

## BioNTX & Partners Launch Historic Next Generation Industry Alliance



In an industry led meeting, BioNTX along with fellow EDA grant partners Dallas College, DFWHC Foundation and Collin College collaborated with Swiss American CDMO to launch the Biotechnology & Healthcare Industry Alliance of North Texas (BHIANT).

This stakeholder meeting hosted executives from biotechnology, biomanufacturing, hospitals and healthcare firms in North Texas, forging an alliance that champions building our North Texas ecosystem with workforce partnerships that ensure that DFW area employers have a diverse, skilled labor pool.

Hailed as a victory for industry, leaders attending the event were given a platform to discuss and establish priorities for growth, innovation, investment, and employment. Through initiatives like this, BioNTX and its grant partners are committed to elevating and supporting the biotechnology and life sciences industry in North Texas while increasing representation, equity, and inclusion at all levels.

[Learn more about the BHIANT](#)

[Read full press release](#)

## UNTHSC To Host Expert Panel on Workforce Development in Texas Life Sciences



Growing the life sciences industry has been critical for innovation and economic development in Texas. As a state and a region, Texas has done well to establish itself as a most attractive destinations for businesses and top-tier talent. Though how do we continue to grow and thrive in the long-run? What are the specific needs of the industry and of the region?

To discuss these and other aspects of the North Texas ecosystem, the UNTHSC School of Biomedical Sciences will be hosting a panel on the growing life sciences hub in DFW and the need for the creation of long-term, sustainable talent pipelines. BioNTX will be joining other leaders for a discussion about how to fuel economic growth with a dynamic workforce.

Come learn about the life science industry, workforce development and why talent recruitment and retention are a few of the main priorities for life sciences, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology companies alike.

[Register now](#)

## Are You Looking for a Job in the Life Science and Healthcare Innovation Industry?

# BIONTX

Join BioNTX at their second annual Talent Network Meet & Greet to network with industry professionals and fellow job seekers looking for jobs in the life science and healthcare innovation industry well as find resources available to you in your job search.



[Register now - Fort Worth](#)

[Register now - Dallas](#)

Thank you for your support!



## Meet New Texas Nucleate Leaders Preparing Innovators for the Future of Biotech

### Nucleate Texas



Nucleate is a global nonprofit organization that empowers the next generation of biotech leaders by supporting today's academic trainees. The organization is run by current advance-degree trainees for peers interested in entrepreneurship and more. Reach out to the new Dallas Team at [Dallas@Nucleate.xyz](mailto:Dallas@Nucleate.xyz) or visit [www.Nucleate.xyz](http://www.Nucleate.xyz).

Nucleate is dedicated to supporting a community of biotech innovators by

- providing open-access programming that democratizes biotech education
- identifying and developing talent to elevate the next generation of bioentrepreneurs, biotech leaders, and VCs
- building bridges within regional, national, and global life science ecosystems
- fostering life science innovation and supporting young scientist entrepreneurs

