



UTSW dementia experts highlight hope for future

What if a blood test could assess your dementia risk? Or an imaging technology could detect defects in proteins before a disease like Alzheimer's does significant damage? These are not pipe dreams, but advances now in development, UT Southwestern experts said during "Melodies of Hope: Music, Dementia, and Brain Science."

The discussion, co-sponsored by UTSW and The Dallas Opera, drew over 700 people to the Winspear Opera House recently. For those who couldn't attend, a video recording of the event is available on [YouTube](#), courtesy of The Dallas Opera.

W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D., Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost, and Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School, moderated the panel of experts from UTSW's Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute, which included **William Dauer, M.D.**, **Marc Diamond, M.D.**, **Brendan Kelley, M.D.**, and **Sarah Shahmoradian, Ph.D.**

"The optimism within our field after decades of no real progress with clinical therapies is unbelievable," said Dr. Diamond, Director of the Center for Alzheimer's and Neurodegenerative Diseases. "In the world that we are trying to create within our Center, we will find evidence of the disease at a biochemical level before there's any cognitive impairment."

The event was a prelude to the opera company's production of *Orpheus and Eurydice*, which has been reimagined in a contemporary setting with dementia as a theme. Additional performances of the opera will take place tonight and on Feb. 15.

[Read the Center Times Plus article](#)



Learn more about health disparities research

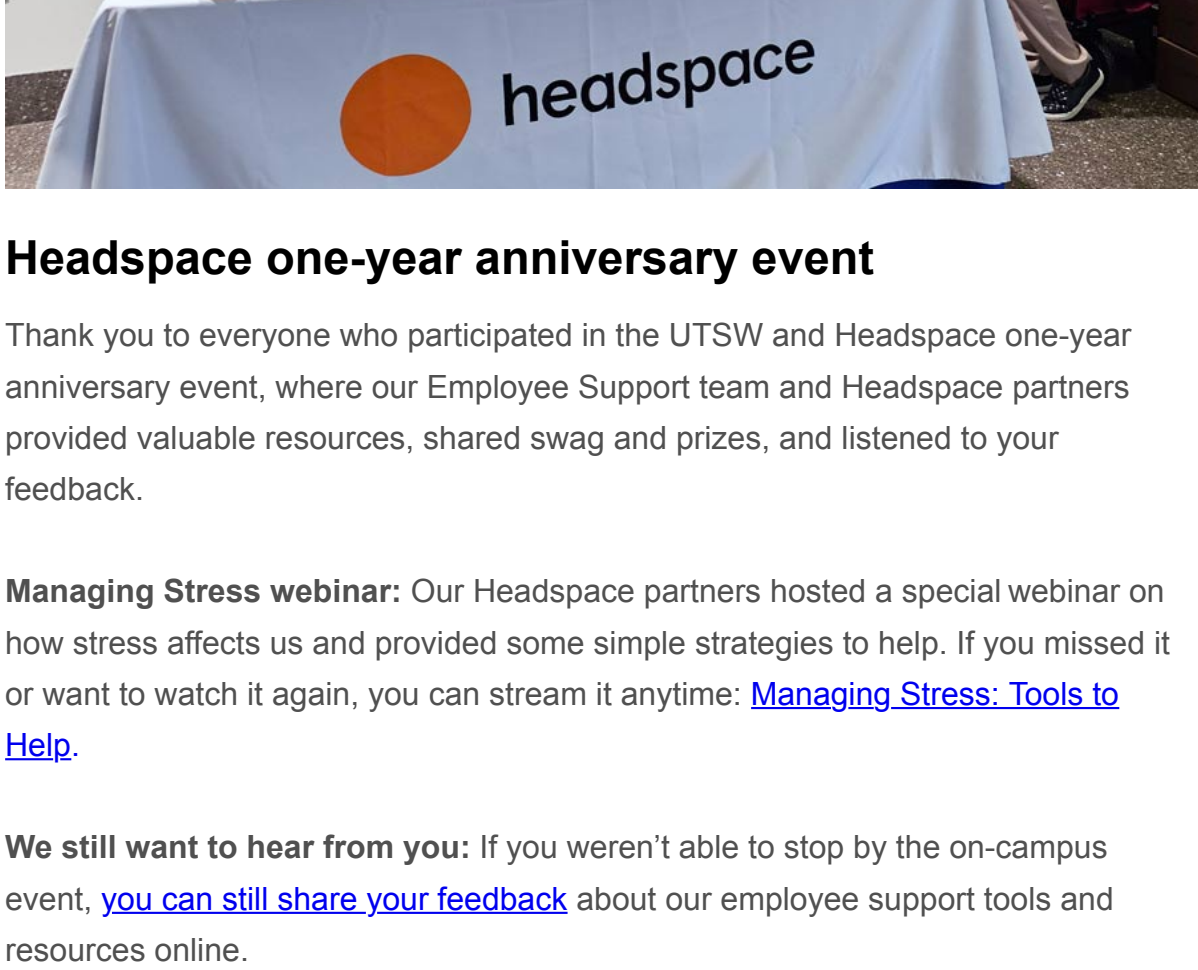
Be part of an important conversation to inspire and educate learners and faculty on innovative approaches to improve public health and promote health equity research through academic pursuits. Presented by the Office for Institutional Opportunity in partnership with the O'Donnell School of Public Health, the inaugural Health Disparities Research Lecture Series is your opportunity to explore ideas that make a real impact.

