

2021

THE **SZENT-GYÖRGYI**  
PRIZE FOR PROGRESS  
IN CANCER RESEARCH

# Call for Nominations

**Opens:**

June 1, 2020

**Deadline:**

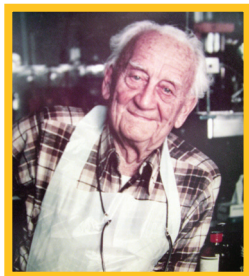
October 15, 2020



NATIONAL FOUNDATION  
FOR CANCER RESEARCH

*Research for a Cure*

# The Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research



The *Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research* was established to honor an outstanding researcher whose scientific achievements have expanded our understanding of cancer and cancer causation; whose vision has moved cancer research in new directions; and whose discoveries have resulted in notable advances in cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment. The Prize also promotes public awareness of the importance of basic cancer research and encourages the sustained investment needed to accelerate the translation of these research discoveries into new cancer treatments.

The Prize recipient will be honored at a formal black-tie optional dinner and award ceremony and will also receive a \$30,000 honorarium. **The 2021 Szent-Györgyi Prize Dinner and Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at The National Press Club in Washington, DC.** The individual winning the Prize will receive media and press attention and global recognition for his/her work. In addition, the Prize recipient will lead the next “Szent-Györgyi Prize Committee” as honorary chairman.

The *Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research* is named in honor of Albert Szent-Györgyi, M.D., Ph.D. who was a pioneer, and, like many other explorers, he challenged the conventional thinking of the day to pursue his novel and promising ideas. After winning the Nobel Prize for his study on vitamin C and cell respiration, Dr. Szent-Györgyi set his sights on finding a way to defeat cancer.

Beyond his laboratory, Dr. Szent-Györgyi was a leading advocate for developing resources to provide scientists with the financial support necessary to pursue novel cancer research ideas. In 1973, he changed the face of cancer research funding by co-founding NFCR with entrepreneur Franklin C. Salisbury. Since then, NFCR has provided more than \$380 million in support of cancer research and prevention education programs.

NFCR is committed to upholding Dr. Szent-Györgyi's vision of curing cancer through innovation and collaboration. As part of this commitment, NFCR has established this Prize to honor scientists who have made extraordinary progress in cancer research and to focus attention on the essential role of basic research in finding the still elusive answers to the mysteries of cancer.

“Cancer is a disease that can be cured...”

- Albert Szent-Györgyi, M.D., Ph.D.  
*1937 Nobel Laureate*

The Szent-Györgyi Prize serves to stimulate continued investment in the pioneering research that will produce scientific breakthroughs and lead to a deeper understanding of the scientific concepts underlying the genetics and molecular makeup of cancer. By calling attention annually to achievements in this area, it is our desire to heighten awareness of the kind of research and discovery that must be accomplished before we can hope to produce cancer cures.



# **The Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research**

## **- Selection Criteria -**

Nominations for the Prize may be made by individuals from the research community, industry, government, or other organizations who are sufficiently familiar with the research accomplishments and contributions of the nominee. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

Candidates must have made an original discovery or breakthrough in scientific understanding that has led to better prevention, earlier diagnosis, or new treatments for patients with cancer.

All nominations will require the following documents:

- **A letter of recommendation (800 words or less) outlining the nominee's significant contributions to cancer research.** The letter should outline the impact that the nominee's research has had on our understanding of the root causes of cancer, on strategies for preventing cancer, on the development of more effective cancer therapies, or other aspects of cancer treatment.
- **A simplified current curriculum vitae of the nominee;** ten (10) pages maximum.
- **A listing of fifteen of the nominee's most important published papers,** in the view of the nominator. No press clippings please.
- **Complete contact information of nominee** including cell phone.

# **The Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research**

## **- Process -**

Candidates will be reviewed and evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Seminal discovery or pioneering body of work that has resulted in, or led toward, notable contributions to cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment; **and**
2. The discovery has had a lasting impact on the cancer field with a high direct impact of saving people's lives.

### **To Submit Your Nomination:**

- Nominations are submitted by an online form at [www.nfcr.org/asg-prize/nominate/#form](http://www.nfcr.org/asg-prize/nominate/#form)
- Please submit all required documents.
- All submissions will be reviewed by the Prize Selection Committee.

