

Press Information

Announcement of the 2021 Kyoto Prize Laureates

The Kyoto Prize 2021 goes to a computer scientist, to a biochemist and molecular biologists and to a philosopher.

Kyoto/London, June 18th, 2021. The Inamori Foundation is pleased to announce the laureates of the 2021 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. 763,000 €). This year's Prize goes to the following three individuals: Andrew Chi-Chih Yao, Dean at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences at the Tsinghua University; Professor Robert G. Roeder, Arnold and Marbel Beckman Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Rockefeller University as well as Bruno Latour, Professor Emeritus at the Paris Institute of Political Science.

Prof. Dr. Andrew Chi-Chih Yao has established new trends in information technology and has made a major contribution to cutting-edge research in various fields, in particular in the fields of security, secure computation and quantum computation. He has postulated innovative, fundamental theories for computation and communication and his achievements continue to influence current problems in the real world, such as security, secure computation and big data processing.

Prof. Dr. Robert G. Roeder has revealed the principle of the regulatory mechanism in eukaryotic transcription. During his 50 years of research into transcription he has identified the functions of a range of factors, such as three different RNA polymerases, fundamental transcription factors, one of the first gene-specific factors and regulators in chromatin transcription. His achievements have made significant contributions to the development of modern life sciences.

Prof. em. Dr. Bruno Latour has revolutionised the conventional view of science by treating nature, human beings, laboratory equipment and other entities as equal partners and by describing technoscience as a hybrid network of these actors. His philosophy questions anew the "modern age", which is based on the dualism of nature and society. He has a major influence on all disciplines by virtue of his multi-faceted activities, which also include propositions on global environmental issues.

Press photos



Prof. Dr. Andrew Chi-Chih Yao



Prof. Dr. Robert G. Roeder



Prof. em. Dr. Bruno Latour

Source: Inamori Foundation



For more information on Kyocera: www.kyocera.co.uk

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 297 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2021), 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 40 years of know-how in the industry. The company is ranked #549 on Forbes magazine's 2020 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies.

With a global workforce of over 75,500 employees, Kyocera posted sales revenue of approximately €11,74 billion in fiscal year 2020/2021. 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 (converted at approximately €763,000 per prize category).

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