

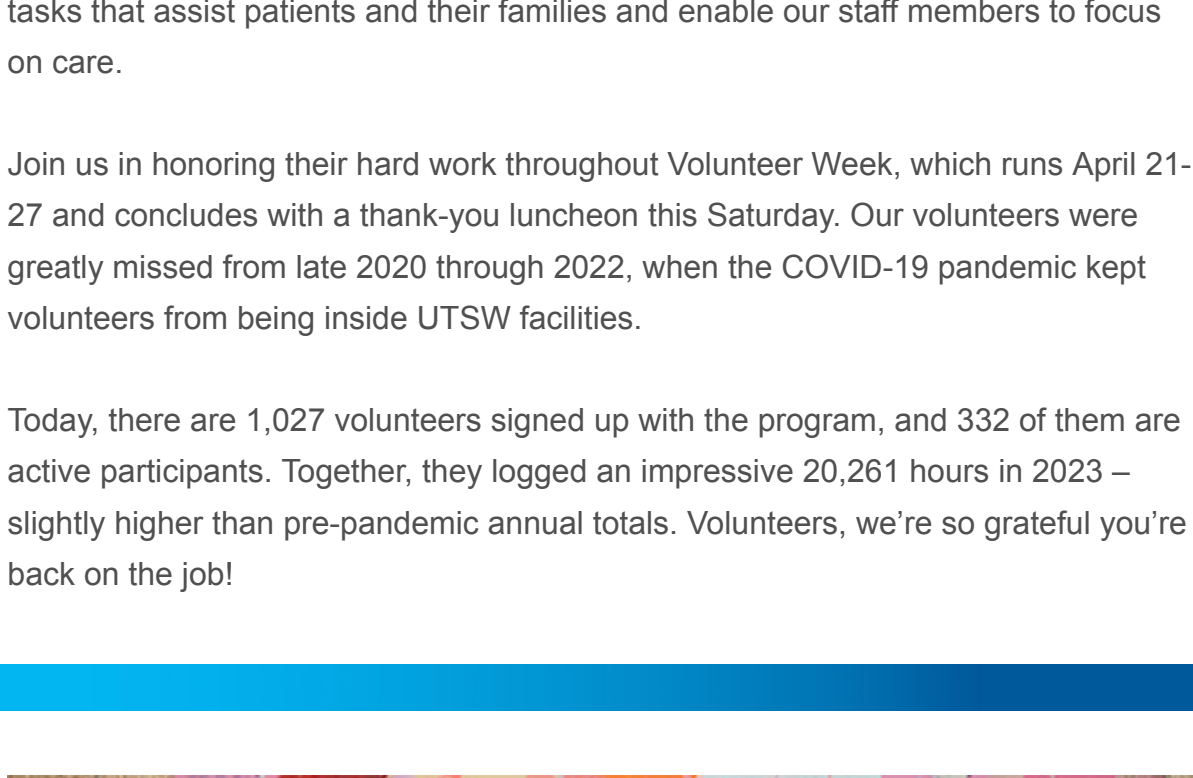


### Save the Date: Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 14, the annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration. You can look forward to a traditional lion dance, a keynote speech by **Saad Omer, M.B.B.S., M.P.H., Ph.D.**, Dean of the Peter O'Donnell Jr. School of Public Health at UT Southwestern, and remarks by **Shawna Nesbitt, M.D., M.S.**, Vice President and Chief Institutional Opportunity Officer.

The hybrid event, hosted by the Office for Institutional Opportunity, will take place at noon in the T. Boone Pickens Auditorium (NG3.112) on North Campus. Registration is required.

[Learn more](#)

