

CONTACT:

Rodney Ferguson
202-457-8100 (office); 202-262-1684 (cell)
rferguson@lipmanhearne.com

Joelle Ziemian
202-457-8100 (office)
jziemian@lipmanhearne.com

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25 MacARTHUR FELLOWS ANNOUNCED BY MacARTHUR FOUNDATION TODAY

One call out of the blue – \$500,000 – No strings attached

CHICAGO (SEPTEMBER 20, 2005) – The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation today named 25 new MacArthur Fellows for 2005. Each received a phone call from the Foundation this week informing them that they will be given \$500,000 in “no strings attached” support over the next five years.

MacArthur Fellows are selected for their creativity, originality, and potential. By providing resources without stipulations or reporting requirements, the MacArthur Foundation offers the opportunity for Fellows to accelerate their current activities or take their work in new directions. The unusual level of independence afforded to the Fellows underscores the spirit of freedom intrinsic to creative endeavors.

“The call can be life-changing, coming as it does out of the blue and offering highly creative women and men the gift of time and the unfettered opportunity to explore, create, and contribute,” said Jonathan F. Fanton, president of the MacArthur Foundation.

Recipients this year include:

- a **molecular biologist** reconstructing the emergence of multicellular organisms from unicellular life (Nicole King)
- a **sculptor** integrating architecture and the optical effects of color and light into exquisitely constructed, contemplative spaces (Teresita Fernandez)
- a **pharmacist** reducing preventable drug and drug delivery errors in the healthcare industry (Michael Cohen)
- a **laser physicist** engineering state-of-the-art lasers for novel and important applications in such fields as environmental monitoring, medicine, industry, and communications (Claire Gmachl)
- a **conservation biologist** protecting endangered, diverse and previously unknown plants and animals of Madagascar (Steven Goodman)
- a **violinmaker** producing new and world-class instruments for the twenty-first century (Joseph Curtin)

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD ONE

- a **clinician/researcher** translating findings on the molecular genetics of breast cancer in African and African-American women into innovative clinical practices in the United States and abroad (Olufunmilayo Olopade)
- a **rare book preservationist** raising the profile of the book as one of humankind's greatest inventions (Terry Belanger)
- a **photographer** using the personalizing power of portraiture to bring the faces of the world's displaced into focus (Fazel Sheikh)
- a **fisherman** fusing the roles of applied scientist and lobsterman to respond to increasing threats to the fishery ecosystem (Ted Ames)

A complete list of the new Fellows and their areas of activity is attached to this release.

Editors: Full biographies and photos of this year's Fellows, as well as background information about the program, can be found on a password-protected Web site, <http://www.macarthurfellows.org>. To obtain a user name and password, contact Rodney Ferguson or Joelle Ziemian at 202-457-8100. (The list of previous recipients from 1981 to 2004 can be found on the MacArthur Foundation's Web site at <http://www.macfound.org>.)

"For the past 25 years, each announcement of new MacArthur Fellows has been an opportunity to recognize the critical role played in society by highly creative people working across a wide spectrum of activity. MacArthur Fellows reveal the wonders of the natural world, inspire us with their original thoughts and writing, and offer important new approaches for addressing significant social challenges on local, national, and global scales. Through our support of these twenty five remarkable people, we seek to foster their future creative works, as well as to highlight the potential of the individual in shaping a better future for us all," said Fanton.

The MacArthur Fellows Program was the first major grantmaking initiative of the Foundation. The inaugural class of MacArthur Fellows was named in 1981. Including this year's Fellows, 707 people, ranging in age from 18 to 82, have been named MacArthur Fellows since the inception of the program.

Daniel J. Socolow, the director of the MacArthur Fellows Program, noted that "the new MacArthur Fellows illustrate our conviction that talented individuals, free to follow their insights and instincts, will make a difference in shaping the future. As individuals, each is highly focused, tenacious, and creative. As a group, the new MacArthur Fellows are bold and risk-taking people changing our landscape and advancing our possibilities."

The selection process begins with formal nominations. At any given time, approximately one hundred anonymous nominators assist the Foundation in identifying people who should be considered for a MacArthur Fellowship. Nominations are only accepted from invited nominators, a list that is constantly renewed throughout the year. They are chosen from many fields and challenged to identify people who demonstrate exceptional creativity and promise. A 12-member Selection Committee, whose members also serve anonymously, meets regularly to review files, narrow the list, and make final recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Directors. The number of Fellows selected each year is not fixed; typically, it varies between 20 and 25.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD TWO

About the Foundation

As one of the nation's largest private philanthropic foundations, the MacArthur Foundation has awarded more than \$3 billion in grants since it began operations in 1978. Today it has assets of approximately \$5 billion.

The Foundation believes its grantmaking is most effective when focused upon relatively few areas of work, combined with sufficient resources over a long enough period of time to make a measurable difference. Through the support it provides, the Foundation fosters the development of new knowledge, nourishes individual creativity, strengthens institutions, participates in the formation of effective policy, and provides information to the public, primarily through support for public interest media. Annual grantmaking totals approximately \$175 million.

The Foundation makes grants through three other programs in addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program. The Program on Human and Community Development supports organizations working primarily on national issues, including community development, regional policy, housing, public education, juvenile justice, and mental health policy. The Program on Global Security and Sustainability supports organizations engaged in international issues, including peace and security, conservation and sustainable development, population and reproductive health, and human rights. The General Program supports public interest media and the production of independent documentary films.

The Foundation is named for John D. MacArthur (1897-1978), who developed and owned Bankers Life and Casualty Company and other businesses, as well as considerable property in Florida and New York. His wife Catherine (1909-1981) held positions in many of these companies and served as a director of the Foundation.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD THREE

Complete list of MacArthur Fellows for 2005

Marin Alsop

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
Poole, England
Age: 48

Conductor introducing a varied and challenging repertoire with a unique presentation approach and newly interpreting classical music to orchestras and audiences alike.

