AMS Prizes & Awards

Bôcher Memorial Prize

The Bôcher Prize is awarded for a notable paper in analysis published during the preceding six years. The work must be published in a recognized, peer-reviewed venue.

About this Prize
The first to be offered by the AMS, this prize was founded in memory of Professor Maxime Bôcher, who served as president of the AMS from 1909–1910. The original endowment was contributed by members of the Society. A generous donor augmented the endowment in 2008.

The current prize amount is US$5,000, and the prize is awarded every three years.
Next Prize: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/cole-prize-number-theory.

Cole Prize in Number Theory

This prize recognizes a notable research work in number theory that has appeared in the last six years. The work must be published in a recognized, peer-reviewed venue.

About this Prize
This prize (and the Frank Nelson Cole Prize in Algebra) was founded in honor of Professor Frank Nelson Cole upon his retirement from the American Mathematical Society; he served as AMS secretary for twenty-five years and as editor-in-chief of the Bulletin for twenty-one years. The original fund was donated by Professor Cole from moneys presented to him upon his retirement, and was augmented by contributions from members of the Society. The fund was later doubled by his son, Charles A. Cole, and supported by family members. It has been further supplemented by George Lusztig and by an anonymous donor.

The current prize amount of US$5,000 is awarded every three years.
Next Prize: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/cole-prize-number-theory.

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 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/conant-prize.

Mary P. Dolciani Prize for Excellence in Research

The AMS Mary P. Dolciani Prize for Excellence in Research recognizes a mathematician from a department that does not grant a PhD who has an active research program in mathematics and a distinguished record of scholarship.
The primary criterion for the prize is an active research program as evidenced by a strong record of peer-reviewed publications.

Additional selection criteria may include the following:
- Evidence of a robust research program involving undergraduate students in mathematics;
- Demonstrated success in mentoring undergraduates whose work leads to peer-reviewed publication, poster presentations, or conference presentations;
- Membership in the AMS at the time of nomination and receipt of the award is preferred but not required.

About this Prize
This prize is funded by a grant from the Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation. Mary P. Dolciani Halloran (1923–1985) was a gifted mathematician, educator, and author. She devoted her life to developing excellence in mathematics education and was a leading author in the field of mathematical textbooks at the college and secondary school levels.

The current prize amount is US$5,000 and is awarded annually.

Next Prize: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/dolciani-prize.

Joseph L. Doob Prize
The Doob Prize recognizes a single, relatively recent, outstanding research book that makes a seminal contribution to the research literature, reflects the highest standards of research exposition, and promises to have a deep and long-term impact in its area. The book must have been published within the six calendar years preceding the year in which it is nominated. Books may be nominated by members of the Society, by members of the selection committee, by members of AMS editorial committees, or by publishers.

About this Prize
The prize (originally called the Book Prize) was endowed in 2005 by Paul and Virginia Halmos and renamed in honor of AMS president Joseph L. Doob. Paul Halmos (1916–2006) was Doob’s first PhD student. Doob received his PhD from Harvard in 1932 and three years later joined the faculty at the University of Illinois, where he remained until his retirement in 1978. He worked in probability theory and measure theory, served as AMS president in 1963–1964, and received the AMS Steele Prize in 1984 “for his fundamental work in establishing probability as a branch of mathematics.”

Leonard Eisenbud Prize for Mathematics and Physics
The Eisenbud Prize honors a work or group of works, published in the preceding six years, that brings mathematics and physics closer together. Thus, for example, the prize might be given for a contribution to mathematics inspired by modern developments in physics or for the development of a physical theory exploiting modern mathematics in a novel way.

About this Prize
This prize was established in 2006 in memory of the mathematical physicist, Leonard Eisenbud (1913–2004), by his son and daughter-in-law, David and Monika Eisenbud. Leonard Eisenbud was a student of Eugene Wigner. He was particularly known for the book Nuclear Structure (1958), which he co-authored with Wigner. A friend of Paul Erdős, he once threatened to write a dictionary of “English to Erdős and Erdős to English.” He was one of the founders of the Physics Department at SUNY Stony Brook, where he taught from 1957 until his retirement in 1983. In later years he became interested in the foundations of quantum mechanics and in the interaction of physics with culture and politics, teaching courses on the anti-science movement.

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

Next Prize: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/eisenbud-prize.

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,
(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 Award: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/impact.

Mathematics Programs that Make a Difference

The 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: 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/department-award.

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: 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
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 success (1) came about by 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.
Calls for Nominations & Applications
FROM THE AMS SECRETARY

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 US$1,200, awarded annually.

Next Prize: January 2023
Nomination Period: March 1–June 30
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/morgan-prize.

JPBM Communications Award

This award is given each year to reward and encourage communicators who, on a sustained basis, bring mathematical ideas and information to non-mathematical audiences.

About this Award
This award was established by the Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) in 1988. JPBM is a collaborative effort of the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and the American Statistical Association.

Up to two awards of US$2,000 are made annually. Both mathematicians and non-mathematicians are eligible.

Next Award: January 2023
Nomination Period: Open
To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/jpbm-comm-award.

Nominations should be submitted on mathprograms.org. Note: Nominations collected before September 15th in year N will be considered for an award in year N+2.

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.