in Layer II of the Anterior Cingulate Cortex of Schizophrenics."
- 1994 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in Miami, FL. "Colocalization of Glutamate Decarboxylase (GAD), Hydroxylase (TH) and Serotonin (5HT) Immunoreactivity in Rat Medial Prefrontal Cortex (mPFCx)."
- 1989 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in Phoenix, AZ. "A Quantitative Developmental Analysis of the Morphological Orientation of the Motoneurons in the Cervical Region of the Spinal Cord."
- 1988 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in Toronto, CANADA. "A New Cervical Medullary Motor Neuron Dendrite Bundle; Functional Implications of Brainstem Spinal Cord Interaction."
- 1987 Abstract for Society for Neuroscience in New Orleans, LA. "Development of Cervical Spinal Cord Dendrite Bundles in the Rat."