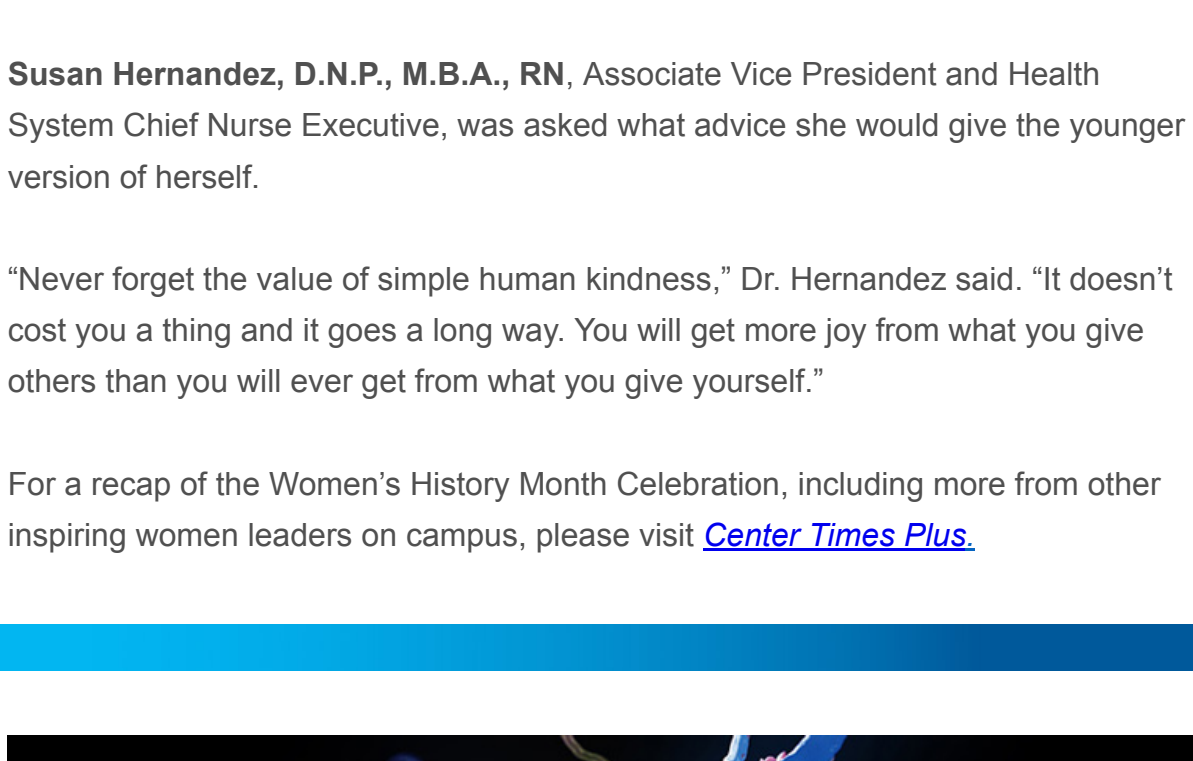


### Recognizing UT Southwestern's volunteers

Volunteers at UT Southwestern donate their time in support of our patients and teammates across 55 hospital and clinical departments. Coordinated through UTSW's [Volunteer Services](#) team, they perform administrative and customer service tasks that assist patients and their families and enable our staff members to focus on care.

Join us in honoring their hard work throughout Volunteer Week, which runs April 21-27 and concludes with a thank-you luncheon this Saturday. Our volunteers were greatly missed from late 2020 through 2022, when the COVID-19 pandemic kept volunteers from being inside UTSW facilities.

Today, there are 1,027 volunteers signed up with the program, and 332 of them are active participants. Together, they logged an impressive 20,261 hours in 2023 – slightly higher than pre-pandemic annual totals. Volunteers, we're so grateful you're back on the job!



### Women's History Month: Inspiration from extraordinary leaders of UTSW

In honor of Women's History Month, UT Southwestern recognized some of its own outstanding women leaders through "She Talks," a celebratory presentation filled with encouraging anecdotes and advice. The event, hosted by the Office for Institutional Opportunity, showcased the unique backgrounds and experiences of women in our community with thoughtful conversations and supporting words.

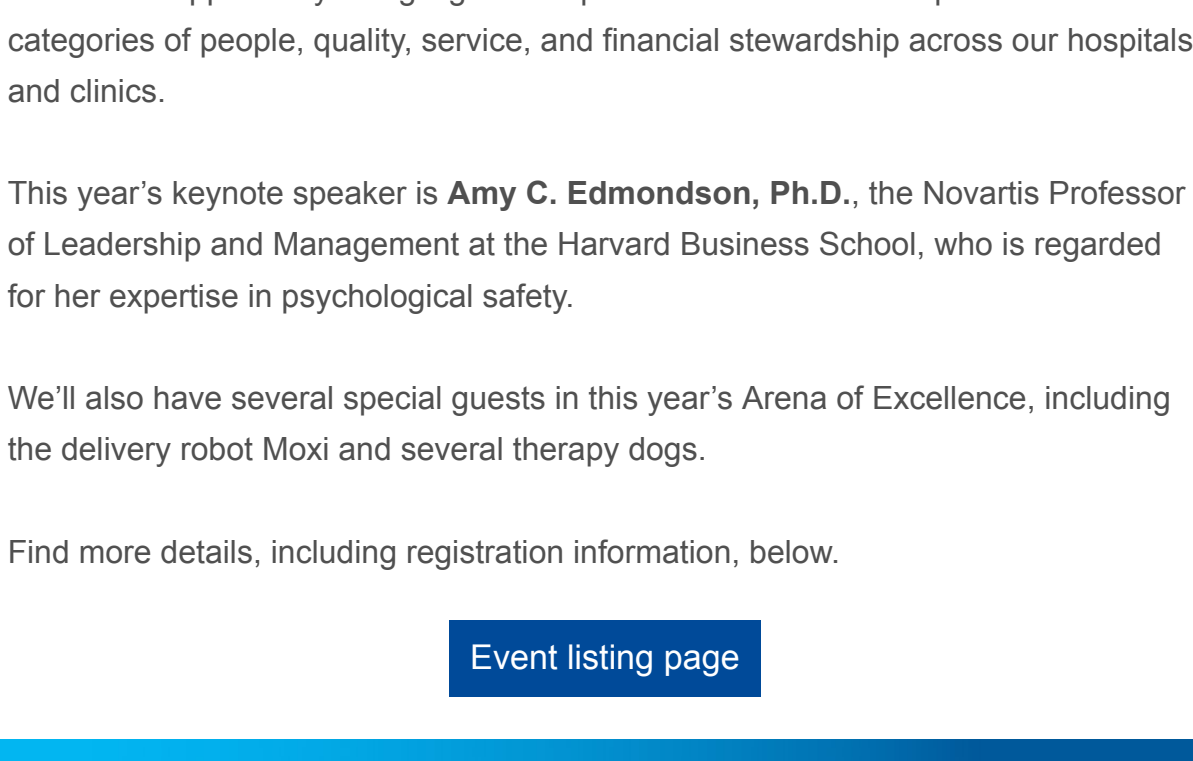
**Josephine Thinwa, M.D., Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Microbiology, told the story of the woman who inspired her career: Wangari Maathai, a Kenyan activist and the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

