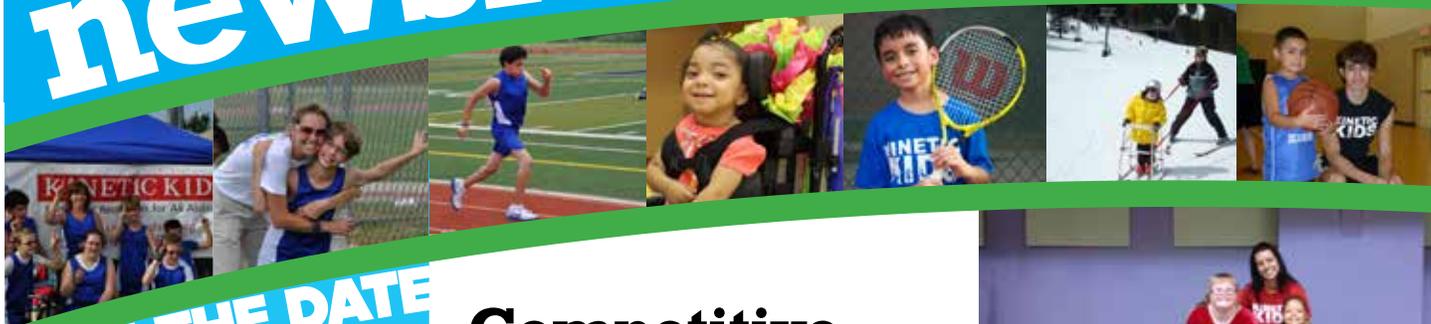


# summer 2013 newsletter



SAVE THE DATE

## Family Field Day

September 7, 2013  
9am-noon

Don't miss this fun event!  
There will be games and  
races for every ability!  
You might even get wet!  
See [www.kinetickidstx.org](http://www.kinetickidstx.org)  
for more information!

THANKS TO U!



### A Sweet Gesture

Kinetic Kid Aria Coleman, age 6, raised \$750 for Kinetic Kids by selling her mother's apple jelly at school. A big thanks to Aria and her mom, Precious Coleman.

## Competitive Gymnastics

Kinetic Kids striving to achieve their personal best!

Did you know Kinetic Kids has Competitive and Performance Teams? We do! We have performance dance, competitive gymnastics, competitive cheer, Paralympic Sport Club and Endeavor Games teams.

Above & Beyond Competitive Gymnastics team was originally a separate gymnastics group founded by Amy Myers in 2001. In 2007, Amy joined forces with Kinetic Kids to further enhance her program and Kinetic Kids Competitive Gymnastics team was born.

Our Competitive Gymnastics Team is a year round program that includes girls and boys that are 8 years and older. It is a progressive gymnastics program that focuses on Special Olympics competition routines in spring, but children learn a variety of gymnastics skills year round. Outstanding gymnasts from our Kinetic Kids 8-week All Star classes are recommended by a program director to join the team.

This year our team had competitions in Houston (5 gymnasts), San Antonio (13 gymnasts), and Arlington (4 gymnasts).



At all competitions our gymnasts compete against some of the best in the state. Kinetic Kids Will Bissmeyer, Jillian Benitez and Lexie Reiningger recently competed in our state competition and did their own personal best. Congratulations to all of our amazing gymnasts who strive to do their best, prove they can do anything and inspire others to do the same!

## A New View Kinetic Kids Streamlines with New Logo and Look!

Thanks to the talent of volunteer Nicole Nielsen, we have a new and improved look! Be sure to check out our new logo, banners, uniforms, business cards and more. Nicole has dedicated over two years to helping Kinetic Kids establish our brand and look in a whole new way. Keep an eye out to see even more amazing changes unfold!

# Fiesta Fun!



## Texas Cavaliers River Parade Float

For the second year in a row, Kinetic Kids was invited to celebrate Fiesta aboard a Texas Cavaliers River Parade Float thanks to the generosity of Dr. Andrew Whaley. With the theme of Reach Upon a Star, our Kinetic Kids shimmied and shook their way along the San Antonio river to the cheers and applause of an encouraging crowd during the Fiesta parade. It was an exhilarating night for our Kinetic Kids veterans: Ms. Wheelchair America, Mariah Kilbourne and Fiesta Especial King & Queen Tristan Gentry & Chelsea Figueroa, Dakota Carrillo, Shealie Thomas, Landon Noonan and Jillian Benevides.



