AMS Prizes & Awards

Ciprian Foias Prize in Operator Theory

The Ciprian Foias Prize in Operator Theory is awarded for notable work in Operator Theory published during the preceding six years. The work must be published in a recognized, peer-reviewed venue.

About this Prize
This prize was established in 2020 in memory of Ciprian Foias (1933–2020) by colleagues and friends. He was an influential scholar in operator theory and fluid mechanics, a generous mentor, and an enthusiastic advocate of the mathematical community.

The current prize amount is US$5,000, and the prize is awarded every three years.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/profession/prizes-awards/ciprian-prize

Levi L. Conant Prize

This prize was established in 2000 in honor of Levi L. Conant to recognize the best expository paper published in either the Notices of the AMS or the Bulletin of the AMS in the preceding five years.

About this Prize
Levi L. Conant was a mathematician and educator who spent most of his career as a faculty member at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He was head of the mathematics department from 1908 until his death and served as interim president of WPI from 1911 to 1913. Conant was noted as an outstanding teacher and an active scholar. He published a number of articles in scientific journals and wrote four textbooks. His will provided for funds to be donated to the AMS upon his wife’s death.

Prize winners are invited to present a public lecture at Worcester Polytechnic Institute as part of their Levi L. Conant Lecture Series, which was established in 2006.

The Conant Prize is awarded annually in the amount of US$1,000.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/conant-prize

Oswald Veblen Prize in Geometry

The award is made for a notable research work in geometry or topology that has appeared in the last six years. The work must be published in a recognized, peer-reviewed venue.

About this Prize
This prize was established in 1961 in memory of Professor Oswald Veblen through a fund contributed by former students and colleagues. The fund was later doubled by the widow of Professor Veblen. An anonymous donor generously augmented the fund in 2008. In 2013, in honor of her late father, John L. Synge, who knew and admired Oswald Veblen, Cathleen Synge Morawetz and her husband, Herbert, substantially increased the endowment.

The current prize amount of US$5,000 is awarded every three years.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/veblen-prize
Chevalley Prize in Lie Theory

The Chevalley Prize is awarded for notable work in Lie Theory published during the preceding six years; a recipient should be at most twenty-five years past the PhD.

About this Prize
The Chevalley Prize was established in 2014 by George Lusztig to honor Claude Chevalley (1909–1984). Chevalley was a founding member of the Bourbaki group. He made fundamental contributions to class field theory, algebraic geometry, and group theory. His three-volume treatise on Lie groups served as standard reference for many decades. His classification of semisimple groups over an arbitrary algebraically closed field provides a link between Lie's theory of continuous groups and the theory of finite groups, to the enormous enrichment of both subjects.

The current prize amount is US$8,000, awarded in even-numbered years, without restriction on society membership, citizenship, or venue of publication.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/chevalley-prize

E. H. Moore Research Article Prize

The Moore Prize is awarded for an outstanding research article to have appeared in one of the AMS primary research journals (namely, the Journal of the AMS, Proceedings of the AMS, Transactions of the AMS, Memoirs of the AMS, Mathematics of Computation, Electronic Journal of Conformal Geometry and Dynamics, and Electronic Journal of Representation Theory) during the six calendar years ending a full year before the meeting at which the prize is awarded.

About this Prize
The prize was established in 2002 in honor of E. H. Moore. Among other activities, Moore founded the Chicago branch of the American Mathematical Society, served as the Society’s sixth President (1901–1902), delivered the Colloquium Lectures in 1906, and founded and nurtured the Transactions of the AMS.

The current prize amount is US$5,000, awarded every three years.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/moore-prize

David P. Robbins Prize

The Robbins Prize is for a paper with the following characteristics: it shall report on novel research in algebra, combinatorics or discrete mathematics and shall have a significant experimental component; and it shall be on a topic which is broadly accessible and shall provide a simple statement of the problem and clear exposition of the work. Papers published within the six calendar years preceding the year in which the prize is awarded are eligible for consideration.

About this Prize
This prize was established in 2005 in memory of David P. Robbins by members of his family. Robbins, who died in 2003, received his PhD in 1970 from MIT. He was a long-time member of the Institute for Defense Analysis Center for Communications Research and a prolific mathematician whose work (much of it classified) was in discrete mathematics.

The current prize amount is US$5,000 and the prize is awarded every 3 years.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/robbins-prize

Award for Distinguished Public Service

The Award for Distinguished Public Service recognizes a research mathematician who has made recent or sustained distinguished contributions to the mathematics profession through public service.

About this Prize
The AMS Council established this award in response to a recommendation from its Committee on Science Policy. The US$4,000 award is presented every two years.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/public-service-award
Award for Impact on the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics

This award is given annually to a mathematician (or group of mathematicians) who has made significant contributions of lasting value to mathematics education. Priorities of the award include recognition of:
(a) accomplished mathematicians who have worked directly with pre-college teachers to enhance teachers’ impact on mathematics achievement for all students, or
(b) sustainable and replicable contributions by mathematicians to improving the mathematics education of students in the first two years of college.

