

**2025**  
THE **SZENT-GYÖRGYI**  
PRIZE FOR PROGRESS  
IN CANCER RESEARCH



**CALL FOR  
NOMINATIONS**

**OPENS:** November 1, 2024  
**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2025



**National Foundation  
for Cancer Research**  
**We Make Cures Possible**

# THE SZENT-GYÖRGYI

PRIZE FOR PROGRESS  
IN CANCER RESEARCH

The **Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research** is named in memory of our co-founder and **Nobel Laureate Dr. Albert Szent-Györgyi** to honor outstanding scientists who have expanded our understanding of cancer and cancer causation; whose vision has moved cancer research in new directions; and whose discoveries have led to advances in cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment.



Nominees must have made an original discovery or achieved a breakthrough in scientific understanding that has been developed, by them or others, for better prevention, earlier diagnosis, or new treatments for patients with cancer.

**Nominations will be reviewed and evaluated based on the following criteria:**

1. The candidate is nominated for a seminal discovery or pioneering body of work that has contributed to cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment  
**and**
2. The candidate's work has had a lasting impact on understanding cancer, holding the promise of improving or saving the lives of cancer patients.

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

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

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 NCFR with entrepreneur Franklin C. Salisbury and Tamara Salisbury. Since then, NCFR has provided \$415 million in support of cancer research and prevention education programs.

The Szent-Györgyi Prize serves to stimulate continued investment in the pioneering research that will produce scientific breakthroughs. It intends to deepen the understanding of the underlying basis of cancer. and the translation of this knowledge to improve the lives for cancer patients. By calling attention annually to achievements in this area, it is the goal of the Szent-Györgyi Prize to heighten awareness of the research and discovery that leads to new cancer treatments and cancer cures.

The Prize also promotes public awareness of the importance of basic cancer research and the need to accelerate the translation of these research discoveries into new cancer treatments.

The Prize recipient will receive a \$30,000 honorarium and be honored at **the 2025 Szent-Györgyi Prize Dinner and Award Ceremony on Friday, October 24, at The National Press Club in Washington, DC.**

# NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Prize may be made by nominators from the research community, industry, government, or other organizations who are sufficiently familiar with the research accomplishments and contributions of the nominee.

- The Selection Committee welcomes co-nominations of two individuals of a similar field.
- The Selection Committee encourages nominations of meritorious women and other individuals from underrepresented groups.
- Self-nominations are not accepted.

All nominations will require the following documents:

- **A letter of recommendation (800 words or less), including a 50-word nomination sentence, followed by a 750-word explanation, outlining the nominee's significant contributions to cancer research. The letter should address the following criteria for the Szent-Györgyi Prize:**
  1. The nominee's seminal discovery or a pioneering body of work that has contributed to cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment.**and**
  2. The lasting impact of the discovery or body of work on understanding cancer, holding the promise of improving or saving the lives of cancer patients.
- **A simplified current curriculum vitae of the nominee; three (3) pages maximum.** Nominations with CV documents larger than 3 pages will not be considered.
- **A listing of ten (10) of the nominee's most important published papers,** in the view of the nominator. Lists of more than 10 papers will not be considered. No PDFs of the publications or press clippings, please.
- **Complete contact information of nominee** including cell phone.

# THE SZENT-GYÖRGYI PRIZE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee advises and consults 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 and publications 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 other relevant aspects of each nominee's career in research.

It will be the charge of the selection committee members to evaluate each candidate's accomplishments and provide a dispassionate narrative, not to serve as champions of the candidates.

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.