## Try It Before You Buy It

On Friday, April 26th (Battle of Flowers Day) Kinetic Kids hosted our 9th annual Try It Before You Buy It event for the pediatric special needs population with a little Fiesta flair. Nearly 500 children & families benefited from the incredible display of durable medical equipment, services & resources that are available. Kinetic Kids wrapped up the event with our annual Fiesta Parade on wheels. A huge thank you to all of our amazing sponsors, volunteers & committee members and of course our charismatic MC, KENS 5 Chief Meteorologist Bill Taylor for helping make this our best 'Try It' yet!



## CPS River Parade Party

River parades are awesome but for many Kinetic Kids families, getting there and finding parking and seating is too much of a challenge!! CPS Energy has solved that for us!! For the past 2 years they have graciously hosted a group of Kinetic Kids to watch the river parade from prime seating on their balcony. Thank you to Patty Gonzales and the CPS energy volunteers for a fun-filled night for our kids and their families!

# Attitude of Gratitude

## UTHSC Volunteers Make A Difference

Did you know that the very first group of volunteers were PT students from the UTHSC? What started as a handful of students coming out to help a baseball team of 12 children with special needs has grown to over 12 years of continued support from this tremendous group. From season to season the faculty & staff of the UTHSC encourage their students to take advantage of the incredibly rewarding and educational experience of volunteering their time and talents with Kinetic Kids. We'd like to specifically thank Michael Geelhoed, D.P.T., OCS, MTC, whose "get out there and give back- learning does not just happen in the classroom" attitude has challenged physical therapy students for 9 years, and in turn, has provided our program and our kids with knowledgeable, skilled, and passionate volunteers! THANK YOU UTHSC PT school!



## UUMC: A Fabulous Facility!

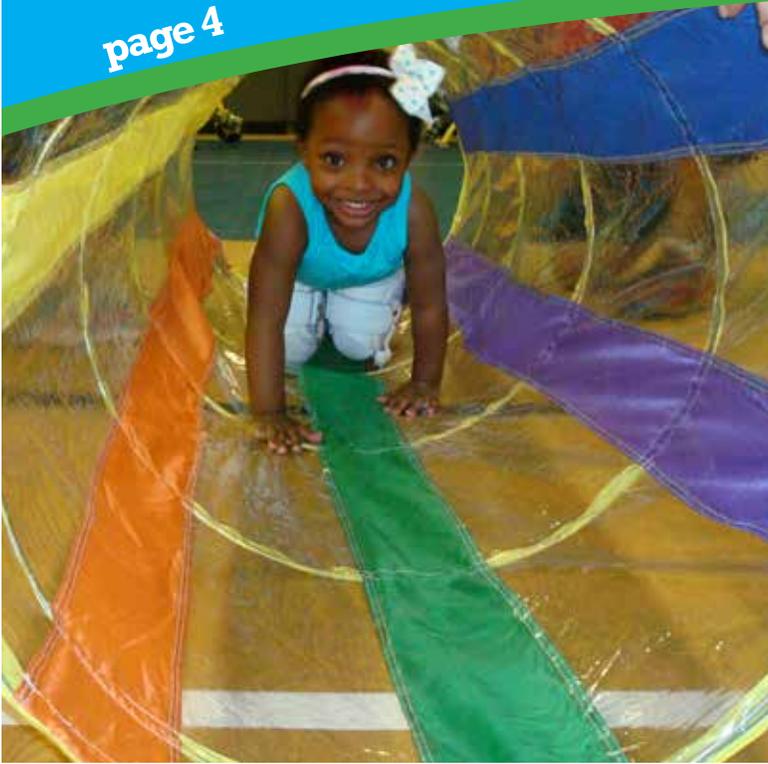
As you may know, Kinetic Kids utilizes numerous facilities throughout San Antonio to provide its programs for our amazing kids. One facility in particular has gone out of their way to allow us time and space in their wonderful facilities from hosting basketball, soccer, & music programs, dance finales & celebrations, volunteer orientations, our annual Try It Event, our annual Bike Camp and providing countless other meeting spaces for our staff & programs. THANK YOU University United Methodist Church and all the amazing staff that goes out of their way to help coordinate and sponsor space for us. You have helped bring so many programs to the special needs population of San Antonio!



