

TANG PRIZE

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TANG PRIZE

| SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

| SINOLOGY

| BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

| RULE OF LAW

THE TANG PRIZE

With the advent of industrialization and globalization, humanity has greatly enjoyed the convenience brought about by science and technology. Yet, a multitude of crises have emerged along the way, such as climate change, wealth gap, and moral degradation. Against this backdrop, Dr. Samuel Yin established the Tang Prize in December 2012 to encourage people across the globe to chart a middle path to achieving sustainable development. It recognizes and supports individuals or organizations for their revolutionary efforts in the four prize categories of Sustainable Development, Biopharmaceutical Science, Sinology, and Rule of Law. The Tang Prize is global in reach, with laureates selected on the basis of the originality of their work along with their contributions to society, irrespective of their nationality, gender, ethnicity and religion.

Rooted in the long-standing cultural traditions of Chinese philosophical thought and in an outlook of mutual enrichment through the convergence with other traditions, the Tang Prize aims to provide fresh impetus to first-class research and development in the 21st century, to bring about positive change to the global community, and to create a brighter future for all humanity.

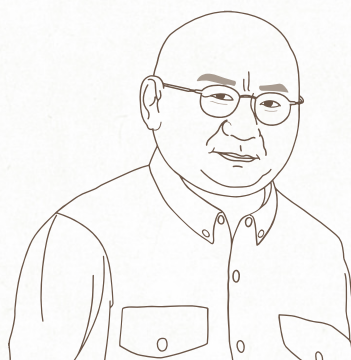


THE FOUNDER

The Tang Prize is an extension of Dr. Samuel Yin's commitment to education, a legacy passed down in the Yin family. Shu-Tien Yin, Dr. Yin's father, often said that one's life should not be defined one's wealth but by one's contributions to others, particularly by providing greater access to education.

Following his father's footsteps, Dr. Yin has helped nurtured a lot of young talent. He established the Kwang-Hua Education Foundation in 1989, which has since provided grants and scholarships to over 160,000 recipients from more than 30 schools. In 1994, he founded the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University and in 1996, he set up the Guanghua Engineering & Technological Science Award. Over the years, he has continued to provide support to educational institutions and help young people realize their potentials in an array of disciplines, ranging from management, medicine, and engineering, to law and the humanities.

Dr. Yin considers education to be the very fabric of life. He shares his outlook and life experiences with students, hoping that they will follow suit and giving back to society by sharing their knowledge. Knowing that education is the key to driving social progress, Dr. Yin established the Tang Prize to encourage curious minds to seek out fresh perspectives and ideas and make the world a better place.



PRIZE & GRANT

Independent Prize Selection Committees of global experts, including Nobel laureates, biennially choose Tang Prize laureates regardless of race, nationality, gender, or religion. Each laureate receives a medal and diploma. The cash prize of US\$1.53 million (approx.) includes a US\$0.31 million research grant. If multiple laureates share a category, the cash prize and grant are divided.

NOMINATION PROCESS

The Tang Prize is presented biennially, with each award cycle spanning a period of two years. In May of the first year, invitations are sent out to renowned scholars and institutions around the world, asking them to suggest nominees by September of the same year. The announcements of winners take place from 18th to 21st of June of the second year, followed by the award ceremony and the Tang Prize Week in September.

2025	May - September Tang Prize invitation to nominate October Tang Prize selection process begins	2026	June 18 - 21 Tang Prize announcements of winners	September Tang Prize Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Award CeremonyBanquetWelcome DinnerLaureate LecturesMaster's Forums
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AWARD CATEGORIES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Tang Prize in Sustainable Development recognizes those who have made extraordinary contributions to the sustainable development of human societies, especially through groundbreaking innovations in science and technology.

BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

The Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science recognizes original biopharmaceutical or biomedical research that has led to significant advances towards preventing, diagnosing and/or treating major human diseases to improve human health.

SINOLOGY

The Tang Prize in Sinology recognizes the study of Sinology in its broadest sense, awarding research on China and its related fields, such as Chinese thought, history, philology, linguistics, archaeology, philosophy, religion, traditional canons, literature, and art (excluding literary and art works). Honoring innovations in the field of Sinology, the Prize showcases Chinese culture and its contributions to the development of human civilization.

