

Press Information

Announcement of the 2019 Kyoto Prize Laureates

Chemist, Astrophysicist and Stage Director

Kyoto/London, June 14th, 2019. The Inamori Foundation is pleased to announce the laureates of the 2019 Kyoto Prize, an international award presented to individuals who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind. The Kyoto Prize Presentation Ceremony will be held in Kyoto, Japan on November 10.

Each laureate will receive a diploma, the Kyoto Prize medal (20K gold), and prize money of 100 million yen (currently approx. 818,000 €). This year's Prize goes to the following three individuals: Dr. Ching W. Tang, IAS Bank of East Asia Professor at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology as well as Professor Emeritus at the University of Rochester; Dr. James Gunn, Emeritus Eugene Higgins Professor of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University; and Mrs. Ariane Mnouchkine, stage director and founder of the Théâtre du Soleil.

Dr. Tang studied light emission processes in electrically-driven organic materials and invented a new device structure in which two carefully-selected materials were stacked, allowing for high-efficiency light emission at low drive voltages. This pioneering work has led to the practical use of organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs) and their widespread application in displays and lighting.

Dr. James Gunn led the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, which produced a three-dimensional digital cosmic map encompassing a broad region. He played a leading role in the project, including planning, instrument development, and data analysis, and contributed to the elucidation of the evolutionary history of the universe. He also published many pioneering astrophysical theories. Through these achievements, he has provided us a significant understanding of the universe.

Mrs. Ariane Mnouchkine, the founder and director of the Théâtre du Soleil, has been continuously producing masterpieces with historical and political themes. Referring to traditional performances of both the East and the West, she has been innovating theatrical expressions through her collaborative creations based on the methodology of her unique theatrical organization which eschews hierarchical order.

Press photos



Dr. Ching W. Tang



Dr. James Gunn



Mrs. Ariane Mnouchkine

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 286 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2019), 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 solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 40 years of know-how in the industry.

The company is ranked #612 on Forbes magazine's 2018 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies. With a global workforce of over 77,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €12,99 million in fiscal year 2018/2019. 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 kitchen products. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the United Kingdom: Kyocera Fineceramics Ltd. and Kyocera Document Solutions.

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 and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (currently converted at approximately €818,000 per prize category).

Contact

Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH
Daniela Faust
Manager Corporate Communications
Hammfelddamm 6
41460 Neuss
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 188
Fax: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 150
Mobil: +49 (0)175/727 57 06
daniela.faust@kyocera.de
www.Kyocera.de

Contact:

Takeshi Nakajima (Mr.), Michiaki Koizumi (Mr.)
Communications Division
Inamori Foundation
Tel: +81-75-353-7272
E-mail: press@inamori-f.or.jp