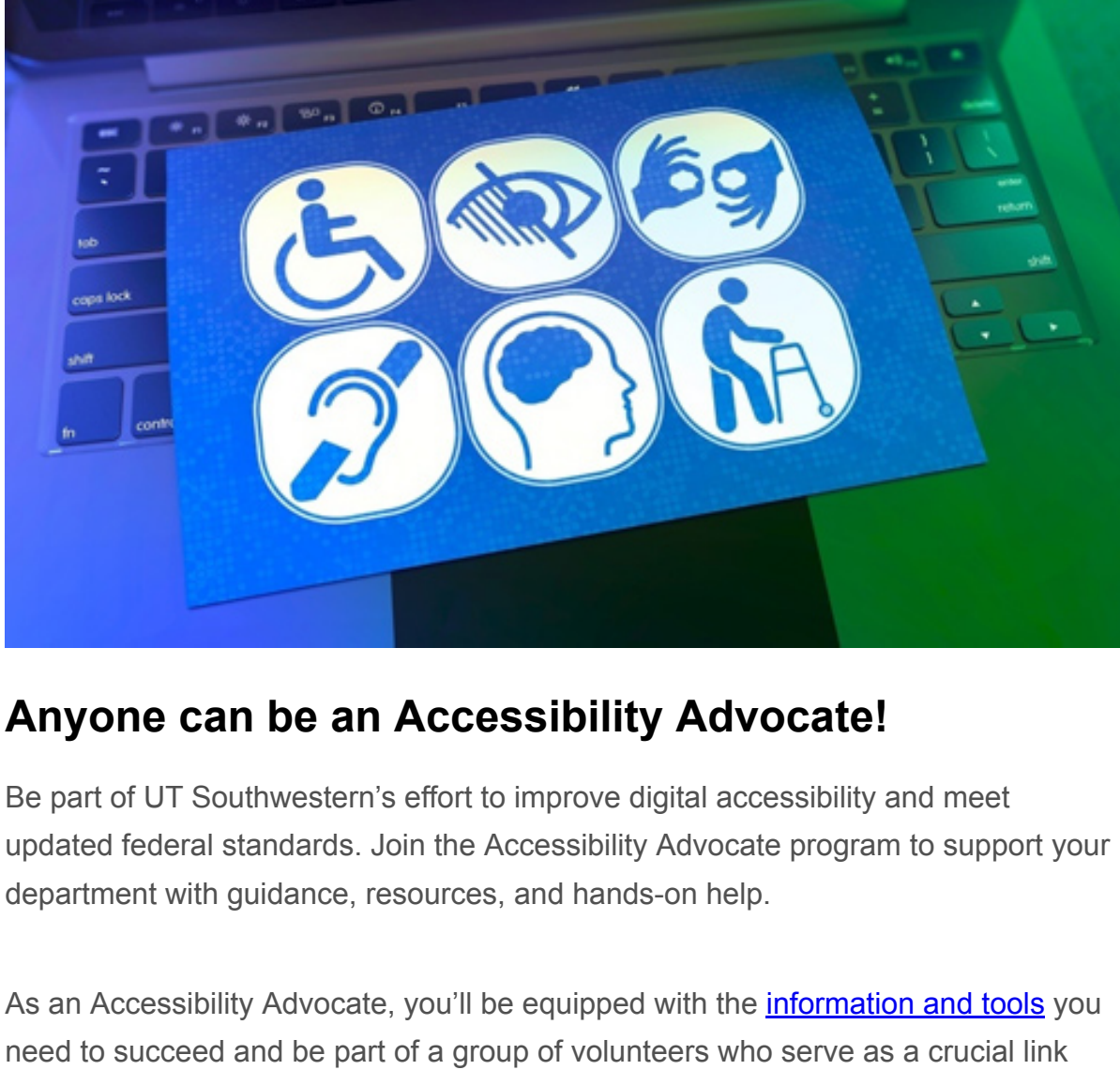




Anyone can be an Accessibility Advocate!

Be part of UT Southwestern's effort to improve digital accessibility and meet updated federal standards. Join the Accessibility Advocate program to support your department with guidance, resources, and hands-on help.