RULE OF LAW

All individuals are born equal, and everyone, including states and international organizations, is accountable to the law. For the purpose of the Tang Prize, the Rule of Law encompasses due process and substantive justice, and champions peace, human rights, and sustainable development in order to serve the common good of humankind and nature. The Tang Prize in the Rule of Law recognizes individual(s) or institution(s) who have made significant contributions to the rule of law, reflected not only in the achievement of the candidate(s) in terms of the advancement of legal theory or practice, but also in the realization of the rule of law in contemporary societies through the influences or inspiration of the work of the candidate(s).

MEDAL & DIPLOMA



MEDAL

The Tang Prize Medal was created by Japanese designer Naoto Fukasawa. Shaped like a spiral, it is meant to evoke images of double-stranded DNA, a spiral galaxy, or a dragon. It curves in such a way as to never return to its starting point, a mathematical trait that symbolizes the infinite unravelling of history, growth and life and mankind's endless pursuit of knowledge.

“Ascending dragon,” one of the cultural concepts behind the medal, expresses a state of increasing force, while “descending dragon” refers to the descent of the dragon from above to protect the land below. In Buddhism, “rising dragon” is also a reference to the practice of supplication among monks on the path to enlightenment, while “descending dragon” is associated with the understanding that enlightenment is inherent in all living things.

DIPLOMA

The 2020 Tang Prize diplomas were designed to be in continuous use in the future. They are the works of Jennifer Tsai, managing and creative director of Proad Identity and an award-winning designer in her own right. She showcases her talent by utilizing modern techniques to represent traditional Eastern aesthetics. For the 2020 diplomas, she drew inspiration from Greek philosophers who considered water, earth, wind and fire as the building blocks of our universe. These four elements can be connected to the principles underpinning the Tang Prize's four categories : Water (Sustainable Development) represents the source and continuity of life; Earth (Biopharmaceutical Science) is the soil where we find food and medicine ; Wind (Sinology) is the power that spreads the seeds of culture ; Fire (Rule of Law) signifies the light of thought and the dawn of civilization.

TANG PRIZE LAUREATES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

2024



Omar M. Yaghi (USA)

For extraordinary contributions to sustainable development with his pioneering Metal-Organic and other ultra porous Frameworks that can be tailored for carbon capture, hydrogen and methane storage, as well as water harvesting from desert air.



Video

2022



Jeffrey D. Sachs (USA)

For leading transdisciplinary sustainability science and creating the multilateral movement for its applications from village to nation and to the world.

2020



Jane Goodall (UK)

For her ground-breaking discovery in primatology that redefines human-animal relationship and for her lifelong unparalleled dedication to the conservation of Earth environment.

2018

James E. Hansen
(USA)



Veerabhadran Ramanathan
(USA)



For sounding the alarm on climate change, elucidating the physics of climate forcings and feedbacks, quantifying the dangers of global warming, and tirelessly advocating meaningful action and solutions.

2016



Arthur H. Rosenfeld (USA)

For his lifelong and pioneering innovations in energy efficiency resulting in immense reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions around the world.

2014



Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway)

For her innovation, leadership and implementation of sustainable development that laid out the scientific and technical challenges for the global community to achieve a better balance of economic development, environmental integrity, and social equality for the benefit of all humanity.

BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

2024

Joel F. Habener

(USA)



Svetlana Mojsov

(Macedonia / USA)



Jens Juul Holst

(Denmark)



Video

For the discovery of GLP-1 (7-37) as an insulinotropic factor and the development of GLP-1 (7-37)-based anti-diabetic and anti-obesity drugs.

2022

Katalin Karikó

(Hungary / USA)



Drew Weissman

(USA)



Pieter Cullis

(Canada)



For the discovery of key vaccinology concepts and approaches, leading to the successful development of mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine.

2020

Charles Dinarello

(USA)



Marc Feldmann

(UK / Australia)



Tadamitsu Kishimoto

(Japan)



For the development of cytokine-targeting biological therapies for the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

2018

Tony Hunter

(UK / USA)



Brian J. Druker

(USA)



**John
Mendelsohn**

(USA)



For the discovery of protein tyrosine phosphorylation and tyrosine kinases as oncogenes, leading to successful targeted cancer therapies.

2016

**Emmanuelle
Charpentier**

(France)



**Jennifer
A. Doudna**

(USA)



Feng Zhang

(USA)



For the development of CRISPR/Cas9 as a breakthrough genome editing platform that promises to revolutionize biomedical research and disease treatment.

2014

James P. Allison

(USA)



Tasuku Honjo

(Japan)



For the discoveries of CTLA-4 and PD-1 as immune inhibitory molecules that led to their applications in cancer immunotherapy.

