



Wolf Foundation · קרן וולף
ISRAEL ישראל

to promote science and art for the benefit of mankind · לקידום המדע והאמנות לטובת האנושות

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ten world-renowned scientists and a highly prominent artist
To receive the 2011 Wolf Prizes, of \$100,000 each
In Physics, Chemistry, Agriculture, Medicine and the Arts
From the President of the State of Israel and Minister of Education**

**2011 Wolf Prize in Medicine to be jointly awarded to
Prof. Shinya Yamanaka, Japan; and Prof. Rudolf Jaenisch, the US For
their groundbreaking contribution to stem cell research**

Jerusalem, 16 February, 2011. Minister of Education & Wolf Prize Council Chairman, Mr. Gideon Sa'ar, today announced the 2011 Wolf Prize Laureates.

The prizes, of \$100,000 each, will be awarded in four scientific fields:

- **MEDICINE - Prof. Shinya Yamanaka**, Center for iPS Stem Cell Research & Application, Kyoto University, **Japan**; and **Prof. Rudolf Jaenisch**, Whitehead Institute, MIT, Cambridge, MA, **US**, "For the generation of induced pluripotent stem cells from skin cells and demonstration that iPS cells can be used to cure genetic disease in mice, thus establishing their therapeutic potential."
- **CHEMISTRY - Prof. Stuart Alan Rice**, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Chicago, ILL, **US**; **Prof. Ching Tang**, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University of Rochester, NY, **US**; and **Prof. Krzysztof Matyjaszewski**, Dept. of Chemistry, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, **US**; "For deep creative contributions to the chemical sciences in the field of synthesis, properties and an understanding of organic materials; for exploring the nature of organic solids and their energy profiles, structure and dynamics and for creating new ways to make organic materials, ranging from polymers, to organic-based devices that capture energy from the sun, and light our way in the dark; and for groundbreaking conceptual and experimental advances that have helped to create the research field of organic materials."

"In the 33 years of its existence, the Wolf Prize has brought great honor to the State of Israel and to scientific activity both in Israel and worldwide," explains Minister of Education and Wolf Foundation Council Chairman, Mr. Gideon Sa'ar. "Moreover, the prize has become a **predictor of the Nobel**: one out of every three Wolf Prize Laureates--in Chemistry, Physics and Medicine--have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize, among them, Prof. Ada Yonath (2009 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry)."



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- **AGRICULTURE - Prof. Harris A. Lewin**, Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, **US**, "For highly significant discoveries, that contribute to both fundamental and practical aspects of animal agriculture...greatly expanding our understanding of immunogenetics and disease resistance; and for leading efforts to establish research and programs that ensure training of the next generation of animal scientists"; and **Prof. R. James Cook**, Washington State University, **US**, "For seminal discoveries in plant pathology and soil microbiology that impact crop productivity and disease management...improving disease control in wheat and barley and altered paradigms of plant disease control in other crops."
- **PHYSICS - Prof. Maxmilian Haider**, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, **Germany**; **Prof. Harald Rose**, Technical University of Darmstadt, **Germany**; and **Prof. Knut Urban**, Research Centre Jülich, Aachen, **Germany**, "For development of aberration-corrected electron microscopy, allowing the observation of individual atoms with picometer precision, thus revolutionizing materials science."

And in

- **THE ARTS (Painting & Sculpture) - Rosemarie Trockel**, Cologne, **Germany**, "For her multidimensional art practice, which provides a powerful model that engages the mainstream obliquely and critically; for art that engages and integrates materials, processes and concepts from multiple fields, disciplines and traditions...redefining art for the future; for her influence on younger artists; for her acuity in exploring issues of exhibition-making, presentation and display; and for her questioning of the conventional hierarchies of the art world."

The Prizes will be awarded by the President of the State of Israel and by the Minister of Education, at a special ceremony **at the Knesset, on 29 May 2011**.

Five annual Wolf Prizes have been awarded since 1978, to outstanding scientists and artists, "for achievements in the interest of mankind and friendly relations among peoples, irrespective of nationality, race, color, religion, sex, or political view." The prizes are given every year in four out of five scientific fields, in rotation: Agriculture, Chemistry, Mathematics, Medicine and Physics. In the Arts, the Prize rotates among Architecture, Music, Painting and Sculpture. A total of 262 scientists and artists from 23 countries, including 18 from Israel, have been honored with this prestigious prize. The Wolf Foundation also disburses scholarships and prizes to excelling students and researchers at Israeli institutions of higher education.

The Wolf Foundation was established by the late German-born inventor, diplomat and philanthropist Dr. Ricardo Wolf. A resident of Cuba for many years, he became Fidel Castro's ambassador to Israel, where he lived until his death in 1981.