



Support Growth and Innovation in Texas Life Sciences this Election Season



This November, Texans have the opportunity to vote for several Propositions that will allow our industry to flourish and provide a competitive economic environment that attracts growth.

Vote early from October 23 - November 3 or on Election Day, November 7 and vote "Yes" to support Propositions 5 and 10.

[Learn more about the Texas propositions](#)

Untangling the Clinical Trial Conundrum





Nicole Small, CEO & President, Lyda Hill Philanthropies

What if nine in 10 Americans could participate in a clinical trial within a half hour of their home? That's the first challenge Dallas' new federal biotechnology hub will tackle, the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, known as ARPA-H, announced Nicole Small, CEO of Lyda Hill Philanthropies and Holdings at the hub's launch last week.

Texas won the customer experience hub in large part because of its broad and well-connected web of academic institutions, industries and different patient populations, which the initiative plans to tap as it collects insights into how clinical trials must improve to become more accessible.

[Read full press release](#)

ARPA-H Opens Application Portal to Join Customer Experience Hub



The ARPA-H Customer Experience Hub forms part of **ARPANET-H**, a nationwide health innovation network dedicated to the needs of people. The new network will take a human-centered approach to design products and services that people enthusiastically adopt.

Members of the network will draw on user-centered design and research best practices and methodologies, providing access, capabilities, and support to effectively integrate patient input. The network will connect local, regional, and national efforts to improve health outcomes in important areas of medicine and health.

[Apply to join ARPA-H](#)

DFW Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Hosts Career Series



(left to right) Cris Osborn PhD, Katie Ivy, Mary Morton, Sonali Pandhe, PhD, Jennifer Bourgeois, PharmD, Deanna Tucker, PharmD, David Mire, PhD, MBA

Last week, BioNTX had the privilege of attending the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association's "Rise & Lead: Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders" event. The dynamic gathering hosted by HBA's Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter and presented by SEMBio, brought together a diverse audience, including life science and healthcare professionals, visionary startup entrepreneurs, and industry executives.

The round-table event featured compelling stories of resilience and courage from seasoned leaders who've driven transformative changes within their careers and organizations.

Thanks to the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association and SEMBio for creating a platform that empowers women, connects our life science community, and fuels North Texas' collective passion for innovation and leadership in this ever-evolving industry.

Eosera Announces Next EmpowHERment Competition Finalists

eosera[®]

Audiolo, Bairitone Health, and Hangio are the selected finalists and will compete for the \$25K prizes in EOSERA[®] INC.'s annual **EmpowHERment** Pitch Competition.

Join **Eosera** for their second-annual pitch competition on November 14th where three small businesses will pitch live and compete for the first-place \$15,000 prize and second-place \$10,000 prize!

2023 EmpowHERment Finalists



[Read full press release](#)

[Register to attend](#)

Ignite Health Names Accelerator Pitch Finalists



Suchismita Acharya, PhD
CEO /CSO and Co -founder
AyuVis



Somer Baburek, MBA
CEO and Co-founder
Hera Biotech



Melissa Bowley
CEO and Founder
Flourish Care



Meghan Doyle
CEO and Co -founder
Partum Health



Patty Lee
CEO and Co-founder
Orbit Health



Asma Mirza, MSc-GH
CEO and Founder
Steradian Technologies



Piyush Modak
VP, R&D and Co-founder
EndoMedix



Tawny Hammett
Chief Revenue Officer
Paloma Health

After a highly competitive round of semi-final pitches, the top performing startups emerged! Join Ignite at The Ion in Houston, Texas on November 9th for Fire Pitch 2023, to hear the pitches from the 8 finalists of Ignite's annual accelerator program.

[Register now](#)

SAVE THE DATE: March 8, 2024 3rd Annual Celebration of Women in Innovation



Join BioNTX on March 8, 2024, at Pegasus Park to celebrate the extraordinary achievements and contributions of women in science in North Texas.

International Women's Day is an opportunity to acknowledge the remarkable women who have broken boundaries and paved the way for future generations.

Speakers will share inspiring stories, highlight the accomplishments of leading women scientists, and explore the importance of gender equality in science.

[Stay tuned for more information](#)

BIONTX MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

OncoNano Medicine to Present Positive Preclinical Data



OncoNano Medicine, Inc. announced it will be presenting positive preclinical data detailing delivery of interleukin-12 (IL-12) with the ON-BOARD™ platform at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC).

ON-BOARD™ is an ultra pH-sensitive tumor delivery platform designed to minimize systemic exposure and toxicity by protecting oncology intervention payloads and releasing them specifically in the acidic tumor microenvironment. The poster presentation will detail encapsulation and delivery of IL-12, a potent pleiotropic cytokine, using ON-BOARD™ in immunocompetent mice.