## **NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

Attn: Szent-Györgyi Prize Selection Committee

5515 Security Lane, Suite 1105

Rockville, MD 20852, USA

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

- Nominations are submitted by an online form at [www.NFCR.org/Prize-Nominate/](http://www.NFCR.org/Prize-Nominate/)
- The Prize Selection Committee reviews all submissions with the required documents. Please submit all required documents in PDF or Word format.
- **NOMINATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2025.**

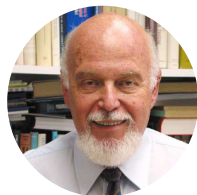
# THE SZENT-GYÖRGYI PRIZE RECIPIENTS



**Dennis J. Slamon,  
M.D., Ph.D.**  
2024 Winner  
*University of California,  
Los Angeles*



**Steven A.  
Rosenberg,  
M.D., Ph.D.**  
2019 Winner  
*National Cancer  
Institute*



**Isaac P. Witz, Ph.D.**  
2023 Winner  
*Tel Aviv University*



**Douglas R. Lowy,  
M.D.**  
2018 Co-Winner  
*National Cancer  
Institute*



**Rakesh K. Jain, Ph.D.**  
2022 Winner  
*Harvard Medical  
School & Massachusetts  
General Hospital*



**John T. Schiller,  
Ph.D.**  
2018 Co-Winner  
*National Institute of  
Health*



**Mark M. Davis, Ph.D.**  
2021 Co-Winner  
*Stanford University  
School of Medicine*



**Michael N. Hall,  
Ph.D.**  
2017 Winner  
*Biozentrum of the  
University of Basel,  
Switzerland*



**Tak W. Mak, Ph.D.**  
2021 Co-Winner  
*University of Toronto;  
Princess Margaret  
Cancer Centre*



**Mary-Claire King,  
Ph.D.**  
2016 Winner  
*University of  
Washington*



**Susan Band Horwitz,  
Ph.D.**  
2020 Winner  
*Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine, Bronx,  
New York*



**Frederick W. Alt,  
Ph.D.**  
2015 Winner  
*Harvard Medical  
School & Boston  
Children's Hospital*

# THE SZENT-GYÖRGYI PRIZE RECIPIENTS



**James P. Allison,  
Ph.D.**  
**2014 Winner**  
*The University of Texas,  
MD Anderson Cancer  
Center, Houston*



**Peter K. Vogt, Ph.D.**  
**2010 Winner**  
*Scripps Research  
La Jolla*



**Alex Matter, M.D.**  
**2013 Winner**  
*Agency for Science,  
Technology and  
Research(A\*STAR),  
Singapore*



**Ronald A. DePinho,  
M.D.**  
**2009 Winner**  
*The University of Texas,  
MD Anderson Cancer  
Center, Houston*



**Zhen-Yi Wang,  
M.D.**  
**2012 Co-Winner**  
*Shanghai Jiao Tong  
University*



**Carlo M. Croce,  
M.D.**  
**2008 Winner**  
*The Ohio State  
University*



**Zhu Chen, M.D.,  
Ph.D.**  
**2012 Co-Winner**  
*Shanghai Jiao Tong  
University*



**Webster K. Cavenee,  
Ph.D.**  
**2007 Winner**  
*University of California,  
San Diego*



**Beatrice Mintz,  
Ph.D.**  
**2011 Winner**  
*Fox Chase Cancer  
Center, Philadelphia*



**Harold F. Dvorak,  
M.D.**  
**2006 Winner**  
*Harvard Medical  
School and  
Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center, Boston*



The National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization co-founded in 1973 by Nobel Laureate Dr. Albert Szent-Györgyi that provides scientists in the lab the critical seed funding they need to make game-changing discoveries in cancer treatments, detection, prevention and ultimately, a cure. NFCR has distinguished itself in the cancer research sector by emphasizing “high-risk, high-impact” pioneering research fields often overlooked by other major funding sources. With the support of more than 5.3 million individual donors over the last 51 years, NFCR has provided \$415 million in funding to cancer research, prevention, and public education, leading to some of the life-saving discoveries that benefit patients today.

**For more information about the *Szent-Gyorgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research*, the Prize Winners and the Annual Prize Dinner and Award Ceremony held at our Global Summit and Award Ceremonies for Cancer Research & Entrepreneurship, please visit [www.NFCR.org/Szent-Gyorgyi-Prize/](http://www.NFCR.org/Szent-Gyorgyi-Prize/) or scan the QR code:**



5515 Security Lane, Suite 1105  
Rockville, MD 20852  
Phone: 1-800-321-CURE (2873)  
Fax: 301-654-5824

[www.NFCR.org](http://www.NFCR.org) | [ASGPrize@NFCR.org](mailto:ASGPrize@NFCR.org)