Learn more about Nucleate Texas

## Health Supernova Reaches Critical Mass at Pegasus Park



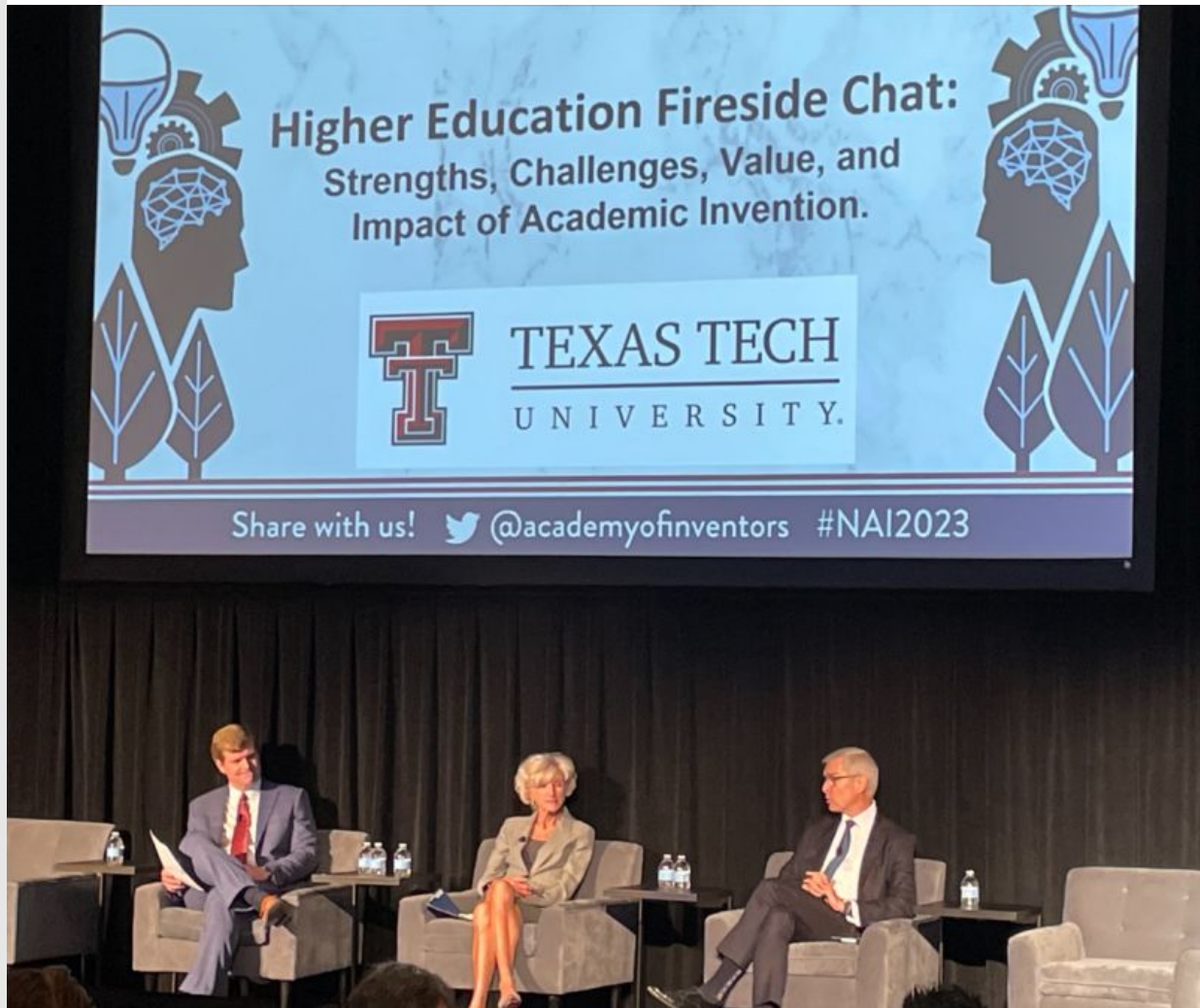
An indelible air of excitement filled Pegasus Park last Tuesday as several hundred MedTech and HealthTech entrepreneurs, investors, research institutions and industry-adjacent developers gathered for a full day of pitches, presentations, networking, and specialized mentoring-sessions.

The Health Supernova event was the latest such iteration in Capital Factory's schedule of high-quality innovative programming. Start-ups, executives, researchers and investors visiting from all over Texas and the United States garnered wide-spread media attention, highlighting the burgeoning life sciences industry of North Texas.



Keynote speakers spoke on the latest innovations in Medical Device, HealthTech, Therapeutics, AI Modeling and Software; making the Health Supernova a must-see event.

## Experts Weigh in Building an Ecosystem



(from left to right) Cameron Smith, JD, Texas Tech University, Barbara Snyder, Associate of American Universities and Mark Becker, PhD, Associate of Public and Land-Grant Universities

Cameron Smith from Texas Tech University moderated a Higher Education Fireside Chat at the NAI 2023 Annual Meeting focused on strengths, challenges, value, and impact of academic invention.