[Read full press release](#)

Spark Subsidiary Five Liters Announces P2C Venture Investment



Pathway to Cures (P2C) is investing in Five Liters, a subsidiary of Spark Biomedical, to develop therapies for treating inheritable blood and bleeding disorders. Pathway to Cures, an affiliate of the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation, is a venture philanthropy fund focused on early-stage companies developing cures, therapies, or enabling technologies in support of the inheritable blood and bleeding disorders community.

Investing in Five Liters' early-stage research is a critical step in addressing unmet needs of patients living with inheritable blood and bleeding disorders through innovative non-invasive, non-pharmacological treatments" said Michael Recht, MD, PhD, MBA. Dr. Recht is Chief Medical and Scientific Officer at both Pathway to Cures and the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation (NBDF) and chairs the Pathway to Cures Scientific Advisory Group.

[Learn more about the investment in Five Liters](#)

Mark Cuban Cost Plus Adds Alto Pharmacy to Winning Team



Alto Pharmacy, a full-service digital pharmacy, and Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company (Cost Plus Drugs), which offers generic and brand medicines at cost-plus prices, announced that hundreds of low-cost medications are now available for delivery and

pickup to Team Cuban Card users in the metros where Alto has pharmacy locations.

“Alto is thrilled to join the Team Cuban Card network and provide even more patients with an industry-leading pharmacy experience, including access to courier-delivered medications at an affordable price,” said Alicia Boler Davis, CEO of Alto Pharmacy. “We are committed to providing our patients with medications at the lowest possible price, and our partnership with Cost Plus Drugs allows us to help even more patients as we pursue our mission to fulfill medicine’s true purpose — to improve quality of life — for everyone who needs it.”

[Learn more about the Mark Cuban Cost Plus' collaboration](#)

Baylor Launches Research Center and Accelerator to Study Human Thriving



Baylor University announced the launch of the Baylor Research in Growth and Human Thriving Science (BRIGHTS) Center, a multidisciplinary center designed to catalyze research related to the science of human flourishing.

“The new BRIGHTS Center will enable us to build on the incredible success of our researchers in human thriving,” said Brian Raines, Ph.D., associate dean for research and strategic planning in the College of Arts & Sciences. “Led by Dr. Sarah Schnitker, this center serves as a research hub for faculty in the humanities, sciences and social sciences as they ask important, fundamental questions about the human experience. They will also serve as a research accelerator, offering extensive support for finding, winning and managing external research awards.”

[Learn more about the BRIGHTS Center](#)

Congratulations UNTHSC for Earning Nations First Forensic Genetic Genealogy Accreditation

