AMS Prizes & Awards

NEW! Ivo and Renata Babuška Thesis Prize

The Ivo and Renata Babuška Thesis Prize is awarded annually ($3,000) to the author of an outstanding PhD thesis in mathematics, interdisciplinary in nature, possibly with applications to other fields.

About this Prize

Ivo Babuška is a Czech-American mathematician whose honors include five doctorates honoris causa, the Czechoslovak State prize for Mathematics, the Leroy P. Steele Prize, the Birkhoff Prize, the Humboldt Award of Federal Republic of Germany, the John von Neumann Medal, the Neuron Prize Czech Republic, the ICAM Congress Medal (Newton Gauss), the Bolzano Medal, and the Honorary Medal De Scientia Et Humanitate Optime Meritis. Asteroid 36060 Babuška was named in his honor by the International Astronomical Union.

Renata Babuška (nee Mikulášek) was Ivo’s wife and partner for 63 years. Renata grew up in Prague, Czechoslovakia and graduated from Charles University in 1953 with a degree in Mathematical Statistical Engineering. Upon graduation, she was assigned to the Education Department as an administrator evaluating universities and technical schools. Two years later she became an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the Czech Technical University. After moving to the US, Renata worked as a data and computing management consultant for different government agencies in Washington, DC. She liked to point out that behind every successful man is a strong woman and he often said that without Renata, he would not have accomplished all that he did.

Babuška was a Distinguished Professor at the University of Maryland at College Park and then the Robert B. Trull Chair in Engineering, TICAM Senior Research Scientist, Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics, and Professor of Mathematics at the University of Texas, Austin. He is a Fellow of SIAM, ACM, and ICAM, a member of the US National Academy of Engineering, the Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Sciences of Texas, the European Academy of Sciences, and an honorary Foreign Member of the Czech Learned Society.

Babuška’s work spans the fields of theoretical and applied mathematics with emphasis on numerical methods, finite element methods, and computational mechanics. His interest in fostering collaboration among mathematicians, engineers, and physicists led him to establish this prize to encourage and recognize interdisciplinary work with practical applications.

The Ivo and Renata Babuška Thesis Prize is awarded in line with other AMS Prizes and Awards, according to governance rules and practice in effect at that time.

Next Prize: Inaugural Prize January 2024

Nomination Period: 1 February – 30 June 2023

Nomination Procedure:

1. The prize will recognize a thesis for a PhD granted between July 1 of year -1 and June 30 of year 0 and will be presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January of year +1.
2. The nominating institution will be a PhD-granting institution that is either a. located in the United States of America (USA), or b. located outside the USA and an institutional AMS member at the time of the nomination.
3. One PhD thesis may be nominated by a nominating institution.
4. The nominating institution will submit a copy of the thesis along with a letter in support of the nomination, and both will be written in English.
5. A selection committee will be appointed by the AMS President.

To make a nomination go to https://www.ams.org/babuska-prize.
NEW! The Elias M. Stein Prize for New Perspectives in Analysis

The Elias M. Stein Prize for New Perspectives in Analysis is awarded for the development of groundbreaking methods in analysis which demonstrate promise to revitalize established areas or create new opportunities for mathematical discovery. The current prize amount is US$5,000 and the prize is awarded every three years for work published in the preceding six years.

About this Prize
This prize was endowed in 2022 by students, colleagues, and friends of Elias M. Stein to honor his remarkable legacy in the area of mathematical analysis. Stein is remembered for identifying many deep principles and methods which transcend their original context, and for opening entirely new areas of research which captivated the attention and imagination of generations of analysts. This prize seeks to recognize mathematicians at any career stage who, like Stein, have found exciting new avenues for mathematical exploration in subjects old or new or made deep insights which demonstrate promise to reshape thinking across areas.

Next Prize: Inaugural Prize January 2024

Nomination Period: 1 February – 30 June 2023

Nomination Procedure: Nominations can be submitted between February 1 and June 30. Nominations should include a letter of nomination and a brief citation to be used in the event that the nomination is successful.

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

Joint Prizes & Awards

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 Prize: January 2024

Nomination Period: open

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