As an Accessibility Advocate, you'll be equipped with the [information and tools](#) you need to succeed and be part of a group of volunteers who serve as a crucial link among our Digital Accessibility Specialists, your team, and its partners.

This role is instrumental in:

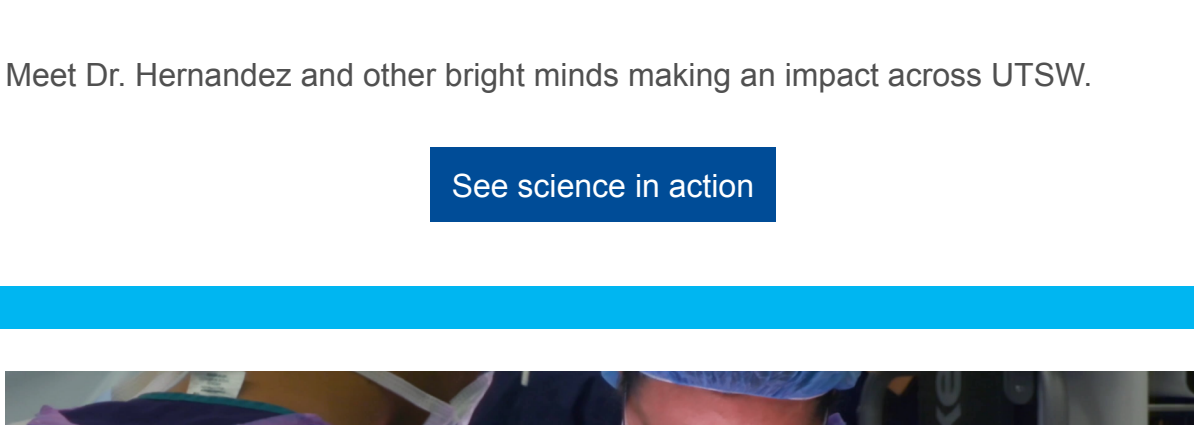
- Communicating accessibility initiatives at the department level.
- Supporting the adoption of best accessibility practices among colleagues.
- Promoting continuous learning and expansion of accessibility knowledge.

Advocates will receive regular updates and collaborate with our Digital Accessibility Specialists, UTSW's experts in this evolving area.

Accessibility Advocate general responsibilities:

- Attend a monthly Teams meeting, typically 30-60 minutes in duration.
- Share important accessibility information and updates from these meetings with your teams and constituents.
- Provide valuable feedback from your teams to the Digital Accessibility Specialists.

[Fill out the interest form](#)