**Nomination Deadline: October 15, 2020**

National Foundation for Cancer Research  
Attn: Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee  
5515 Security Lane, Suite 1105  
Rockville, MD 20852, USA

## **The Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee**

The Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee has been established to advise and consult with the National Foundation for Cancer Research on each year's pool of Prize nominees. The Committee considers the research history and contributions of each nominee, with special emphasis on the importance of the research featured in the nomination materials; the significance, originality, and impact of that research as well as the nominee's entire body of scientific contributions; each nominee's professional activities and publications as reflected in the curriculum vitae; and other relevant aspects of each nominee's career in research.

The Prize Winner each year will serve as the selection chair of the Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee for the following year. In case the Prize Winner is unable to serve as the incoming chair, the previous chair will serve as de facto chair of the new Committee.

# The Szent-Györgyi Prize Previous Recipients



**2020 - Susan Band Horwitz, Ph.D.**

Distinguished Professor and Rose C. Falkenstein Chair  
in Cancer Research

Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, New York



**2019 - Steven A. Rosenberg, M.D., Ph.D.**

Chief of Surgery Branch, Center for Cancer Research  
National Cancer Institute



**2018 - Douglas R. Lowy, M.D. (left)**

National Cancer Institute Deputy Director  
Chief, Laboratory of Cellular Oncology



**2018 - John T. Schiller, Ph.D. (right)**

Deputy Chief, Laboratory of Cellular Oncology  
National Institute Health, Distinguished Investigator



**2017 - Michael N. Hall, Ph.D.**

Professor of Biochemistry Biozentrum of the University  
of Basel, Switzerland



**2016 - Mary-Claire King, Ph.D.**

Professor of Medicine (Medical Genetics) and Genome  
Sciences at University of Washington



**2015 - Frederick W. Alt, Ph.D.**

Professor of Genetics, Harvard Medical School  
Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Program in  
Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Boston Children's  
Hospital



**2014 - James P. Allison, Ph.D.**

Professor and Chair, Department of Immunology  
The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center,  
Houston



**2013 - Alex Matter, M.D.**

CEO of the Experimental Therapeutics Centre,  
Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR),  
Singapore

# The Szent-Györgyi Prize Previous Recipients



**2012 - Zhen-Yi Wang, M.D.** (*left*)

Professor, School of Medicine, Shanghai Jiao Tong University; Honorary Director of the Shanghai Institute of Haematology



**2012 - Zhu Chen, M.D., Ph.D.** (*right*)

Professor, School of Medicine, Shanghai Jiao Tong University; Chairman of Chinese Medical Association



**2011 - Beatrice Mintz, Ph.D.**

Professor and Jack Schultz Chair in Basic Science, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia



**2010 - Peter K. Vogt, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Molecular and Experimental Medicine, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla



**2009 - Ronald A. DePinho, M.D.**

Professor, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Past President, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston



**2008 - Carlo M. Croce, M.D.**

Director, Human Cancer Genetics Program and  
Director, Institute of Genetics at The Ohio State University, Columbus



**2007 - Webster K. Cavenee, Ph.D.**

Director, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, San Diego Branch;  
Distinguished Professor, University of California, San Diego



**2006 - Harold F. Dvorak, M.D.**

Mallinckrodt Professor Emeritus of Pathology, Harvard Medical School and Chief, Department of Pathology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston





*Research for a Cure*

The National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR) was established in 1973 to support innovative cancer research and public education relating to prevention, better diagnosis, new and more effective treatments, and ultimately cures for *all* types of cancer. NFCR promotes and facilitates collaboration among scientists to accelerate the pace of discovery from the laboratory bench to the patient bedside.

To date, NFCR has provided over \$380 million in support of discovery-oriented basic research focused on understanding how and why cells become cancerous and on cancer prevention. NFCR scientists are unraveling cancer's molecular mysteries and translating these discoveries into therapies that hold great promise for curing cancer. NFCR is about *Research for a Cure*—cures for *all* types of cancer.

**For more information about the *Szent-Gyorgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research*, the Prize Winners and the Annual Prize Dinner and Award Ceremony, please visit [www.NFCR.org/research-programs/szent-gyorgyi-prize-cancer-research/](http://www.NFCR.org/research-programs/szent-gyorgyi-prize-cancer-research/).**

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