The importance of innovation ecosystems and what makes these research drivers successful, the challenges around tenure and promotion metrics, and the importance of inclusivity in the tech transfer environment, are just a few of the topics discussed during this session.

## Gene Therapy Trials for Rare Pediatric Brain Disorders to Start at UTSW





Steven Gray, PhD

[Read full press release](#)

A consortium of government, industry, and nonprofit partners will fund gene therapy clinical trials for three rare diseases at UT Southwestern Medical Center, where scientists are working on gene therapies to treat neuro-developmental disorders in children.

“There are over 10,000 rare diseases that affect millions of people worldwide, and most of them are genetic. Because the vast majority of these diseases affect just a small number of patients, they’re viewed as having minimal commercial interest,” said Steven Gray, PhD, Director of UTSW’s Translational Gene Therapy Core. “By creating an open-access playbook for how to initiate and carry out gene therapy clinical trials for these types of rare diseases, BGTC will make this process substantially easier.”

## Johnson & Johnson Initiative Will Increase Diversity and Representation in Medical Illustration



INNOVATION

Johnson & Johnson announced the launch of Illustrate Change, a new initiative that aims to increase diversity and representation in medical illustrations. The initiative includes a growing library of diverse medical illustrations, a fellowship to support the future of medical illustrators of color, and an awareness campaign to help bring lasting change in the U.S. healthcare system and vision for a more inclusive future for patients of color.

[Learn more about Johnson & Johnson's Illustrate Change](#)

## DKSH Strikes Deal with Wuxi NEST for Asia Pacific Markets



DKSH has partnered with Wuxi Nest Biotechnology, a leading provider of plastic laboratory products suitable for life science research. DKSH will provide sales, marketing, and after-sales services in Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

“DKSH offers great market coverage in Southeast Asia and has a strong focus in the life sciences segment. We believe that DKSH is the right partner to help us expand the business, penetrate the cell culture market, and meet our growth goals,” said Frank Liu, Overseas Sales Manager, Wuxi Nest Biotechnology.

[Learn more about DKSH's partnership](#)

# EY Announces Winners for the Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2023 Southwest Award



Congratulations to our BioNTX member, Eosera for winning EY's Entrepreneur Of The Year® Southwest Award. Eosera, Inc. is a biotechnology company developing innovative products targeting under addressed healthcare needs in ear care. Eosera products are safe, effective, formulated by scientists, and recommended by doctors. Their products are currently available in over 28K stores nationwide and online, including Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, and Amazon.

Entrepreneur Of The Year is one of the preeminent competitive business awards for entrepreneurs and leaders of high-growth companies. The Southwest program celebrates entrepreneurs across North Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Wichita, Kansas.

[Read full press release](#)

[Learn more about Eosera](#)

## Mark Cuban Cost Plus Named in TIME100 Most Influential Companies



Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, PBC (Cost Plus Drugs) is fundamentally changing the way the pharmaceutical industry operates. Cost Plus Drugs is working with health plans, managed-care organizations, pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs) and self-insured employers to bring these same savings to employer-sponsored benefit plans nationwide.

Mark Cuban Cost Plus has been named one of TIME 's 100 most influential companies. TIME recognized 100 companies from around the world across a variety of sectors, including health care, entertainment, technology, transportation, retail, energy and more.

[Read full press release](#)

## Reata Nears Breakout After Snagging FDA Blessing for Friedreich's Ataxia Drug



Reata Pharmaceuticals (RETA) won the Food and Drug Administration's blessing to go ahead with production of its Friedreich's ataxia drug. RETA stock advanced in response. On today's stock market, RETA stock jumped 7% and closed at 98.83.

Reata's Skyclarys is the first treatment approved for Friedreich's ataxia. It's a once-daily pill. The company also is working to win approval in Europe. Friedreich's ataxia is a genetic disorder that affects the nerves and can cause muscle weakness and fatigue.

