Brain Awareness Week (BAW) is the global campaign to foster public enthusiasm and support for brain science.

Every March, event organizers host imaginative activities in their communities that share the wonders of the brain, and the impact brain science has on our everyday lives.

This year's activities will be held at McWane Science Center on March 30- April 2, 2023.

We invite you to get involved!

*Continued, Page 2*
**Brain Awareness Week 2023**

**When and why did Brain Awareness Week start?**

Brain Awareness Week was founded by the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives (DABI) and European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB) and is coordinated by the Dana Foundation.

Brain Awareness Week began in 1996 as a modest effort involving just 160 organizations in the United States. DABI organized the first Brain Awareness Week to bring together diverse groups with different interests from academia, government, and professional and advocacy organizations. The goal was to unite them with the common theme that brain research is the hope for treatments, preventions, and possible cures for brain diseases and disorders and to ensure a better quality of life at all ages.

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**Why Participate?**

- Spread the word about the importance of brain science and its critical role in helping people lead healthier, more productive lives.
- Equip participants with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their health.
- Insure a future for neuroscientific discovery by inspiring the next generation of scientists.

To sign up as a Volunteer for Brain Awareness Week 2023, please visit: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094eaaaf29a4fcc52-brain#

For more information about UAB Brain Awareness, Neuroscince education and more Volunteer opportunities throughout the year, please visit: https://www.brainawarenessuab.com
The UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center (CNC) is a network of more than 450 UAB Neuroscience research faculty, clinicians, staff, students, and trainees. Our membership is comprised of neuroscience professionals from 32 UAB departments and 9 UAB schools.

Join the CNC

Happening this month

March 1 @ 8 a.m.-3 p.m.—Hill Student Center  
Center for Neurodegeneration and Experimental Therapeutics (CNET) Retreat

March 3 @ 9 a.m.—SHEL 1015  
Neuroscience Works-in-Progress—Reagan Pennock, PHD, Postdoc

March 7 @ 8 a.m.—West Pavilion, Conference Room E  
Neurology Grand Rounds - John Rinker, MD

March 8-10—Samford University  
The 100th Annual Alabama Academy of Science Meeting

March 9 @ 1:30 p.m.—BBRB, 170  
Neurobiology Seminar Series: Jessica Tollkuhn, Ph.D., Cold Springs Harbor Laboratory

March 10 @ 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.—Children's Hospital Harbor Center, Bradley Lecture Center  
10th Annual Rare Disease Genomics Symposium

March 10 @ 9 a.m.—SHEL 1015  
Neuroscience Works-in-Progress—Jennifer Tuscher, PhD, Postdoc

March 14 @ 8 a.m.—West Pavilion, Conference Room E  
Neurology Grand Rounds - Annual Sahlie Lecture

March 17 @ 9 a.m.—SHEL 1015  
Neuroscience Works-in-Progress—Kasey Brida, Grad Student

March 21 @ 8 a.m.—West Pavilion, Conference Room E  
Neurology Grand Rounds - Annual Movement Disorders "Watts" Lecture

March 22 @ 2 p.m.—Virtual Event  
O'Neal Research Seminar: Suva

March 24 @ 9 a.m.—SHEL 1015  
Neuroscience Works-in-Progress—Camerron Crowder, PhD, Assistant Professor

March 29-April 2—McWane Science Center  
Brain Awareness Week

March 30-31 @ 8 a.m.-5 p.m.—UAB National Alumni Society House, Main Hall  
NeuroGateways 2023 Symposium

March 31 @ 9 a.m.—SHEL 1015  
Neuroscience Works-in-Progress—JC Gonzalez, PhD, Researcher

Official titles of Seminars will be included in Weekly Updates!

For more on the latest headlines and events, visit: https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cnc/news-events or scan the QR Code above.
In the news

Global fortification of foods with folic acid to prevent birth defects proposal goes before World Health

UAB pediatric neurosurgeon Jeffrey Blount (Pictured Right) co-founded the group who presented the resolution on fortification of folic acid in staple foods to the WHO.

Read more

UAB Department of Neurosurgery celebrates 10th anniversary

The University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Neurosurgery became the 24th academic department in the Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine on Oct. 1, 2013, when the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama System voted to elevate the UAB Division of Neurosurgery within the Department of Surgery to department status.

Read more

UAB announces key Health System, Heersink School of Medicine leaders

At its Feb. 3 meeting, the University of Alabama System Board of Trustees unanimously named Dawn Bulgarella (Pictured Left) CEO of the UAB Health System and CEO of the UAB/Ascension St. Vincent’s Alliance.

Also on Feb. 3, Watts named Anupam Agarwal, M.D., (Pictured Right) dean of the UAB Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine, senior vice president of Medicine and chair of the Health Services Foundation Board.

Read more

UAB-led Neurofibromatosis Clinical Trials Consortium funded for 10 more years

The UAB-led consortium, begun in 2006, has expanded to 24 clinical sites and conducted 18 clinical trials.

Read more
One of the goals for CNC Brain Awareness is to help people across campus make their outreach ideas happen. We’re the scaffolding to help great ideas grow.

Come to Brain Bites to discuss your new outreach opportunity, or to volunteer and help bring the joy of neuroscience to as many people as possible.

At the event, we’ll talk for 10-15 minutes about the goals of UAB outreach, and spend most of our time in smaller groups eating cookies and planning our next events.

If you have an upcoming brain awareness opportunity, please let the CNC the following:
- What’s the opportunity?
- When is it (date, time)?
- Where is it?
- How long do you need volunteers for?
- What expertise should volunteers have?
- Who should volunteers contact? (email? Phone?)?

Email cnc@uab.edu with event details. We will put the details in the next newsletter, and will distribute details at Brain Bites.

Advocacy in Neuroscience Research
Advocates — on their own and as part of a larger group — have affected change in the past and will continue to do so when they make themselves heard.

Building relationships with policymakers is the best way to secure robust funding for biomedical research and favorable research policies.

Read More on Advocacy Best Practices
ADDITIONAL LINKS

CNC Website: https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cnc/

CNC Neuroscience Research Pillars:
https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cnc/research/pillars

Join CNC Listserv: https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cnc/join

UAB Research News: https://www.uab.edu/news/research

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