Upcoming lectures:

- **Feb. 21:** "Equitable Solutions for Improving Cancer Health Equity – A Role for Community Engagement," with **Lorna McNeill, Ph.D., M.P.H.**
- **March 26:** "Health Equity and Community Engaged Scholarship: My View from 20 Years in Research, Government, and Nonprofits," with **Marcella Nunez-Smith, M.D., M.H.S.**
- **April 16:** "The Role of Academic Publishing in Reducing Health Disparities," with **Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, Ph.D., M.D.**

"We are bringing experts from around the country to UT Southwestern to offer our members interested in health disparities an opportunity to learn and develop in this space," said **Shawna Nesbitt, M.D., M.S.**, Vice President and Chief Institutional Opportunity Officer.

"We're excited to foster collaborations between UTSW and other institutions nationwide and look forward to additional series throughout the year for all learners to have deeper conversations about health disparities."



Headspace one-year anniversary event

Thank you to everyone who participated in the UTSW and Headspace one-year anniversary event, where our Employee Support team and Headspace partners provided valuable resources, shared swag and prizes, and listened to your feedback.

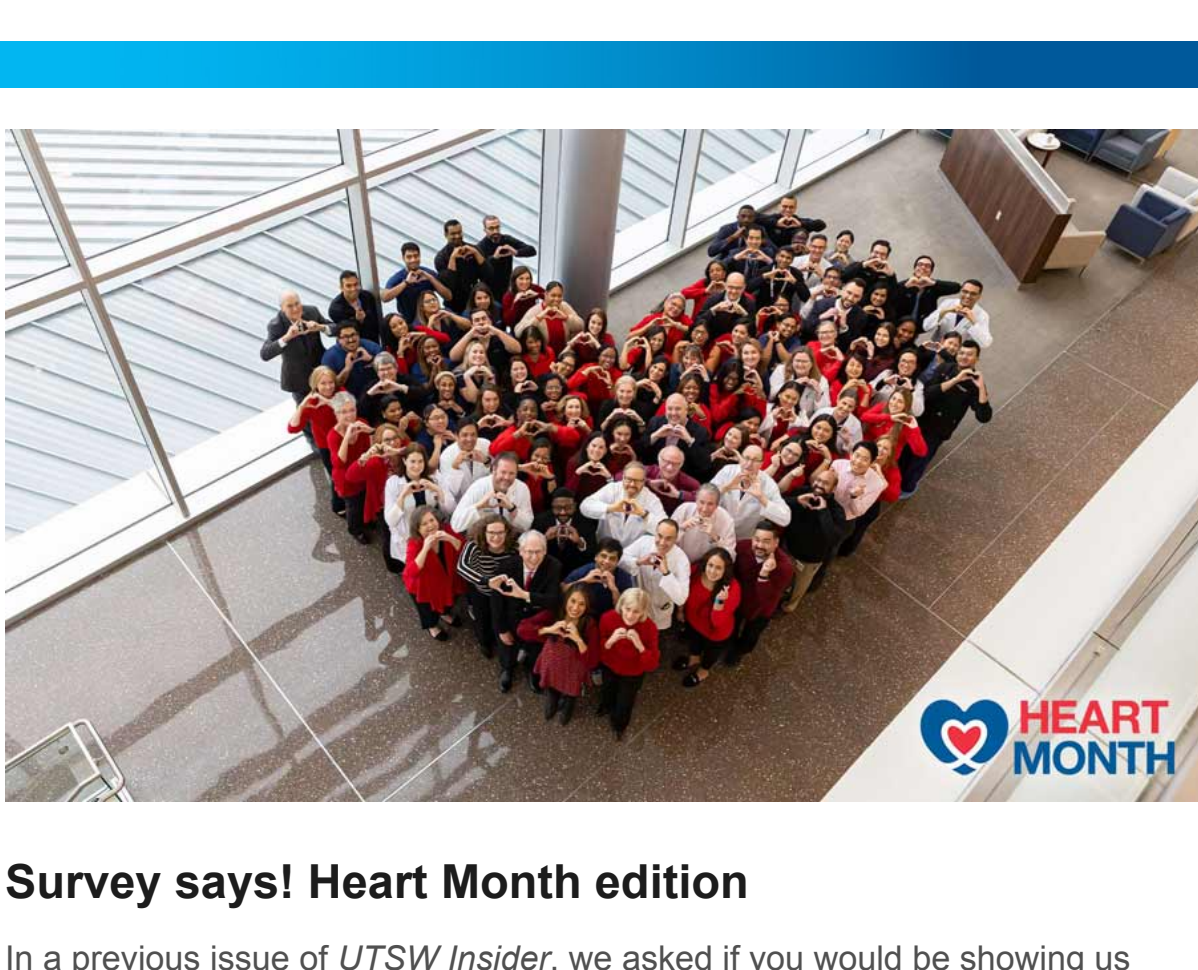
Managing Stress webinar: Our Headspace partners hosted a special webinar on how stress affects us and provided some simple strategies to help. If you missed it or want to watch it again, you can stream it anytime: [Managing Stress: Tools to Help](#).

