

Press Information

Announcement of the 2024 Kyoto Prize Laureates

The Kyoto Prize 2024 goes to a Theoretical Physicist, a Geologist, and a Choreographer.

Kyoto/London, June 14th, 2024. The Inamori Foundation, established in 1984 by Kyocera founder Dr Kazuo Inamori, is pleased to announce the laureates of the 2024 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. €596,500). This year's Prize goes to the following three individuals: John Pendry, Professor of Theoretical Solid State Physics at the Imperial College London, Paul F. Hoffman, Adjunct Professor at the University of Victoria as well as Sturgis Hooper Professor of Geology, Emeritus at Harvard University and William Forsythe, a choreographer.

Kyoto Prize Laureates 2024

Advanced technology: John Pendry theoretically demonstrated that materials with electromagnetic properties not found in nature, such as negative-refractive-index materials (metamaterials) can be realized by designing microstructures smaller than the wavelength of the target electromagnetic waves, thereby laying the groundwork for creating innovative materials such as “superlenses” with subwavelength resolution and “invisibility cloaks.”

Basic sciences: Paul F. Hoffman has accomplished landmark achievements regarding snowball Earth and plate tectonics in Earth's early history that led to the present surface environment teeming with diverse life. Based on geological evidence obtained over 50 years of extensive and precise field research in Arctic Canada and Africa.

Arts and philosophy: William Forsythe radically questions and deconstructs the structure and style of traditional ballet to create new methodologies and aesthetics of theatrical dance. He continues to go beyond the conventional concept of choreography and to extend the potential of the art form using human bodies through various innovative works.

Press photos



John Pendry



Paul F. Hoffman



William Forsythe

Source: Inamori Foundation



For more information on Kyocera: uk.kyocera.com

About Kyocera

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KYOCERA Europe GmbH is a company of the KYOCERA Corporation headquartered in Kyoto/Japan, a world leader in semiconductor, industrial and automotive components as well as electronic components, printing and multifunction systems, and communications technology. The technology group is one of the world's most experienced manufacturers of smart energy systems, with more than 45 years of industry expertise. The Kyocera Group comprises 292 subsidiaries (31 March 2024). In England, Kyocera has a subsidiary in Frimley, KYOCERA Fineceramics Ltd. With around 79,200 employees, Kyocera generated net annual sales of around EUR 12.29 billion in the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

Kyocera is ranked 672 on Forbes magazine's 'Global 2000' list for 2023, and ranked as 'The 100 Most Sustainably Managed Companies in the World' according to the Wall Street Journal. For the second year in a row, Kyocera qualified for the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (Asia-Pacific). As well, Kyocera receives a Gold rating on EcoVadis Sustainability Survey for the second consecutive year and was acknowledged as a 'Top 100 Global Innovator 2023', being one of the world's leading innovators, for the eighth time by Clarivate.

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 (equivalent to approximately €596,500 per prize category).

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