

DISCOVERY

A monthly newsletter from the Office of Undergraduate Research, a unit of the Office of Research and Engagement

Research Week Edition



students along the way!





Each spring, UT celebrates the research and creative activity of its undergraduate students during Research Week. In this issue of Catalyst, we would like to congratulate those students who spend extra time in the labs, classrooms, and maker spaces, honing your craft and pursuing your passion. Thanks also to the many faculty mentors who support and encourage our



Research and Creative Achievement place April 17-21, 2017 in

Hodges Library. Students from across the university entered their undergraduate research, senior design projects, clinical projects, and creative achievements for judging. Over 450 students presented 333 projects. 99 received recognition at the EURēCA Awards night.

Rube Goldberg Winner The Team of E-MCHammer, UT Seniors Su Kang and Natalie Bogoda, won this year's campus wide Rube Goldberg Challenge.





Cinema Student Finds Way to 'Make a Real Impact' Caroline Knight, a graduating senior in cinema studies, is an awardwinning filmmaker whose latest project is now being shown at film festivals around the country. Knight received a grant to produce "Still Sophie," a documentary about a young woman who sustained a brain



injury that left her unable to speak but still able to sing.

Nursing Student Wants to Help Kids Understand Asthma Adaya Troyer, a senior in nursing at UT, was only two when she was diagnosed with asthma. Now, as an undergraduate researcher, she's trying to help young children with asthma understand and manage their condition. Troyer hopes to develop educational materials for an iPad app targeted to children who

Senior Says Research 'Set Me Apart' When Applying for Grad **School**

Lora Doherty, a senior in therapeutic recreation, has been researching how camps can help children in military families cope with a parent's deployment. The research not only deepened her understanding of coursework but also gave her a leg up on other applicants when applying to graduate school.

Storify: UT Celebrates Undergraduate Research We asked our students, faculty, and staff to tag

their social media posts with #VolResearch during Research Week for two reasons:

- 1. They received a cool print out of their post on the Office of Undergraduate
- Research hashtag printer. 2. We curated the posts in a Storify so everyone could follow along during the

week!



News Sentinel: Students Participating in Undergrad Research **Grows**

The Knoxville News Sentinel interviewed Marisa Moazen, director of undergraduate research, Thursday night at the EURēCA awards ceremony. Moazen spoke about the recent growth in undergraduate research participation and faculty mentorship as well as how students can benefit from conducting research in their academic careers.

Video and a photo gallery are also included with the story.



Music Student Finds Unique Tune in Grindcore Research Paul Royse, a senior in music theory and piano performance, got interested in research during a music theory class analyzing rock music. His focus: grindcore, a genre of music fusing aspects of heavy metal and hardcore punk that originated in the mid-1980s but has been virtually

absent in music research literature.



Syndrome to Raise Awareness, Improve Patient Three undergraduate students at UT are researching Rett syndrome, a progressive neurological disorder that afflicts one in 10,000 females.

They want to raise awareness about the disorder and hope their discoveries translate into improved care for patients.



Gladys Alexandre named Faculty Mentor of the Year During the Chancellor's Honors Banquet, Dr. Gladys Alexandre received the University's top recognition for an undergraduate research mentor.

Louis Varriano named **Undergraduate Researcher of** the Year

Louis Varriano was named Undergraduate Researcher of the Year during the 2017 Chancellor's Honors Banquet.



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