[Read full press release](#)

## Scorpius BioManufacturing Bolsters Executive Leadership with New VP of Operations



Matthew LeClair

Scorpius BioManufacturing, a biologics contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO), expanded its leadership team to include Matthew R. LeClair as VP, Manufacturing Operations.

"This is a once-in-a-career opportunity to build a premier biomanufacturing company from the ground up, and to build it the right way," said LeClair, who is also a United States Navy veteran. "Scorpius has made incredible progress so far, and I'm honored to help the company become leaders in both clinical and commercial biomanufacturing. "

[Read full press release](#)

## A New Chief Financial Officer Lands at Secretome Therapeutics



Deepa Prasad, MBA

Secretome Therapeutics, a biotechnology company developing first-in-class therapeutics derived from neonatal mesenchymal stem cells (nMSC) for the treatment of underserved diseases, announced the appointment of Deepa Prasad as Chief Financial Officer.

"I am truly excited to be joining Secretome at this pivotal time in the company's history. I believe that secretomes represent a true breakthrough in the field of cell-based therapy, and I look forward to helping Secretome transform the way we treat diseases," said Ms. Prasad.

[Read full press release](#)

## Baylor Named Top 2% for Most Cited Researchers Worldwide





Baylor University is well-represented on a prestigious list compiling the top most-cited researchers in the world. In a database compiled by Stanford University, 35 current or retired Baylor faculty members appear among the top 2% of the most-cited researchers across 22 disciplines.

“Being cited is a sign that your work matters to a community of scholars and leaders beyond Baylor,” Provost Nancy Brickhouse, Ph.D., said. “It means your work is significant, credible and influencing the work of others.”

[Read full press release](#)

## UTSW Named Antimicrobial Stewardship Center of Excellence

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center®



UT Southwestern Medical Center and its William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital have been named an Antimicrobial Stewardship Center of Excellence by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), recognizing a commitment to reducing infections caused by antimicrobial resistance.

“The team’s collective experience and expertise provide key guidance on antimicrobial use for our patients and have led to a proven track record of success that is deserving of the Center of Excellence designation from the IDSA,” said William Daniel, MD, MBA, Vice President for Health System Affairs and Chief Quality Officer at UT Southwestern.

[Read full press release](#)

## Dallas Grants \$8M in Incentives for Pegasus Park Expansion



Dallas City Council awarded nearly \$8 million in incentives to Bridge Labs for a \$110



million expansion of the Pegasus Park life sciences campus.

“Bridge Labs is a vital step in the evolution of the Dallas life sciences ecosystem,” said Sam Johnson, principal of the commercial real estate investment firm Montgomery Street Partners, in an emailed statement. “We are excited to work with the city of Dallas to bring this project to life, which will foster local innovation and attract new life sciences and health care companies and institutions to the region.”

[Read full press release](#)

## Fort Worth Allows Students a Taste of Life Science Careers at UNTHSC



A group of Fort Worth ISD high school students got a glimpse of what their futures could look like by participating in the Summer Bridge Program on the The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth campus. Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (TABS) is a pre-college high school that exposes students to education and career opportunities in health care and science.

During the Summer Bridge Program students get hands-on experiences in HSC’s labs and classrooms. Guided by HSC School of Biomedical Sciences faculty and students, the group explored the anatomy and simulation labs, and learned to suture mock incisions and read x-rays.

[Read full press release](#)

## Workforce Dallas Reports Progress in Job Markets and Resource Commitment



At the Methodist Hospital in South Dallas, the Workforce Dallas initiative luncheon provided community updates on current labor markets and trends in the city. Methodist Hospital is the largest employer in South Dallas, with over 10,000 employees.

The partnership backed by Mayor Eric Johnson, brings a holistic approach to workforce development– that can not only change lives and stabilize families but also change the future trajectory of the City.

Workforce Dallas believes reduced crime, improved health, greater personal achievement, and stronger communities, can all be achieved through upskilling and upgrading workers to higher-paying opportunities and providing hands-on support to help.