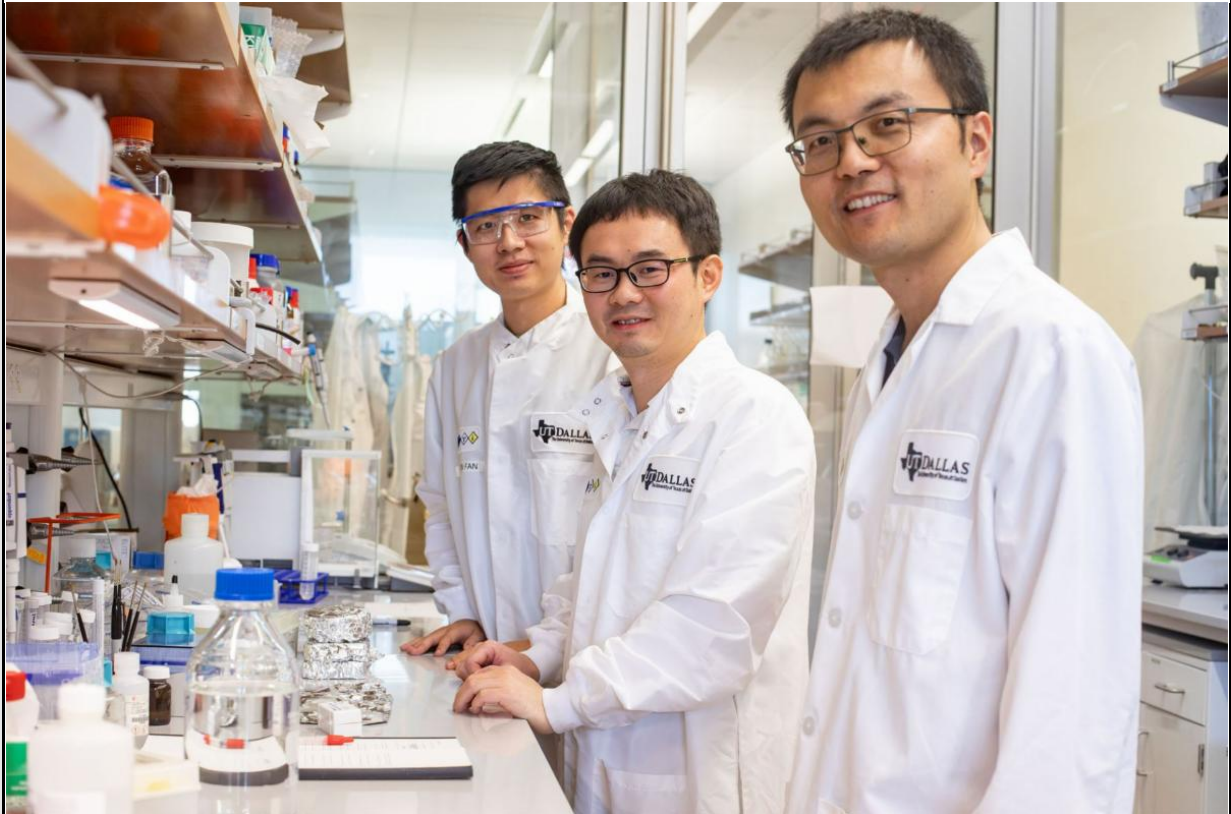


The Center for Human Identification at The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth announced that it is the first public crime lab in the U.S. to offer Forensic Genetic Genealogy, or FGG, capabilities, making it possible to solve decades-old crimes once thought to be unsolvable.

Using a combination of advanced DNA technology and genealogical mapping, the center will assist law enforcement and medicolegal agencies in solving both criminal and missing persons cases. The announcement follows the center’s recent accreditation extension by the ANSI National Accreditation Board.

[Read full press release](#)

UTD - UTSW Team Creates Drug-Delivery



Mechanical engineering doctoral student Hanwen Fan, research associate Dr. Xiaoqian Ge and Dr. Zhenpeng Qin are part of the research team that has developed a method using gold nanoparticles designed to deliver medication through the blood-brain barrier.

A technique developed by University of Texas at Dallas and UT Southwestern Medical Center researchers to deliver medication through the blood-brain barrier has shown promise in a preclinical study for treating glioblastoma, the most common human brain cancer.

The study demonstrated that the new approach overcame the barrier, although years of research will be needed before the method can be tested in humans. Further preclinical studies are ongoing. “The tumors shrank in size, and we expanded survival by more than 50%,” Dr. Zhenpeng Qin said. “We hope this will lead to expanded therapeutic options for treating diseases in the brain and central nervous system.”

[Learn more about the nanoparticles](#)

NORTH TEXAS NEWS

Texas A&M AgriLife Sets Sights on Chronic Disease Prevention

Improving eating patterns and helping prevent chronic disease is the focus of a new Texas A&M AgriLife Research project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, NIFA.

"We are fortunate to have world-class food analytical capabilities in the Department of Food Science and Technology that allow us to investigate human metabolism of bioactive plant compounds for our project," he said. "These integrate food science, analytical chemistry and molecular nutrition in relation to the chemical markers of food intake and their impact on human health. We also have a new 'pilot' food processing facility in the eBeam Center that allows students to gain practical experience for future careers in the food industry."

[Read full press release](#)

UT Tyler and USDA Partner with North Texas Farmers to Investigate Plant Health



Shawana Tabassum, PhD

The University of Texas at Tyler received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative to help farmers investigate plant health. Dr. Shawana Tabassum, the UT Tyler Mary John and Ralph Spence Professor of Electrical Engineering, serves as a principal investigator on the two-year project.

Tabassum and her team of UT Tyler graduate students and postdoctoral research fellows will develop novel, field-deployable sensors for detecting and measuring volatile organic compounds and nitrogen ions in plants and soil. This research will lay the groundwork for measuring the correlation between volatile organic compounds emitted in the field and nitrogen deficiency in plants," said Tabassum. "The technology resulting from this project will help farmers detect nitrogen stress early in major cash crops, including cotton."

[Read full press release](#)

FUNDING & MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NIH BRAIN Initiative Launches Technologies Development Program



In the human brain, 86 billion neurons form more than 100 trillion connections with other

neurons at junctions called synapses. Scientists are now working on an ambitious effort to develop technologies to map these connections across the brain, from mice to humans. These detailed wiring diagrams can help uncover the logic of the brain's neural code, leading to a better understanding of how this circuitry makes us who we are and how it could be re-wired to treat brain diseases.

The National Institutes of Health announces the third transformative project supported by the Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies® (BRAIN) Initiative called BRAIN Initiative Connectivity Across Scales (BRAIN CONNECTS). This program complements two previous large-scale projects outlined in the BRAIN 2.0 report, which together, aim to transform neuroscience research by illuminating foundational principles governing the neural circuit basis of behavior and informing new approaches to the treatment of brain disorders.

