

## Press Information

### **Inamori Foundation Awards the 35th Kyoto Prize to Scientists and Artist in the Fields of "Advanced Technology", "Basic Science", and "Arts and Philosophy"**

**On 10th November 2019, chemist Dr. Ching W. Tang, astrophysicist Dr. James Gunn, and founder of Théâtre du Soleil Ariane Mnouchkine received the Kyoto Prize in the ancient Japanese imperial capital. This prize is considered one of the most important international awards for the lifetime achievements of dignitaries in science and culture, in addition to the Nobel Prize.**

**Kyoto/London, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.** This year's laureates received the 35th Kyoto Prize in the categories of "Advanced Technology", "Basic Sciences", and "Arts and Philosophy." Each year, the Inamori Foundation awards this highly prestigious honor on November 10th in a formal ceremony at the Kyoto International Conference Center. All three award winners accepted the prize in the ancient Japanese imperial capital in the presence of Princess Takamado, a member of the Imperial Family of Japan, and more than one thousand international guests from the fields of business, politics, and culture. The Kyoto Prize includes a certificate, the Kyoto Prize medal made of , and prize money of 100 million yen (roughly EUR 828,000) for each laureate.

#### **Kyoto Prize: An Honor with Tradition**

The Kyoto Prize was established in 1984 by Kazuo Inamori, founder of Kyocera, one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry based in Kyoto. In the past 34 years, laureates included important dignitaries such as philosopher Jürgen Habermas, choreographer Pina Bausch as well as Japanese fashion designer Issey Miyake. Physicist Dr. Michel Mayor, Kyoto Prize laureate in the category "Basic Sciences" in 2015, just recently received the Nobel Prize of Physics. Besides medical scientist Dr. Tasuku Honju and molecular biologist Yoshinori Ohsumi, Dr. Mayor is the 11<sup>th</sup> laureate of the Kyoto Prize who was also awarded the Nobel Prize.

#### **The Kyoto Prize laureates 2019**

**Dr. Ching W. Tang, China – IAS Bank of East Asia Professor at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology as well as Professor Emeritus an der University of Rochester**

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 E. Gunn, USA – Emeritus Eugene Higgins Professor of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University**

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.

**Ariane Mnouchkine, Frankreich – Founder and director of Théâtre du Soleil**

Mrs. Ariane Mnouchkine, 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.

Find more information about the Kyoto Prize and the Inamori Foundation at <http://www.kyotoprize.org/en/>



For more information on Kyocera: [www.kyocera.co.uk](http://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 #655 on Forbes magazine's 2019 "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 (converted at approximately €828,000 per prize category).

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