With caliber of talent in the labor market being one of the top factors considered in corporate locations and relocation; local and regional leadership has leaned heavily into developing this over the past year. BioNTX is proud to support these initiatives in DFW and North Texas because education and training raise productivity and innovation, which means greater output, economic growth, and a strong, regional ecosystem.

## Texas A&M Urban Research Campus Breaks Ground in Downtown Fort Worth



TEXAS A&M  
FORT WORTH

Texas A&M-Fort Worth broke ground on its first building for an urban research campus — a first of its kind public-private collaboration intended to boost the regional economy while anchoring an innovation district in southeast downtown.

The city of Fort Worth and Tarrant County are collaborating with the Texas A&M System to construct two additional campus buildings over four-city blocks owned by the A&M System. The second structure, the Research & Innovation Building, is where several Texas A&M System agencies will work alongside private sector tenants. A third structure, the Gateway Building, will house offices, more classroom and meeting spaces and a conference center.

“The Texas A&M System is building exactly what Fort Worth needs in this moment in our history,” Mayor Parker said. “This groundbreaking today represents countless future careers in law, medical technology, nursing and engineering, all of which are vital to meeting the need for a highly-skilled workforce in Fort Worth and North Texas for decades to come.”

[Learn more about Texas A&M Fort Worth](#)

## Fort Worth is the Fastest Growing City in the United States



Fort Worth is the fastest-growing major city in the nation, and its real estate scene has started to explode as a result.

Fort Worth's population has risen 4.1 percent since 2020 to about one million, marking the sharpest increase among the 30 most populous U.S. Cities. Residents and companies from the East and West Coasts are flocking to the area largely because of Texas' lower cost of living, business-friendly policies and tax incentives. Charles Schwab is planning to relocate its headquarters from San Francisco to Fort Worth, for example. Roughly \$2.3 billion worth of developments are under construction or in the pipeline in Fort Worth, comprising a wide range of projects, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing comments from JLL's Todd Burnette..

[Read full press release](#)

## FDA Commits to Using AI in Drug-Product Development



FDA is committed to ensuring that drugs are safe and effective while facilitating innovations in their development. As with any innovation, AI/ML creates opportunities and new and unique challenges. To meet these challenges, FDA has accelerated its efforts to create an agile regulatory ecosystem that can facilitate innovation while safeguarding public health.

As part of this effort, FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), in collaboration with the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) and the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), issued an initial discussion paper to communicate with a range of stakeholders and to explore relevant considerations for the use of AI/ML in the development of drugs and biological products. The agency will continue to solicit feedback as it advances regulatory science in this area.

[Read full press release](#)

## New FDA Pilot Program Seeks to Improve Cancer Treatment Selection and Outcomes



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced a new voluntary pilot program for certain oncology drug products used with certain corresponding in vitro diagnostic tests to help clinicians select appropriate cancer treatments for patients.

"Today's pilot program launch, and corresponding guidance publication, is a step forward in improving cancer care for patients," said Richard Pazdur, M.D., director of the FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence and acting director of the Office of Oncologic Diseases in the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. "This pilot program demonstrates the FDA's commitment to collaborating with the pharmaceutical industry and other key

stakeholders to address concerns and questions around the use of unauthorized diagnostics.”

[Read full press release](#)

## BioNTX Tech Transfer Office Showcase

Now accepting applications until August 21, 2023



Texas academic institutions who have technologies available for licensing, collaboration and/or acquisition have the opportunity to pitch their best intellectual property to an audience of industry leaders and investors at BioNTX's **iC<sup>3</sup> Life Science Summit!**

### Application requirements

- Early-stage development and/or most promising intellectual property
- Recommended from their respective Tech Transfer Office (TTO)
- Non-confidential information only
- Each academic institution can submit up to 2 separate applications

[Apply now!](#)

## High-Risk, High-Reward Research Accelerating in Texas

Applications closes August 11, 2023



**TAMEST** *Texas Academy of Medicine,  
Engineering, Science & Technology*

Apply to TAMEST's The Hill Prizes, funded by Lyda Hill Philanthropies, which will celebrate top Texas innovators and researchers whose work could significantly impact science and society in five categories: Medicine, Engineering, Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences and Technology.