## Weston Christmas Party Rocks Again!

Kinetic Kids would like to extend a special and very genuine thank you to Graham Weston. For the past two years, as a wonderful gift to the children with special needs in this community, Mr. Weston and his incredible staff host a "dream-filled" holiday party that is a true wonderland! Children from all over San Antonio get to experience the "true magic of Christmas" with the festivities at this event. Furthermore, Mr. Weston is a continuous supporter of Kinetic Kids. Thank you Graham Weston for being a true smile-maker for the entire Kinetic Kids family.





# SAVE THE DATE 2013 HOOTENANNY

Please join us for this great evening of FUNdraising. Our goal to raise \$200,000 to support Kinetic Kids programs is completely within reach! We just need your help! So, mark your calendars and shine your boots!

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11**  
PEARL STABLE DOORS OPEN AT 6P

EVENT SPONSORSHIPS  
\$500 - \$10,000

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS  
\$125

**Donate to the Live or Silent Auctions!**

For more info on sponsorships, tickets or auctions, please visit [www.kinetickidstx.org](http://www.kinetickidstx.org) or email [catherine@kinetickidstx.org](mailto:catherine@kinetickidstx.org).



## SEASON SPOTLIGHT



**SYDNEY MOSLEY** by Anita Mosley

Sydney was born in North Carolina and moved with her parents to San Antonio when she was one and a half years old. She is a vibrant 9 year old diagnosed with mild cerebral palsy with spastic diplegia.

Sydney joined Kinetic Kids in January 2012 and has participated in several programs. The first was gymnastics, which was followed by dance, tennis, bike camp, musical theatre, track & field, wheelchair basketball and swimming. Sydney has thoroughly enjoyed each new program.

She has always liked to make new friends and learn new things; however, her involvement with Kinetic Kids has allowed her to interact with kids with similar diagnoses and that has helped her to better understand her own condition. It has also helped her to try things she never even imagined and she is even thinking about what she wants to be when she grows up in ways she never thought possible before because of her limitations. She has gained so

much confidence in her abilities in such a short period of time.

Sydney also really likes working with the staff and volunteers, but one of her other favorite things about Kinetic Kids is the trophies and awards. In fact, she just returned from the Endeavor Games in Oklahoma where she earned four gold medals and set a national record in discus.

Sydney absolutely loves Kinetic Kids! She is excited to share her experiences with her friends at school. And even though life gets busy with school, therapy, and other activities, every week she looks forward to attending Kinetic Kids programming.

Kinetic Kids is helping not only in the physical development of her strength, coordination, and wheelchair skills but it also fosters teamwork. Win a supportive and nurturing environment—truly invaluable skills. For Sydney, most of all it is about having fun!

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: Track & Field

Every spring, our athletes with physical disabilities put in serious work to train and compete against local and national athletes in track & field events. This spring our athletes trained each week in 60m, 60m weave (powerchair athletes), 100m, 200m, 400m, and field events such as javelin, discus, shot put and club.

In April, 26 Kinetic Kids attended the 2013 Texas Regional Games and brought home gold!!

Ten athletes attended the Endeavor Games on June 8th and 9th in Edmond, Oklahoma. Our Kinetic Kids came home with 65 medals (54 gold and 11 silver) and broke 9 national records! Congratulations to our amazing athletes: Sydney Mosley, Daniel Velasquez, Seth Bosquez, Wyatt Struxness, Samuel DeRousse, Gabriel Donias, Michael Sandoval, Paul Gonzales, Mariah Kilbourne and Diana Neal.