We still want to hear from you: If you weren't able to stop by the on-campus event, [you can still share your feedback](#) about our employee support tools and resources online.

Enroll in Headspace: Want to learn more about your free Headspace membership? Visit our [Employee Support page](#) to see how this tool might be beneficial to you. Click the applicable link below to receive access to your free membership:

- [UTSW employees](#)
- [UTSW students and non-employee trainees](#)

If you have any questions about Headspace or any of our Employee Support resources, please reach out to our HR team by [email](#) or by phone 214-648-9810.

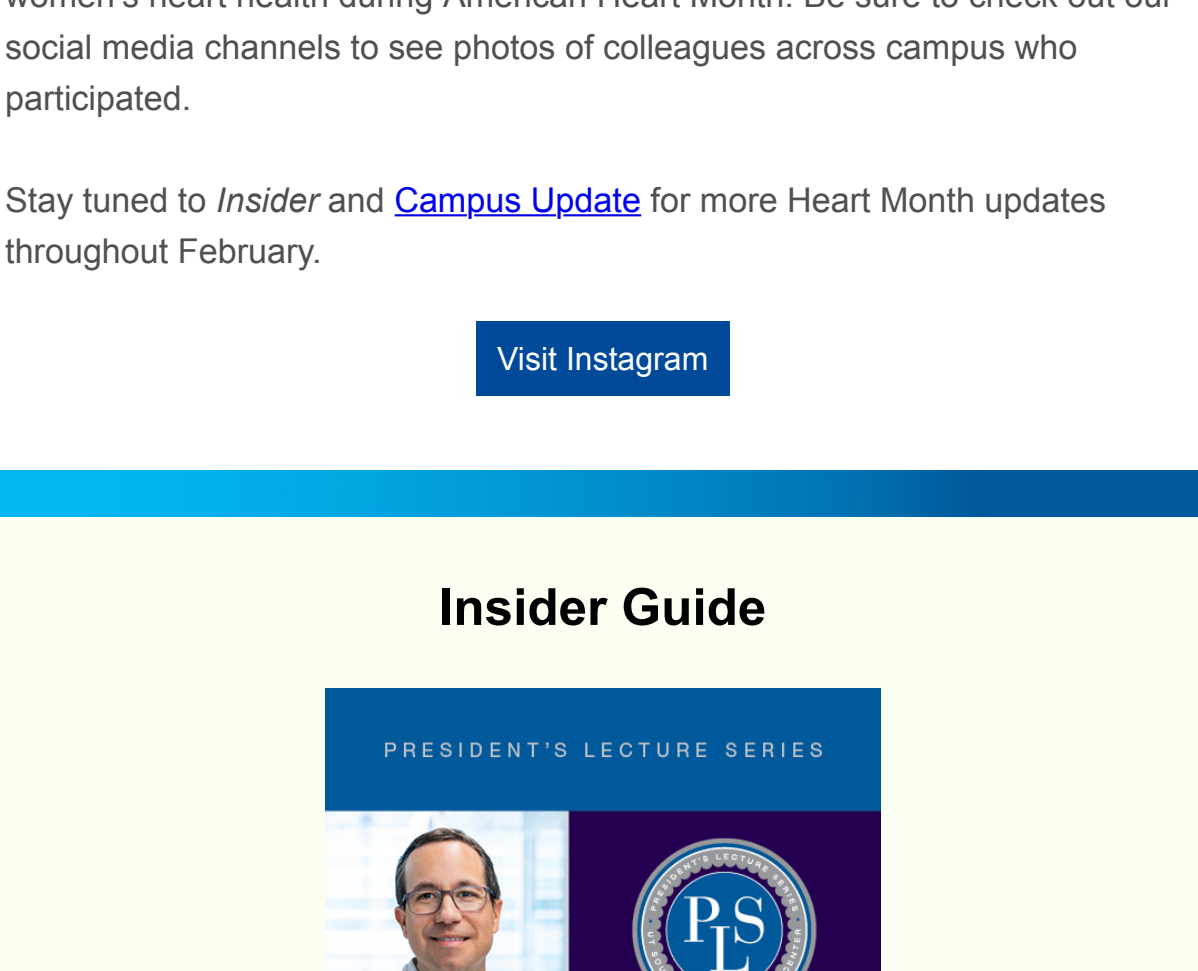


Show off your UTSW pride

UT Southwestern retail stores are thrilled to offer exclusive merchandise featuring the "UTSW" icon (as seen above). From stylish apparel to practical drinkware, backpacks, and more, our shops have you covered.

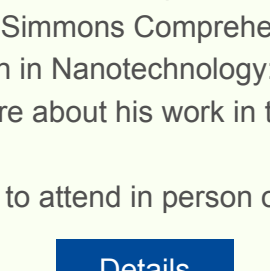
Grab your UTSW gear today at all three [campus store locations](#) or online!

[Shop now](#)



Survey says! Heart Month edition

In a previous issue of *UTSW Insider*, we asked if you would be showing us your best red for National Wear Red Day (Feb. 7). Based on what you told us (see graphic) – and what we saw on Friday – you definitely delivered!

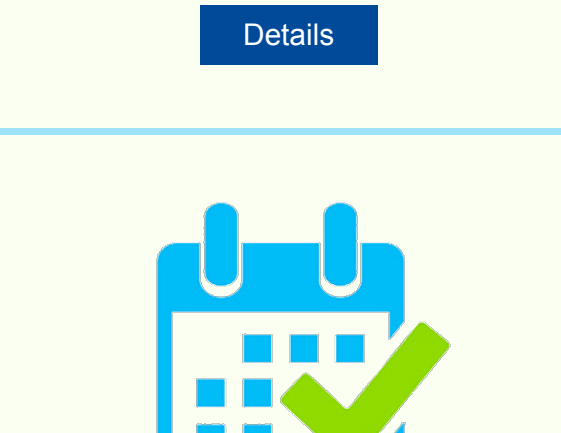


Thank you to everyone who participated in Going Red for Women to support women's heart health during American Heart Month. Be sure to check out our social media channels to see photos of colleagues across campus who participated.

Stay tuned to *Insider* and [Campus Update](#) for more Heart Month updates throughout February.

[Visit Instagram](#)

Insider Guide



Tomorrow: President's Lecture Series with Daniel Siegwart, Ph.D.

4-5 p.m., Feb. 13

Hybrid, Tom and Lula Gooch
Auditorium (C)

Daniel Siegwart, Ph.D., Professor in the Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Biochemistry and in the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, will deliver an illuminating talk titled "Innovation in Nanotechnology: From Vaccines to Novel Genetic Disease Treatment." Learn more about his work in this story on [Center Times Plus](#).

Register to attend in person or virtually.

[Details](#)

DFW Brain Tumor Walk & Race

8:30-10:30 a.m., March 1

AT&T Stadium, 1 AT&T Way, Arlington

The Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute and Department of Neurological Surgery invite the UTSW community to join Team Brainstormers for a 5K fun run/walk hosted by the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS). The NBTS is committed to defeating brain tumors and improving the quality of patients' lives.

[Join](#) the team today.

[Details](#)

UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?

The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[Click to view upcoming or trending events](#)