

The 12th annual Ludy T. Benjamin, Jr. Distinguished Lecture in Psychology

Kelly Lambert, PhD

“Neuroplasticity Across the Neuroverse: Brain Sculpting Through the Lenses of History, Habitat, and Hope”

May 14, 2026

5 p.m. – cocktail hour with cash bar ■ 6 p.m. – dinner ■ 7 p.m. – lecture

Portage Country Club
240 N. Portage Path
Akron, Ohio 44303

Presentation Overview:

Dr. Lambert will share insights from her landmark research on experience-based neuroplasticity—the science of how our brains change in response to what we do, what we learn, and the environments we inhabit. Her project on emotional well-being in animals, which involved teaching rats to drive small cars, has been covered in over 1,500 news stories worldwide.

Registration Deadline is May 6, 2026

Complete the registration form and return by email or mail to the address at the bottom. Secure online registration is available at www.uakron.edu/chp or by scanning the QR code below.

Registration Type: General 50.00 Student \$30.00

Dinner Selection: Please choose one of the following options.

Unless otherwise noted, all entrees served with a vegetable, starch, salad, rolls and butter, tea and coffee.

- Chicken Marsala - with wild mushroom marsala sauce
- Pepper Crusted Sirloin - with burgundy wine sauce
- Broiled Halibut - with lemon brown butter emulsion
- Tomato Risotto - swiss chard, heirloom tomatoes, balsamic reduction
- I have food allergies/dietary restrictions - Email gruich@uakron.edu

Make a Gift \$ _____ Gifts support staff, students, and daily operations.

TOTAL: \$ _____

Registrant Information:

Name: _____ Preferred Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Method of Payment: (checks payable to The University of Akron)

Mastercard Visa Discover American Express Check

Credit Card # _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: Cummings Center ■ Attention: Dorothy Gruich
The University of Akron, 73 S. College Street, Akron, OH 44325-4302
Phone: 330-972-7284 ■ Email: gruich@uakron.edu ■ www.uakron.edu/chp

Dr. Kelly Lambert is the Trawick Professor of Behavioral Neuroscience at the University of Richmond, where she investigates experience-based neuroplasticity in preclinical models.



Dr. Lambert is the author of several influential books, including *Lifting Depression: A Neuroscientist's Hands-On Approach to Activating Your Brain's Healing Power* (2008), *The Lab Rat Chronicles: A Neuroscientist Reveals Life Lessons from the Planet's Most Successful Mammals* (2011), and *Well-Grounded: The Neurobiology of Rational Decisions* (2018). Her current book project, *Wild Brains: What Animals Can Teach Us About Being Well* (to be released August 2026), examines mental health through the lens of diverse animal models and environments. Her research has been featured on major media outlets such as **CBS Sunday Morning** and the **National Geographic Radio Show**.

Ludy T. Benjamin, Jr.

is an outstanding teacher, scholar, and researcher whose work has contributed significantly to our understanding of psychology and its history. The annual Ludy T. Benjamin, Jr. Lecture is hosted by the Cummings Center each year in May.



Visit www.uakron.edu/chp or scan QR code to register online

Drs. Nicholas and Dorothy Cummings

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