Each of the five prize recipients will receive \$500,000 in funding from Lyda Hill Philanthropies to accelerate their work.

[Learn more about The Hill Prizes](#)

## Submit Your Abstracts for CPRIT's Innovations in Cancer Prevention & Research Conference VI

Abstracts due July 31, 2023



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS



Submit your abstracts to the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI. Each accepted abstract will be presented as a poster during poster sessions to be held on each day of the conference with ample time for attendees to talk with presenters.

CPRIT's Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference VI will highlight the exceptional progress across cancer research, prevention, and product development at medical and academic research centers, in communities, and at companies around Texas. The conference will feature informative sessions on CPRIT-funded initiatives on computational biology and modeling for drug discovery, the use of artificial intelligence in imaging, the expansion of drug development resources and biomanufacturing facilities in Texas, and immunology and vaccine development in cancer.

[Submit your abstracts 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](#)

## Submit Your Application for 2024 NIIMBL eXperience

Abstracts due July 27, 2023



The NIIMBL eXperience program is an all-expenses paid biopharmaceutical manufacturing immersion program for university and community college students who have completed their first or second year of study. The NIIMBL eXperience program is specifically for Black, Latinx, or Indigenous students. Its purpose is to diversify the school to industry pipeline for the biopharma manufacturing industry. Through hands-on learning and personal interactions, student take away an understanding of how the industry develops and manufacture life-saving medicines.

[Apply now](#)

## Accepting Application for TechFW's Accelerator Program

# TECHF<sup>W</sup>

Apply to TechFW's Accelerator Program to get connected to resources you need to commercialize your technology. The cohort will begin tentatively on September 13.

[Apply now](#)

## Save the Date! iC<sup>3</sup> Life Science Summit

iC<sup>3</sup> = Innovation x Capital x Collaboration x Commercialization

# BIONTX

Please join BioNTX and network with us and the bioscience and healthcare innovation community. Texas industry leaders discuss business strategies, and the broad spectrum of Texas bioscience research in our growing ecosystem.

[Register now](#)

[Reserve a hotel room for iC<sup>3</sup>](#)

Thank you 2023 sponsors!



COLLABORATIVE DRUG DISCOVERY



Learn more about our 2023 iC<sup>3</sup> Life Science Summit

# Upcoming Events & Opportunities in North Texas



### 2023 Chronic Disease Day Kick-off

Join Good Days to celebrate Chronic Disease Day, which will feature remarks from the Chronic Disease Alliance, patient advocates, local and state legislators, and state health agency representatives.

**July 7, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



### MC | Innovate Conference

Join MassChallenge at their highly anticipated MC | INNOVATE Conference which brings together an exceptional mix of entrepreneurs, corporate partners, and startup communities from around the world.

**July 11 - 13, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



### Mentally Strong, Community Strong

Join us for a community celebration of Minority Mental Health Month!

**July 15, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



### 2023 Central Region Meeting

Join AUTM to connect with technology transfer offices and professional development. Be immersed in thought-provoking presentations, trending topics and networking.

**July 17 - 19, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



### HBA & BioLabs Networking Mixer

Join BioLabs Pegasus Park for a networking mixer to learn more about HBA Dallas Fort Worth, BioLabs' resources for startup companies, and meet with industry professionals.

**July 20, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



### Tiki Tech Together Party

Join TechFW for a summer luau themed happy hour event to celebrate their entrepreneurial network.

**July 25, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)

### Shaping Tomorrow's Innovators

Join UNTHSC to hear from industry experts discuss about how to fuel that growth with a dynamic workforce.

**August 10, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)

*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 of events](#)

[Look at upcoming BioNTX events](#)



## Happy Independence Day!

Let us take some time to value our nation and never forget the sacrifices.



**June 30, 2023**

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