

Subject: [Inclusion] Diversity Matters Newsletter March 2023
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From: Inclusion on behalf of Office of Equity and Diversity
To: inclusion@listserv.uthsc.edu
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This communication was generated by UTHSC's Office of Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity to keep you informed of upcoming events, deadlines, and important information.



Black Student Association Honors Outstanding Student Leaders

Since 1992, the Black Student Association (BSA) Awards Ceremony has honored student leaders from each of the colleges at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, as they move toward graduation.

Seven outstanding students were recognized at this year's awards ceremony Friday, February 17, at Collage Dance Collective in Memphis. Shanea McKinney, PharmD, an alumna of the UTHSC College of Pharmacy and senior clinical adviser for Cigna, was the keynote speaker. The event was supported by the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor.

2023 BSA Award winners are: Top row, from left, Briana Alston, Mia Lewis, Bianca Jackson, Siham Sherif. Bottom row, from left, Savannah Bush, Charlotte Isabel, and Alaine Miller.

Learn more about the winners here:

[Black Student Association Honors Outstanding Student Leaders - UTHSC News](#)

CELEBRATING AROUND UTHSC!





WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Events

March 8th:

International Women's Day Tabling Event

12pm - 1pm | Madison Plaza (CST)

Celebrate International Women's Day with us! Remember to wear purple, grab a selfie stick, and help us spread the message on social media. Snacks and prizes are available. #EmbraceEquality

March 21st:

Women's History Month Trivia

6pm - 7pm | Zoom (CST)



Calling all trivia fans! Join us via Zoom to test your knowledge about women's history—especially women in medicine! Prizes for the top three winners!

March 28th:



Women's History Month Book Club

12pm - 1pm | Zoom (CST)



*Love books? Love history of women in medicine? Join us via Zoom for a discussion on **Twice as Hard: The Stories of Black Women Who Fought to Become Physicians, from the Civil War to the Twenty-First Century.***

March 30th:

Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories Panel

12pm - 1pm | Freeman Auditorium or Zoom (CST)



A panel of women from different professions, departments, and UTHSC campuses share their personal and professional stories of how they got to where they are today! Join us at the Freeman Auditorium or via Zoom. Free lunches will be available-first-come, first-serve!

OIED New Employee

Brittany Hart

Brittany Hart is the Associate Engagement Officer for the Office of Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity (OIED). Brittany's prior counseling and community engagement work has led her to a committed career path in higher education, focusing on how people filter their lives through their identity, interact, and make decisions. She joined UTHSC in February 2023 after a successful career in the local non-profit community.



In OIED, Brittany will coordinate strategic initiatives and programs, develop and deliver educational training and facilitate workshops on various topics, ensure hiring compliance involving equal employment opportunity/affirmative action and university policy and procedures, and investigate complaints (i.e., harassment; discrimination) as well as resolve issues that may be inconsistent with UT policy involving students, trainees, staff, and faculty.

Brittany is a native of Savannah, Tennessee, and a Hardin County High School

graduate. She is an Alumna of the University of Memphis and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in December 2010. She also holds a professional certificate/certification in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace from the University of South Florida Muma College of Business.



Pioneer of Rural Track Residency Passionate About Improving Health Care Access in Rural Communities

Written by Christopher Green

Growing up in rural Middle Tennessee, Thomas Atkins, MD, saw firsthand the need for improved access to health care outside of cities and metropolitan areas. “People in my community would have to decide between taking off work and driving all the way to Nashville to get care for something, or just dealing with being sick so they don’t lose the paycheck,” he said.

A 2022 graduate of UTHSC, Dr. Atkins is the first rural track resident in the College of Medicine – Nashville’s family medicine program. The pilot program is a state-funded effort to eliminate a shortage of physicians in rural areas, highlighting UTHSC’s dedication to improving the health of every person across the state of Tennessee.

Finish reading more on the [UTHSC news website](#).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

UT System Leadership Institute (LI) 2023 UTHSC Participants Franklin, TN



Upcoming US Commemorative Months/Days! Celebrating Heritage and Awareness and more!

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April)

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (May)
Jewish American Heritage Month (May)
Global Accessibility Awareness Day (May 17)

Did we forget something? [Email us](#) and let us know!

CLARIFYING CONCEPTS



Bicultural: Of or related to an individual who possesses the languages, values, beliefs, and behaviors of two distinct racial or ethnic groups. Bicultural individuals may also be bilingual and/or biracial.

Colorblind: Term used to describe personal, group, and institutional policies or practices that do not consider race or ethnicity as a determining factor. The term “colorblind” de-emphasizes, or ignores, race and ethnicity, a large part of one’s identity.

Feminism: Theory and practice that advocates for educational and occupational equity between men and women and undermines traditional cultural practices that support the subjugation of women by men and the devaluation of women’s contributions to society.

Linguistic Profiling: The practice of making assumptions or value judgments about an individual based on the way he or she speaks and/or the language he or she uses, and then discriminating against that individual because of these factors.

Unearned Privilege: Privileges accorded to some individuals because they possess or demonstrate certain characteristics associated with the dominant culture in society, such as being heterosexual, white, or male. These privileges are deeply ingrained into U.S. culture.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS



March 6: Purim (*Jewish*)

March 20: (*Pagan and Wiccan*)

March 8: Holi (*Hindu*)

March 20: Naw Rúz (*Baha'i*)

March 20: Ostara (*Pagan, Wiccan, Druid*)

March 22: Ramadan (*Muslim*)

Community Events

From east to west Tennessee!

Chattanooga

ART+ISSUES: REPRESENTING AND HEALING COMMUNITIES WITH MARIE MOTT
Through Jan 8th
For more information [click here](#)

Memphis

Stax Music Academy SONGBIRDS: A Tribute to Women in Jazz
March 21
For more information [click here](#)

Knoxville

Kiki with a Counselor
March 1 | 1:00 pm EST
For more information [click here](#)

Nashville

Nashville Repertory Theatre presents August Wilson's Fences
March 3-5
For more information [click here](#)

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