Ted Ames

Unaffiliated
Stonington, Maine
Age: 66

Fisherman fusing the roles of applied scientist and lobsterman to respond to increasing threats to the fishery ecosystem and to suggest needed changes in fisheries management.

Terry Belanger

University Professor and Honorary Curator of Special Collections
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia
Age: 64

Rare Book Preservationist raising the profile of the book as one of humankind's greatest inventions and as an integral part of the history of technology and human communication.

Edet Belzberg

Unaffiliated
New York, New York
Age: 35

Documentary Filmmaker capturing riveting and wrenching stories that depict the lives and realities of children in overlooked and under-explored conditions.

Majora Carter

Founder and Executive Director
Sustainable South Bronx
Bronx, New York
Age: 38

Urban Revitalization Strategist transforming the quality of life for South Bronx residents by creating new opportunities for transportation, recreation, nutrition, and economic development.

Lu Chen

Assistant Professor of Neurobiology
University of California / Berkeley
Berkeley, California
Age: 33

Neuroscientist probing the complexities of synaptic transmission in the brain, gaining new insights into the processes of learning and memory.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD FOUR

Michael Cohen

President
Institute for Safe Medication Practices
Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania
Age: 61

Pharmacist reducing preventable drug and drug delivery mistakes by formulating solutions and giving national visibility to the ubiquitous and serious problems of medication error in the healthcare industry.

Joseph Curtin

Principal
Joseph Curtin Studios
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Age: 52

Violinmaker introducing to a venerable craft new strategies, expertise, and materials to produce new and world-class violins for the twenty-first century.

Aaron Dworkin

Founder and President
The Sphinx Organization
Detroit, Michigan
Age: 35

Music Educator opening access for increased numbers of minorities to careers in classical music and giving voice to diverse talent and perspective in American symphonies.

Teresita Fernández

Unaffiliated
New York, New York
Age: 37

Sculptor integrating architecture and the optical effects of color and light into exquisitely constructed, contemplative spaces.

Claire Gmachl

Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey
Age: 38

Laser Technologist engineering state-of-the-art lasers for novel applications in environmental monitoring, clinical diagnoses, chemical process control, and homeland security.

Sue Goldie

Associate Professor of Health Decision Science
Harvard University / School of Public Health
Boston, Massachusetts
Age: 43

Physician / Researcher applying rigorous analyses and interventions to transform women's healthcare around the world and to reduce female morbidity and mortality in underserved populations.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD FIVE

Steven Goodman

Field Biologist, Department of Zoology
The Field Museum of Natural History
Chicago, Illinois
Antananarivo, Madagascar
Age: 48

Conservation Biologist studying, documenting, and protecting the endangered, diverse, and previously unknown plants and animals of Madagascar.

Pehr Harbury

Associate Professor of Biochemistry
Stanford University
Stanford, California
Age: 40

Biochemist exploring the structure and activity of proteins, and developing new methods for synthesizing drugs and other biologically active molecules.

Nicole King

Assistant Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology
University of California / Berkeley
Berkeley, California
Age: 35

Molecular Biologist reconstructing the emergence of multicellular organisms from unicellular life and shedding new light on the development of genes and the process of evolution.

Jon Kleinberg

Professor of Computer Science
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York
Age: 33

Computer Scientist revealing the deep structure of complex networks such as genomes or computer networks, and creating new methods to extract the information embedded in them.

Jonathan Lethem

Unaffiliated
Brooklyn, New York
Age: 41

Novelist weaving the conventions of noir mysteries, westerns, science fiction, and comic books into narratives that explore the relationship between high art and popular culture.

Michael Manga

Associate Professor of Earth and Planetary Science
University of California / Berkeley
Berkeley, California
Age: 37

Geophysicist identifying within fluids, such as molten magma and subterranean water, clues for understanding basic geological forces and forecasting of seismic activity on earth and beyond.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD SIX

Todd Martinez

Professor of Chemistry
University of Illinois / Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, Illinois
Age: 37

Theoretical Chemist revealing fundamental insights into the physical basis for chemical reactions by developing new strategies for computing the quantum mechanical properties of complex molecules.

Julie Mehretu

Unaffiliated
New York, New York
Age: 34

Painter creating dazzling, layered pictorial planes of geometric abstractions, iconic imagery, and figurative markings that transform canvases into visually compelling excavations of multiple epochs and locales.

Kevin M. Murphy

George J. Stigler Distinguished Service Professor
University of Chicago / Graduate School of Business
Chicago, Illinois
Age: 47

Economist revealing economic forces shaping vital social phenomena such as wage inequality, unemployment, addiction, medical research, and economic growth.

Olufunmilayo Olopade

Professor of Medicine and Human Genetics
University of Chicago Hospitals
Chicago, Illinois
Age: 48

Clinician / Researcher translating findings on the molecular genetics of breast cancer in African-American and African women into innovative clinical practices in the United States and abroad.

Fazal Sheikh

Unaffiliated
Zurich, Switzerland
Age: 40

Photographer using the personalizing power of portraiture to bring the faces of the world's displaced people into focus.

Emily Thompson

Associate Professor of History
University of California / San Diego
San Diego, California
Age: 43

Aural Historian bridging the history of the United States and the histories of technology, science, sound, and acoustics to examine transformations in the American soundscape.

MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced - ADD SEVEN

Michael Walsh

Technical Consultant

Unaffiliated

Arlington, Virginia

Age: 62

Vehicle Emissions Specialist designing and implementing inventive, cost-effective programs to improve air quality for populations around the globe.

###END - MacArthur Fellows 2005 Announced