[Read full press release](#)

Accelerating Impactful Bioventures

Applications due October 27, 2023



Nucleate's hands-on program is designed to help prepare academic trainees launch their biotech startups by working with our global network of entrepreneurs, investors, and industry mentors. Teams who make it through their final round of interviews will have access to exclusive funding opportunities plus other perks and prizes.

[Apply now](#)

Helping Small Businesses Grow and Flourish

Applications due November 1, 2023



The Lenovo logo, consisting of the word "Lenovo" in white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a red rectangular background.

Lenovo and the Cowboys are teaming up to give local small businesses in the DFW area new technology. Businesses and citizens can nominate their favorite small business to help them win \$5,000 of new Lenovo technology or \$50,000 in advertising through CBS and Cowboys.

[Apply for your favorite local small business](#)

T2RF Research Foundation Opens 4th Cohort

Applications due November 9, 2023



The T2RF Grant Cycle 4 awards provide essential funding for seed or pilot research projects, fostering the exploration of groundbreaking research concepts. These awards support initial testing phases, allowing researchers to embark on smaller-scale endeavors. The emphasis lies in evaluating feasibility and refining methodologies, shaping the trajectory of potential larger-scale studies. Through the T2RF Grant Cycle 4, they empower researchers to take innovative ideas from conception to a vital stage of validation, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and discovery.

[Apply now](#)

SXSW Applications Portal is OPEN

Applications due November 12, 2023



Apply to SXSW's Pitch Competition for an opportunity to present your latest ideas across eight categories to a panel of industry experts, early adopters, and representatives from the investment community.

[Apply now](#)

PSC Grants Funds for New Therapy Discovery

Applications ends on January 15, 2024



PSC Partners and affiliate PSC Partners Canada award annual grants that drive research to identify treatments and a cure. Their Research Grants Program seeks to encourage investigators to conduct research in promising new areas, with the goal that data generated will lead to further seed funding from additional sources.

[Apply now](#)

HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program



The HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program provides innovative Tarrant County companies with one-on-one guidance, beginning with technology assessment. Select companies will enter a comprehensive one-month, cohort-based program that meets weekly and guides them through the grant writing processes. Additionally, participants receive one-on-one mentorship with SBIR experts that help founders fine-tune their proposals to increase the likelihood of receiving federal funding.

[Apply now](#)

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Celebrate the ARPA-H Win with the North Texas Life Science Community



BIO Break: Dallas' Life Sciences Happy Hour

RSVP

Pegasus Park
3000 Pegasus Park Drive
Dallas, TX 75247

Thursday
November 2, 2023
5:00pm - 7:00pm



Beginning November 2, on the first Thursday of every month, we'll be partnering with our friends at McDermott Will & Emery for a sponsored happy hour at Pegasus Park to help cultivate Dallas' bubbling Life Sciences community.

Take a break with us and enjoy an evening full of networking and support of local businesses.

Register now

Autumn Happy Hour at Cresa



The BioNTX Facilities Committee invites you for an evening of networking at Cresa Real Estate's office overlooking the Cowboys practice field in The Star.

We'll be joined by special guest, Gloria Salinas, Vice President and Jeremiah Anderson, Director of Innovation at the Frisco Economic Development Corporation.

Thank you for your support!



Register now

Upcoming Events & Opportunities in North Texas



WISH Network

Join Health Wildcatters at their Women In Science and Healthcare Kick-Off where they continue to gather, meet like-minded individuals.

October 30, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



LAUNCHBIO

Compensation Confidential

Join LaunchBio to hear real-time data on base salaries, actual and target bonuses, founder and non-founder equity for your entire organization from C-Suite to staff level employees.

November 2, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



Equitable Access to Innovation

Join Johnson & Johnson to learn about the unique benefits the Texas ecosystem offers in developing the next generation of medical countermeasures.

November 6, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



Human Potential Startup Showcase

Join MassChallenge to discover groundbreaking techniques, cutting-edge technologies, and inspiring stories that will empower you to reach new heights.

November 7, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



Create FW's Grand Opening Celebration

Join Create FW for an unforgettable event filled with an official grand opening ribbon cutting with Mayor Parker, live music, and community!

November 8, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



Global Entrepreneurship Week

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is a celebration of entrepreneurship and welcomes communities around the world to get involved. Meet passionate people changing the world as they continue to celebrate local entrepreneurship and global connections.

November 13 - 19, 2023

[Learn more here](#)



Southwest Regional Meeting

Join American Chemical Society to hear discussion about strengthening connections

BioNTX works to build a strong bioscience and healthcare innovation community through collaborative peer to peer networking events and educational programming.

[Let us know about your event!](#)

[View the North Texas community calendar](#)

October 23, 2023

Stay Connected!



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