

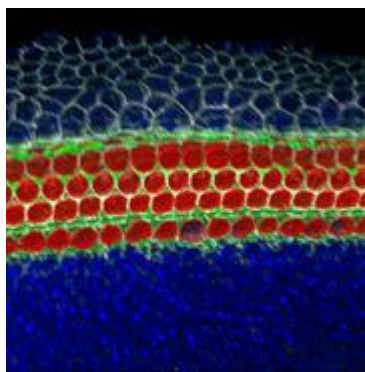
Celebrating its 60th anniversary year, Hearing Health Foundation's (HHF) mission is to prevent and cure hearing loss and tinnitus through groundbreaking research and promote hearing health.



[Support Our Research](#)

March 2018 E-Newsletter

2018-2019 Hearing Restoration Project (HRP) Studies Approved



HHF is grateful to those who give to the [HRP consortium](#). Thanks to our supporters' generosity, the HRP will move forward with several exciting projects in 2018-2019, including: observations of supporting inner ear cells from newborn mice, which have a latent capacity for some regenerative responses; predictions about genes that could influence hair cell restoration in chick and zebrafish models; and identification of changes in gene expression after hair cell loss in the chicken cochlea and vestibular system for cross-species comparison. More details about these promising investigations will appear in the Summer 2018 issue of *Hearing Health* magazine.

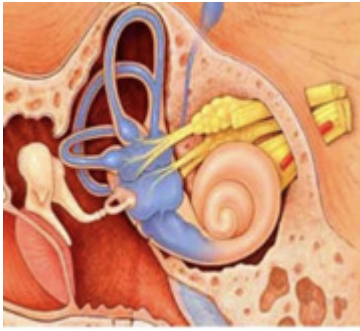
HHF Council of Scientific Trustees (CST) Member Peter Steyger Produces New Ototoxic Drug Research

CST member Peter Steyger, Ph.D., professor of otolaryngology/head and neck surgery in the OHSU School of Medicine, and colleagues produced a [Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience publication on the topic of ototoxicity](#). Steyger, who lost hearing as a child after being treated with antibiotics for meningitis when 14 months old, along with four other leading hearing experts, hopes to advance knowledge of both preventing and treating drug-induced hearing loss.



Emerging Research Grants Recipient Wafaa Kaf, Ph.D., Aims to Improve Meniere's Disease Diagnostic Testing

2015 ERG recipient Wafaa Kaf, Ph.D., seeks to improve the sensitivity of electrocochleography (ECoChG), an assessment of the auditory system, to produce [better testing](#)



[outcomes for Ménière's disease](#). Only 69% of those with the inner ear and balance disorder are correctly diagnosed using ECochG, while 31% of those with Ménière's disease have normal ECochG results. Kaf and team have already made advancements by altering the parameters of the acoustic stimulus on ECochG, an important step for early diagnosis.

HHF Welcomes Retired U.S. Army Colonel John Dillard, U.S.A. to Board of Directors

In February our Board grew to include [John Dillard](#), Senior Lecturer for Systems Acquisition Management at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, California. At the NPS, he also counsels young military officers as they cope with the effects of tinnitus including sleep, concentration, and mood issues. We look forward to working with John to better serve returning military personnel, who are disproportionately affected by tinnitus and hearing loss. John "hopes to contribute in a tangible way to HHF's drive to restore hearing for countless people affected by its loss."



Hearing News in *Boomer* and *Reader's Digest*



During Brain Awareness Week, March 12-18, HHF highlighted the close connection between the ears and the brain. *Boomer* Magazine [shared our important message](#) that untreated hearing loss is linked to dementia and other cognitive disorders.

To help its audience better understand vertigo, the sensation of dizziness and loss of balance, *Reader's Digest* discussed [vertigo as a symptom Ménière's disease](#), citing the expertise of HHF's Ménière's Disease Grantee Ian Swinburne, Ph.D.

HHF Donors Recognized by Senator for Outstanding Community Service

Frank and Chris De Francesco caught the attention of California State Senator Joel Anderson when their generosity was honored at HHF's [educational event in San Diego](#) in February. After learning of their longtime dedication to hearing loss research and advocacy, Sen. Anderson formally recognized the De Franciscos for outstanding service and commitment to the health and wellness of their community. Their story, "[Why We Believe in Hearing Health Foundation](#)" was featured in the Fall 2017 issue of *Hearing*



Health magazine. We are grateful to Frank and Chris for their unwavering support of our mission.



Advice from a "Faces of Hearing Loss" Participant: Overcoming Negativity

HHF's Faces of Hearing Loss participant, Lisa, explains how she once [buried her negative emotions about hearing loss](#), instead of working through them. For a long time Lisa told no one except her family about her hearing loss. Sharing her story has been very positive. Do you relate to Lisa? Let us know what you think at info@hhf.org.



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