Meet the Minds: The silent risk for female athletes

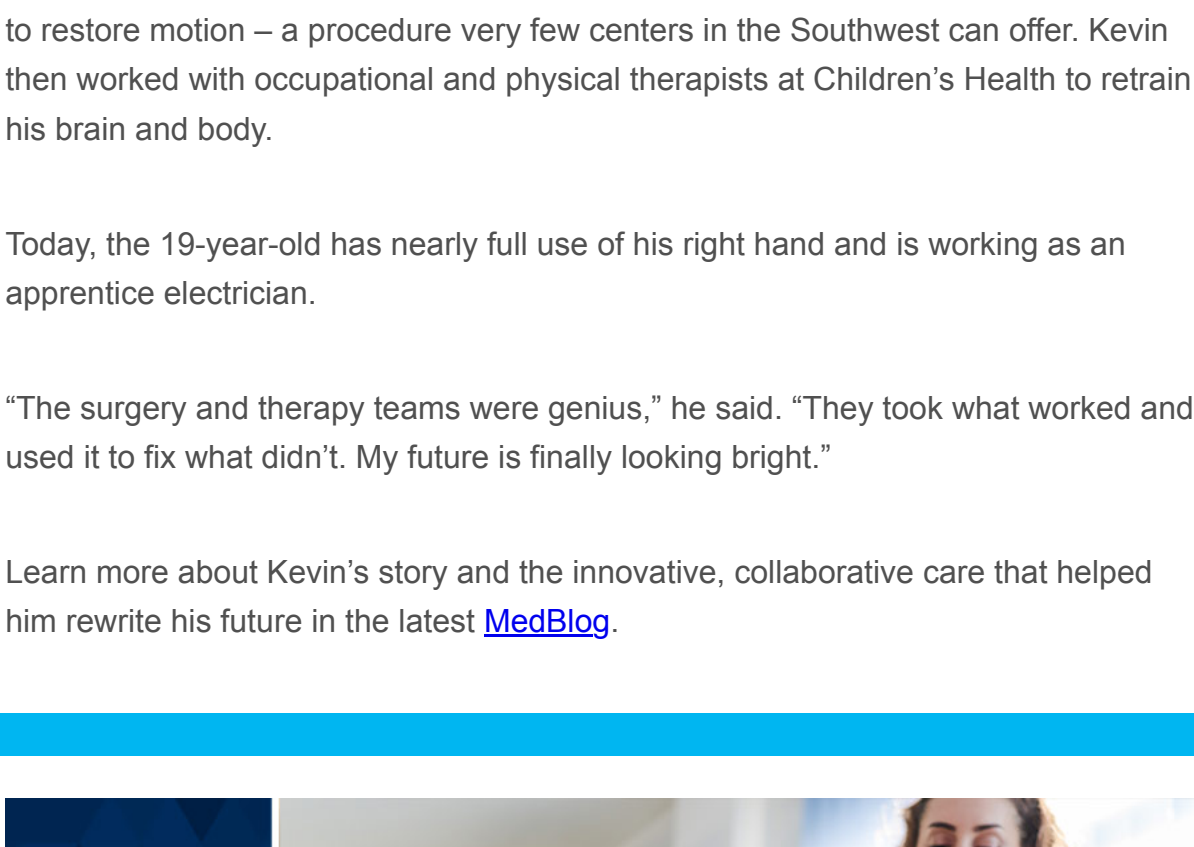
Get a glimpse behind the scenes in the labs of UTSW researchers with *Meet the Minds* – a unique look at the people and discoveries shaping the future of medicine.

In the latest installment, **Paula Hernandez, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Biomedical Engineering, is tackling two critical questions: Why are young female athletes more likely to experience ACL injuries, and what can be done to prevent long-term damage to their knees?

Dr. Hernandez is helping uncover how hormones and biology influence joint health, opening new possibilities to reduce injury risk and improve outcomes for women and girls.

Meet Dr. Hernandez and other bright minds making an impact across UTSW.

[See science in action](#)



Complex nerve transfer restores power for injured teen's hand

What started as a routine ATV ride took a life-changing turn for Kevin Briseno, who was 16 at the time. A crash caused a severe brachial plexus injury, damaging the network of nerves that carries signals from the spinal cord to the shoulder, arm, and hand.