Kinetic Kids gives a huge shout out to Coaches Scott LeBlanc, CTRS, & Chuck Smith who have given our athletes exceptional training and support this season. Big thanks also to Tiffany Neal, DPT, program director and coach, who has taken our Track and Field program to a new level!!



# Therapists Set Us Apart!

There are so many things that make our Kinetic Kids programs unique:

- a tremendous variety of sports & recreational activities
- amazingly talented coaches and passionately dedicated volunteers
- a commitment to reach out, educate and offer opportunities regardless of financial ability.
- generous sponsors and grantors that continue to ensure low cost programs for our participants and scholarship benefits where needed.
- a genuine focus on skill building, not just the 'traditions' of a sport.
- providing an environment where children and families can learn, grow and network with each other.

**Perhaps the most unique feature we offer is providing pediatric physical, occupational and/or recreational therapists at EVERY program to help modify activities based on each child's individual needs and abilities.**

We have a staff of therapists who truly love what they do and believe that anything is possible for our Kinetic Kids. All of our therapists cheer for, cry with and celebrate each child's accomplishments right alongside their families. We love our staff and our staff loves YOU! Read on to meet just two of our amazing staff members.

## MEET THE DYNAMIC DUO: Paige & Laura

You'll often find these two Kinetic Kids "super heroes" together!

**Paige Martin** is a student in the DPT program at UTHSCSA, class of 2014. When Kinetic Kids visited her school seeking volunteers, she was hooked. For her, it was the perfect opportunity to combine her love of sports, kids and PT!



Paige has been moved by "the kids who put a HUGE smile on my heart, the parents who are so kind, appreciative, and dedicated to their child's success, the volunteers who are fearless yet gentle, and other staffers who are passionate and have dedicated their lives to giving children with disabilities the opportunity to compete, be successful and PLAY like all other children!"

Beyond Paige's busy school schedule and coaching positions with Kinetic Kids, when she hears of a program in need of volunteers she not only recruits friends and her loving husband to come help out, but she also volunteers her own time. Kinetic Kids is thrilled to have Paige's skills and passion on our team!

Physical Therapist **Laura Hegstrom** also works at Therapy Links and Methodist Children's Hospital.

She started with Kinetic Kids as a volunteer and is now a Program Director. Her first program with Kinetic Kids was the beginning of the "dynamic duo" when she was paired with Paige Martin for Southside baseball in 2012.

Says Laura of her experience, "I love Kinetic Kids because I receive more than I could ever give. Watching the successes and the hard work of children in our programs makes being a PT so much more meaningful... celebrating the successes of children, big or small, and experiencing what pure joy looks like through the eyes of a child. All anyone has to do is watch a baseball finale or a gymnastics practice to understand that working with Kinetic Kids as a pediatric physical therapist is the most fulfilling and joy-giving occupation there is!"





PO Box 690993 | San Antonio, TX 78269

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 803  
SAN ANTONIO, TX

Thank-you to our smile makers!



sports & recreation for all (dis)abilities

**\$50,000+**

Kronkosky Charitable Foundation  
Najim Family Foundation

**\$49,999 - \$10,000**

H-E-B  
Graham & Elizabeth Weston  
Valero

**\$9,999 to \$5,000**

Birdies for Charity  
Blue Bird Auxiliary  
USAA Foundation, Inc.  
Ability Pediatric Therapy  
Bell Family Foundation  
Greehey Family Foundation  
KCI

**\$4,999 to \$1,000**

Frost Bank  
Randolph Officers' Spouses Club  
San Antonio Pediatric Society  
David and Cynthia Schneider

**\$999 to \$500**

Aria Coleman  
Terri and Steve Edlund  
Erica Gentry  
The Inventure Group, Inc.  
Lone Star National Bank  
Post Acute Medical, LLC  
City of San Antonio

**Volunteers**

210.621.3141  
volunteer@kinetickidstx.org

**Program Information**

210.748.5860

**Registration**

www.kinetickidstx.org

**Donations**

210.913-3513  
www.kinetickidstx.org

**Sponsorships**

210.913.3513  
development@kinetickidstx.org

As of 5/31/2013