

Press Information

Announcement of the 2022 Kyoto Prize Laureates

The Kyoto Prize 2022 goes to an electronics engineer and applied physicist, to a population biologist and to a Tabla player.

Kyoto/London, June 20th, 2022. The Inamori Foundation, established in 1984 by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori, is pleased to announce the laureates of the 2022 Kyoto Prize, an international award presented to individuals who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind.

Each laureate will receive a diploma, the Kyoto Prize medal (20K gold), and prize money of 100 million yen (currently approx. 710,000 Euro). This year's Prize goes to the following three individuals: Carver Mead, Gordon and Betty Moore Professor of Engineering and Applied Science at the California Institute of Technology, Bryan T. Grenfell, Kathryn Briger and Sarah Fenton Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Public Affairs at the Princeton University as well as Zakir Hussain, a Tabla player from India.

Prof. Dr. Carver Mead proposed and promoted a new methodology to divide the increasingly complicated design process of very large-scale integration (VLSI) systems into logic, circuit, and layout designs, and to separate them from the manufacturing process. He also contributed greatly to the advancement of computer-aided design technology and paved the way to the electronic design automation of VLSIs that led to the immense development of VLSI-based electronics and industry.

Prof. Dr. Bryan T. Grenfell proposed "phylodynamics," a methodology that predicts infectious disease dynamics of RNA viruses by considering viral evolution, and thus contributed to the development of the research field that integrates immune dynamics, epidemiology, and evolutionary biology. By virtue of these achievements, he has been instrumental in understanding infection mechanisms and proposing effective infectious disease control policies.

Zakir Hussain, a leading tabla player of Hindustani music transcended the framework of traditional Indian music and opened up a new world of music by collaborating with musicians of various genres from around the world. With his superb technique, engaging performances, and rich creativity, he made a tremendous impact on musicians worldwide.



Press photos



Prof. Dr. Carver Mead



Prof. Dr. Bryan T. Grenfell



Zakir Hussain

Source: Inamori Foundation



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About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, KYOCERA Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the KYOCERA Group, which is comprised of 298 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2022), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the most experienced producers of smart energy systems worldwide, with more than 45 years of know-how in the industry. The company is ranked #603 on Forbes magazine's 2021 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies.

With a global workforce of over 83,000 employees, Kyocera posted sales revenue of approximately €13,42 billion in fiscal year 2021/2022. The products marketed by the company in Europe include printers, digital copying systems, semiconductor-, fine ceramic-, automotive- and electronic components as well as printing devices and ceramic kitchen products. The KYOCERA Group has two independent companies in the United Kingdom: KYOCERA Fineceramics Ltd. and KYOCERA Document Solutions Ltd.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (approximately €710,000* per prize category).

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