The Kyoto Prize
The Kyoto Prize is a preeminent international award created by Japan's non-profit Inamori Foundation to honor those who have contributed significantly to humankind’s scientific, cultural and spiritual betterment. The prize is presented in Kyoto on November 10 each year in the categories of Advanced Technology, Basic Sciences, and Arts and Philosophy. Since 1985, Kyoto Prizes have been awarded to 111 laureates from 17 countries – ranging from scientists, engineers and researchers to artists, architects, musicians, sculptors and film directors.

Dr. Kazuo Inamori, an international entrepreneur and humanitarian, established the Kyoto Prize for two reasons: First, to reflect his belief that there is no higher calling than to work for the greater good of society; and second, to recognize dedicated people who improve the world through their research, science and art. Through the Kyoto Prize, the Inamori Foundation works to recognize extraordinary human achievement and stimulate people to reach still greater heights.

The Kyoto Prize Symposium – March 17-19, 2020
The Kyoto Prize Symposium is a three-day North American celebration of the lives and works of those receiving the prestigious Kyoto Prize. The Symposium provides the only opportunity for a North American audience to learn about the achievements of the latest Kyoto Prize laureates and to discuss the relationship between their accomplishments and the common quest for peace and harmony among peoples, cultures and nations.

Major Events Include:

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Opening Ceremonies & Scholarship Gala honoring the 35th Kyoto Prize laureates. Presentation of six Kyoto Prize Symposium Scholarships valued up to $10,000 to recipients from San Diego and Tijuana.

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Dr. Ching W. Tang (Advanced Technology) is a chemist and professor at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is also Professor Emeritus at the 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, televisions and lighting. Dr. Tang is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He has received dozens of awards and honors, including the Wolf Prize in Chemistry and the IEEE Noble Award for Emerging Technologies. Last year (2018) he was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Dr. James E. Gunn (Basic Science) is Professor Emeritus of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University. He led the Sloan Digital Sky Survey from its inception in 2000. SDSS produced a three-dimensional digital cosmic map encompassing a broad region. He played a vital 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 made significant contributions to our understanding of the universe. Dr. Gunn is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. His many awards and honors include the Crafoord Prize in Astronomy, the Gruber Prize in Cosmology and the National Medal of Science.

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Ms. Ariane Mnouchkine (Arts & Philosophy) is a founder and director of the Théâtre du Soleil in Paris. Since 1964, she has produced masterpieces with historical and political themes referring to traditional performances of both the East and the West. She started her theater in a transformed factory outside of Paris, where it embodies the ideal of “public theater.” Theatre du Soleil often uses physicality - inspired by Japanese Noh, Kabuki and Bunraku; Indian Kathakali; and Western works such as Shakespeare. Ms. Mnouchkine has been innovating theatrical expressions through her collaborative creations based on the methodology of her unique theatrical organization which eschews hierarchical order. She holds honorary doctorates from the University of Oxford and Roma III – and was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement in 2007 by the Venice Biennale.
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☐ Symposium Presentation / Member Council Support (March 17-19, 2020)
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