About this Award
The Award for Impact on the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics was established by the AMS Committee on Education in 2013. The endowment fund that supports the award was established in 2012 by a contribution from Kenneth I. and Mary Lou Gross in honor of their daughters Laura and Karen.

The US$1,000 award is given annually. The recipient is selected by the Committee on Education.

Next Prize: January 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021

To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/impact.

Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department

This award recognizes a department which has distinguished itself by undertaking an unusual or particularly effective program of value to the mathematics community, internally or in relation to the rest of society. Examples might include a department that runs a notable minority outreach program, a department that has instituted an unusually effective industrial mathematics internship program, a department that has promoted mathematics so successfully that a large fraction of its university’s undergraduate population majors in mathematics, or a department that has made some form of innovation in its research support to faculty and/or graduate students, or which has created a special and innovative environment for some aspect of mathematics research.

About this Award
This award was established in 2004. For the first three awards (2006–2008), the prize amount was US$1,200. The prize was endowed by an anonymous donor in 2008, and starting with the 2009 prize, the amount is US$5,000.

This US$5,000 prize is awarded annually. Departments of mathematical sciences in North America that offer at least a bachelor’s degree in mathematical sciences are eligible.

Next Award: 2022
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021
Nomination Procedure: A letter of nomination may be submitted by one or more individuals. Nomination of the writer’s own institution is permitted. The letter should describe the specific program(s) for which the department is being nominated as well as the achievements which make the program(s) an outstanding success, and may include any ancillary documents which support the success of the program(s). Where possible, the letter and documentation should address how these successes came about by 1) systematic, reproducible changes in programs that might be implemented by others, and/or 2) have value outside the mathematical community. The letter should not exceed two pages, with supporting documentation not to exceed an additional three pages.

To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/department-award.

Mathematics Programs that Make a Difference

This Award for Mathematics Programs that Make a Difference was established in 2005 by the AMS’s Committee on the Profession to compile and publish a series of profiles of programs that:
1. aim to bring more persons from underrepresented backgrounds into some portion of the pipeline beginning at the undergraduate level and leading to advanced degrees in mathematics and professional success, or retain them once in the pipeline;
2. have achieved documentable success in doing so; and
3. are potentially replicable models.

About this Award
This award brings recognition to outstanding programs that have successfully addressed the issues of underrepresented
groups in mathematics. Examples of such groups include racial and ethnic minorities, women, low-income students, and first-generation college students.

One program is selected each year by a Selection Committee appointed by the AMS President and is awarded US$1,000 provided by the Mark Green and Kathryn Kert Green Fund for Inclusion and Diversity.

Preference is given to programs with significant participation by underrepresented minorities. Note that programs aimed at pre-college students are eligible only if there is a significant component of the program benefiting individuals from underrepresented groups at or beyond the undergraduate level. Nomination of one’s own institution or program is permitted and encouraged.

Next Award: 2022

Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021

Nomination Procedure: The letter of nomination should describe the specific program being nominated and the achievements that make the program an outstanding success. It should include clear and current evidence of that success. A strong nomination typically includes a description of the program’s activities and goals, a brief history of the program, evidence of its effectiveness, and statements from participants about its impact. The letter of nomination should not exceed two pages, with supporting documentation not to exceed three more pages. Up to three supporting letters may be included in addition to these five pages. Nomination of the writer’s own institution or program is permitted. Non-winning nominations will automatically be reconsidered for the award for the next two years.

To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/make-a-diff-award.

Joint Prizes & Awards

Frank and Brennie Morgan Prize for Outstanding Research in Mathematics by an Undergraduate Student (AMS-MAA-SIAM)

The Morgan Prize is awarded each year to an undergraduate student (or students for joint work) for outstanding research in mathematics. Any student who was enrolled as an undergraduate in December at a college or university in the United States or its possessions, Canada, or Mexico is eligible for the prize.

The prize recipient’s research need not be confined to a single paper; it may be contained in several papers. However, the paper (or papers) to be considered for the prize must be completed while the student is an undergraduate. Publication of research is not required.

About this Prize

The prize was established in 1995. It is entirely endowed by a gift from Mrs. Frank (Brennie) Morgan. It is made jointly by the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.

The current prize amount is $1,200, awarded annually.

Next Prize: January 2022

Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021

To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/morgan-prize.

Norbert Wiener Prize in Applied Mathematics (AMS-SIAM)

The Wiener Prize is awarded for an outstanding contribution to “applied mathematics in the highest and broadest sense.”

About this Prize

This prize was established in 1967 in honor of Professor Norbert Wiener and was endowed by a fund from the Department of Mathematics of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The endowment was further supplemented by a generous donor.

Since 2004, the US$5,000 prize has been awarded every three years. The American Mathematical Society and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics award this prize jointly; the recipient must be a member of one of these societies.

Next Prize: January 2022

Nomination Period: March 1–June 30, 2021

To make a nomination, go to https://www.ams.org/wiener-prize.