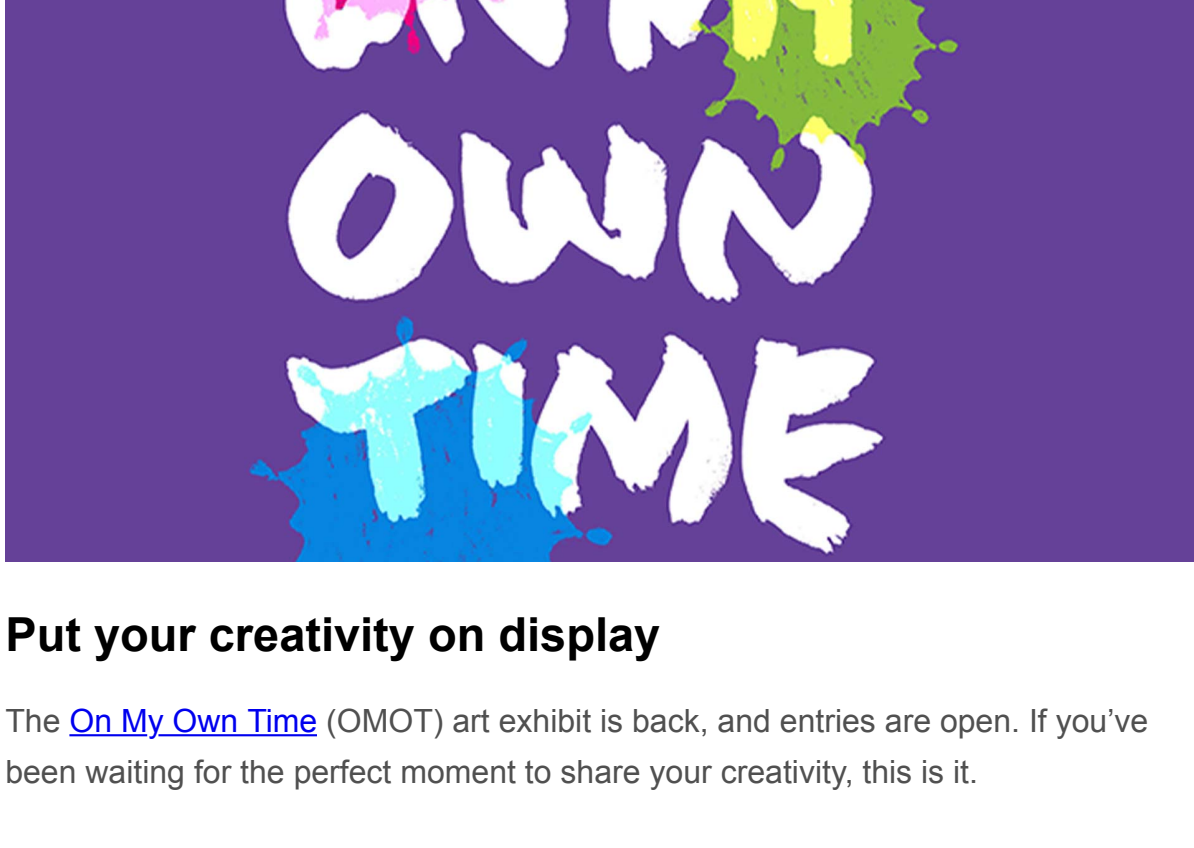
After intensive physical therapy and occupational therapy, Kevin regained some function, but his wrist and fingers remained unresponsive, limiting his ability to grasp and release objects.

He was referred to the UT Southwestern Peripheral Nerve and Brachial Plexus Multidisciplinary Team Clinic, where plastic surgeons **Jonathan Cheng, M.D., FACS**, and **Jennifer Kargel, M.D.**, performed a complex nerve and tendon transfer to restore motion – a procedure very few centers in the Southwest can offer. Kevin then worked with occupational and physical therapists at Children's Health to retrain his brain and body.

Today, the 19-year-old has nearly full use of his right hand and is working as an apprentice electrician.

"The surgery and therapy teams were genius," he said. "They took what worked and used it to fix what didn't. My future is finally looking bright."

Learn more about Kevin's story and the innovative, collaborative care that helped him rewrite his future in the latest [MedBlog](#).



Join a study on elevated blood pressure

Researchers in the Hypertension Program within UTSW's Division of Cardiology are studying the effects of a ketone supplement in adults with elevated blood pressure. The study will help them understand important information about how the body changes when taking this supplement and may help others with elevated blood pressure.

You may be eligible to participate in the study if you:

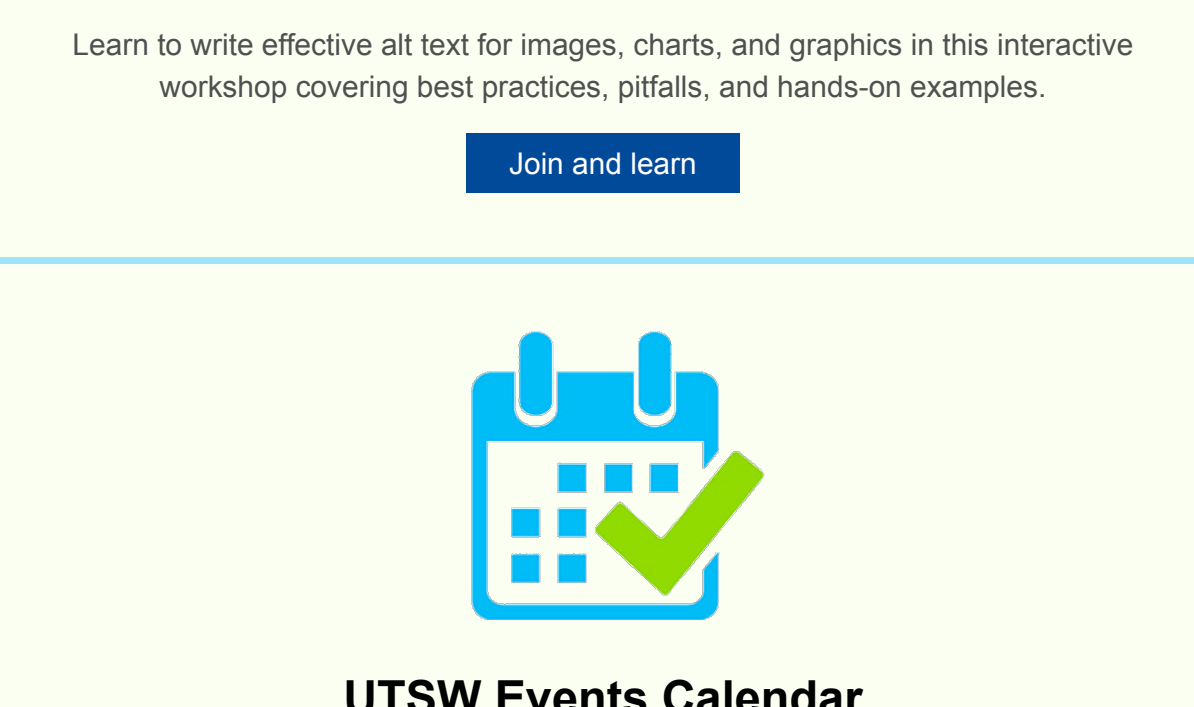
- Are 18-80 years old.
- Have elevated blood pressure with a systolic blood pressure between 120-160 and a diastolic blood pressure less than 110 mmHg and are not taking blood pressure medication.
- Do not have diabetes or other chronic diseases, and are not pregnant.
- Do not have a history of substance abuse or severe psychiatric illness.

Participants will:

- Take part in the study for up to four weeks, including weekly in-person study visits.
- Consume a diet provided by the study team for three days before study tests are done.
- Take a liquid ketone supplement three times per day.
- Complete various tests such as online diet questionnaires and blood samples for lab work.
- Complete a recording of sympathetic nerve activity where a tiny electrode is inserted into a nerve near the knee twice during the study.

Participants will receive up to \$550 for completing all study procedures. Recruitment for this initial phase is open until Sept. 1.

If you're interested or want to learn more, please [email Tianyu Wang](#).



Put your creativity on display

The [On My Own Time](#) (OMOT) art exhibit is back, and entries are open. If you've been waiting for the perfect moment to share your creativity, this is it.

From painting and photography to textiles, mixed media, and writing, there's a category for every type of creative expression. The **submission deadline is July 7**, so start selecting your best work and don't forget to review the entry guidelines on the OMOT website before you enter.

Selected visual artwork will be displayed at the A.W. Harris Faculty-Alumni Center starting July 20, while literary works will be featured in the [UT Southwestern Institutional Repository](#). Top visual pieces will advance to a regional showcase at NorthPark Center on Sept. 16, and winning writers will have the opportunity to read their work at a literary reception at Dallas College on Oct. 15.

Entry forms, rules, and past winners are available on the OMOT website, linked below.

[Share your talent](#)

Insider Guide

DISC Profile Class

9:30 a.m. to noon, June 24

Virtual

Join a webinar on the DISC behavioral assessment to understand communication styles and key traits and learn how to apply these insights to improve interactions at work. Register in Taleo Learn by searching "DISC" in the Find a Training search bar.

[Sign up in Taleo Learn](#)

Alt Text Workshop

1-2 p.m., June 24

Virtual

Learn to write effective alt text for images, charts, and graphics in this interactive workshop covering best practices, pitfalls, and hands-on examples.

[Join and learn](#)

UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?

The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[View upcoming or trending events](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu. Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

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