SINOLOGY

2024



Hsu Cho-yun (ROC / USA)

For his holistic approach to the study of Chinese history, his engagement with the cultural and intellectual exchanges between China and the world, and his capacity to broach contemporary questions from the perspective of antiquity. With his erudition and public spirit, Professor Hsu best exemplifies a Sinologist's historical sensibility and worldly vision.



Video

2022



Jessica Rawson (UK)

For her gift and mastery of the craft of the visible to read the art and artifacts of Chinese civilization. By giving voice to the ancient world of objects, she has taught generations how to see when they look at things, and her acuity and vast visual learning have given new insight into the world of the lineages, transformations, and migrations of mute things.

2020



Wang Gungwu (Australia)

For his ground-breaking research on the Chinese world order, Chinese overseas, and Chinese migratory experience. As the leading historian on Sino-Southeast Asian relations, he develops a unique approach to understanding China by scrutinizing its long and complex relation with its southern neighbors. His erudition and insight have significantly enriched the explanation of the Chinese people's changing place in the world, traditionally developed from an internalist perspective or in relation to the West.

2018

Stephen Owen

(USA)



For his penetrating scholarship and theoretical ingenuity in Classical Chinese prose and poetry, especially Tang poetry and its translation.

Yoshinobu Shiba

(Japan)



For his mastery and depth of insight in Chinese social-economic history achieved through his original theoretical lens that fuses the distinctive fortes of Chinese, Japanese, and Western scholarship.

2016



William Theodore de Bary (USA)

For his pioneering contributions in Confucian studies. In his remarkable academic career spanning over seven decades, he has written and edited over 30 books with many of them making ground-breaking contributions that provide both enlightening insight and honest critique into Confucianism. Recognized for establishing the field of Neo-Confucianism in the West, Professor de Bary is indeed a leading authority in the field of Sinology.

2014



Yu Ying-Shih (USA)

For his mastery of and insight into Chinese intellectual, political, and cultural history with an emphasis on his profound research into the history of public intellectuals in China. He has reinterpreted the tradition of thought in China and revived the importance of intellectual history by shedding new light on the value, richness, and current significance of Chinese culture.

RULE OF LAW

2024



Mary Robinson

(Ireland)



Video

For her powerful advocacy on behalf of the most disadvantaged in different spheres, including gender equality, poverty alleviation, human rights, and climate justice. Her passionate endeavors demonstrated an effective combination of legal acumen and practical solutions. From the national to the global stage, legal and political, she innovatively transformed and expanded the various positions in which she served, to strengthen the rule of law.

2022



Cheryl Saunders

(Australia)

For her pioneering contributions to comparative constitutional law, and in particular her work on constitution-building in the Asia-Pacific region, by applying her scholarship to inspire and advise constitution-making exercises, often under challenging circumstances, and by consistently broadening the boundaries of comparative constitutional law scholarship through active engagement, dialogue and collaboration with scholars and political actors at home and abroad.

2020

**Bangladesh
Environmental
Lawyers Association**

(Bangladesh)



**Dejusticia:
The Center for Law,
Justice and Society**

(Colombia)



**The Legal
Agenda**

(Lebanon)



For their efforts in furthering the rule of law and its institutions through education and advocacy. Utilizing innovative strategic litigation, informed by rigorous scholarship, these organizations have shown exemplary perseverance in promoting greater individual, social and environmental justice, in milieus where the foundations of the rule of law are under severe challenge.

2018



Joseph Raz (UK)

For his path-breaking contributions to the rule of law, and for deepening our understanding of the very nature of law, legal reasoning, and the relationship between law, morality and freedom.

2016



Louise Arbour (Canada)

For her enduring contributions to international criminal justice and the protection of human rights, to promoting peace, justice and security at home and abroad, and to working within the law to expand the frontiers of freedom for all.

2014



Albie Sachs (South Africa)

For his many contributions to human rights and justice globally through an understanding of the rule of law in which the dignity of all persons is respected and the strengths and values of all communities are embraced. He is recognized in particular for his efforts in the realization of the rule of law in a free and democratic South Africa, working as an activist, lawyer, scholar, and framer of a new Constitution to heal the divisions of the past and to establish a society that respects diversity and is based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.

TANG PRIZE ACTIVITIES



Tang Prize Exhibition



Award Ceremony



Banquet



Tang Prize Brand Video



Laureate Lectures



Master's Forums



Youth Symposia



TANG PRIZE FOUNDATION



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