

December 16, 2022



UAB honored for excellence in diversity

For the fifth consecutive year, UAB was named a Diversity Champion and earned the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine. Paulette Dilworth, Ph.D., vice president for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UAB, also joins the editorial board.



UAB community gives big this holiday season

Donations from employees, students and the Birmingham community made this year's UAB Toy Drive the biggest ever. Hundreds of toys were donated, including more than 50 bicycles and ride-on toys.



New Biomedical Research and Psychology Building coming to UAB

Supported by a \$76 million federal appropriation, the six-story, 165,000-square-foot facility will house the Department of Psychology and research-intensive departments from the Heersink School of Medicine.



FROM THE EXPERTS: Tips for navigating the winter holidays

Discover how to navigate grief and practice mindfulness during the holiday season with insights from experts in the School of Education and the Heersink School of Medicine.

Get your free COVID tests and vaccines

Every U.S. household is eligible to order four free at-home COVID testing kits through the federal government for delivery by mail; order online at covidtests.gov. Everyone 6 months and older can receive a free COVID vaccine at UAB; visit uab.edu/uabunited to learn more.

Things to know



Rollover limits for vacation time extended through 2023

During the past two years, employees have been allowed to carry up to three times their annual accrual of the vacation time provided by UAB, UAB Hospital, UAB LLC and UAHSF. This exception to policy now is extended through Dec. 31, 2023.



Portion of 13th Street to close beginning Dec. 19

A small portion of 13th Street South between Lot 65 and the Hulsey Center will be closed to vehicular traffic beginning Dec. 19 through March 2023 as work on the District Steam and Chilled Water System continues; pedestrians will be able to access all nearby buildings.

More news online

The eReporter will not publish Dec. 23, 2022-Jan. 3, 2023, because of the university holiday; it will resume Jan. 6, 2023. Get campus news at uab.edu/reporter and uab.edu/news and COVID-19 updates at uab.edu/uabunited. Check the Campus Calendar for more events on campus, and submit your own. If you have news you want to share, use the Request Publicity form online.

Research & learning



Art assignments expand horizons for astronomy students

Michelle Wooten, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics, needed an activity that could both foster connections in astronomy courses while helping students engage with the material. Her solution? Incorporating artistic assignments into her scientific curriculum — a practice becoming more commonplace within science education.



ICYMI: What you need to know about the new NIH data management and sharing policy

Beginning Jan. 25, 2023, the National Institutes of Health will implement a new data management and sharing policy, which will increase the rigor, reproducibility and transparency of research and create open access to data.

UAB awarded \$1.14 million to advance special education

The five-year IPPSE grant will address the critical personnel shortage in education by graduating participants early, making a difference in the lives of P-12 students with disabilities in the Birmingham metro area.

New study investigates links between COVID-19 testing uptake and mental disorders

The study from UAB researchers underscores the vital role of mental health professionals in public health, providing preliminary support for another potential benefit of public health efforts to encourage COVID-19 preventive measures, namely promoting mental health.

Funding opportunity:

**HIV research:** Funding up to \$30,000 is available from the UAB-UMMC MWCCS for pilot and feasibility projects in the field of HIV-related research that utilize MACS/WIHS Combined Cohort Study resources. Concept papers are due Dec. 22; learn more online.

**UAB Nathan Shock Center Seminar**  
Thomas Rando, Ph.D., director, UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center, will present "Stem Cell Aging and Rejuvenation."

🕒 12:15 p.m. Jan. 4  
📍 LRC 235  
📅 Details online

**Annual UAB COERE Methods Symposium**  
Get a general overview of recent developments and current projects regarding scientific methods to support health equity research.

🕒 8 a.m.-noon Jan. 19  
📍 virtual/Edge of Chaos  
📅 Register online

Mark your calendars



UAB opens conference play vs. Charlotte Dec. 22

UAB Men's Basketball faces off against Charlotte in their first C-USA game of the season; this is the last season of C-USA play for the Blazers, who will join the American Athletic Conference on July 1, 2023.



Get tickets now for 2023 shows at the Alys Stephens Center

The second half of the season features family shows, soul, world music, pop, rock and more. For many shows, UAB employees can enjoy \$15 off two tickets, and \$10 student tickets are also available.

These submission windows close soon:

**Faculty Development Grant Program applications — Dec. 19**  
The program provides seed money for research, scholarship and creative activities for assistant professors or instructors with less than \$100,000 in yearly funding. Applications for the 2023-24 program are due Dec. 19.

**Outstanding Advisor Awards — Jan. 1**  
Nominate an advisor who goes above and beyond for Outstanding Professional Advisor, Outstanding New Advisor, Outstanding Faculty Advisor or Outstanding Advising Administrator by Jan. 1, 2023.

**Blazer Way Awards — Jan. 13**  
Nominate an undergraduate or graduate student, faculty or staff member or alumnus by Jan. 13, 2023, for the Blazer Way Awards, which honor those who exemplify the tenets of the university creed: honor and integrity, diversity, innovation, service and scholarship.

**History of Ideas — Jan. 17**  
The Michel de Montaigne Endowed Prize in the History of Ideas, awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences, is a cash award given to a full-time faculty member who pens a scholarly essay that encompasses a broad range of interdisciplinary concerns and makes a unique contribution to the history of thought and culture.

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