"She sowed seeds of hope in the hearts and minds of people, and I hope she inspires you to do something greater than yourselves without fear," Dr. Thinwa said. "Continue sowing seeds of hope in people around you to keep the cycle moving forward."

**Susan Hernandez, D.N.P., M.B.A., RN**, Associate Vice President and Health System Chief Nurse Executive, was asked what advice she would give the younger version of herself.

"Never forget the value of simple human kindness," Dr. Hernandez said. "It doesn't cost you a thing and it goes a long way. You will get more joy from what you give others than you will ever get from what you give yourself."

For a recap of the Women's History Month Celebration, including more from other inspiring women leaders on campus, please visit [Center Times Plus](#).



### Driving Discoveries in Neurodegenerative Diseases

The Center for Alzheimer's and Neurodegenerative Diseases ([CAND](#)), led by founding Director **Marc Diamond, M.D.**, is redefining our approach to Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases – from unraveling immune system complexities to uncovering groundbreaking insights into tau proteins – and forging new paths toward effective treatments.

Through the Center's strategic collaboration with CAND investigator **Lukasz Joachimiak, Ph.D.**, UTSW's Dr. Diamond is studying fundamental events in the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative disorders characterized by the deposition of abnormal tau protein in the brain, known as tauopathies. The collaborative work focuses on understanding the process by which a single tau monomer undergoes structural alterations leading to the formation of aggregates. Drs. Diamond and Joachimiak hope that a better understanding of this process will lead to tauopathy-specific therapies, including diagnostic and therapeutic interventions for Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Learn more about their work in [Field Reports from the O'Donnell Brain Institute](#).



## UT Southwestern Health System's CELEBRATION of EXCELLENCE

Excellence. Innovation. Teamwork. Compassion.

### Celebration of Excellence this Friday, April 26

Make some time to connect with colleagues and share in the spirit of teamwork and collaboration at this year's Health System's Celebration of Excellence (CoE). The event is an opportunity to highlight examples of innovation and improvement in the categories of people, quality, service, and financial stewardship across our hospitals and clinics.

This year's keynote speaker is **Amy C. Edmondson, Ph.D.**, the Novartis Professor of Leadership and Management at the Harvard Business School, who is regarded for her expertise in psychological safety.

We'll also have several special guests in this year's Arena of Excellence, including the delivery robot Moxi and several therapy dogs.

Find more details, including registration information, below.

[Event listing page](#)



### Call for abstracts extended for AI Symposium in Health Care

Researchers, clinicians, educators, administrators, and trainees are invited to submit abstracts for the inaugural UT System AI Symposium in Health Care, May 30-31. The abstract submission deadline has been extended to April 27.

This exciting event will delve into the latest advancements in artificial intelligence and explore their impact on health care, biomedical research, and education.

[Register](#) now to join the conversation in person or virtually. If you have questions, email [UTSystemAISymposium@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:UTSystemAISymposium@utsouthwestern.edu).

### Insider Guide



#### Earth Month Farmer's Market

11 a.m.–2 p.m., April 24

Pickens Medical Education & Conference Center, Commons Food Court (NG3)

Discover fresh flavors and sustainable fare at the Auxiliary Restaurant Group's Earth Month Farmer's Market. Enjoy seasonal produce and artisanal goods from local vendors, along with games and eco-friendly tips, while embracing the spirit of Earth Month and supporting local vendors.

[Details](#)



#### Simulation Center forum

7 a.m.–2:30 p.m., May 8

Eugene McDermott Plaza and Lecture Halls (D), D1.502

The UT Southwestern Simulation Center will host the 7th Annual Charles Morris Ginsburg Simulation-Based Quality Improvement and Research [Forum](#), featuring keynote speaker **William C. McGaghie, Ph.D.** This event will bring individuals together from broad backgrounds with a common interest in health care simulation quality improvement and research. Registration required.

[Register](#)



### 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](#)

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