



# INDUCTION CEREMONY

WASHINGTON DC ◊ MAY 7, 2026



HONOR ◊ INSPIRE ◊ CHALLENGE



# INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF INNOVATORS

Your support for the National Inventors Hall of Fame® reaches far beyond the annual Induction Ceremony to build a brighter future.

You make it possible to continue sharing the lessons of Inductees, not only at the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum but also through nationwide invention education programs and competitions for emerging leaders in innovation.

Your partnership makes a lasting difference by sustaining our mission to recognize inventors, promote creativity, and advance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.



*JD Albert, co-inventor of Electronic Ink.*



*Sumita Mitra, inventor of Nanocomposite Dental Materials.*







## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Over 50 years ago, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) proudly cofounded the National Inventors Hall of Fame to recognize excellence in American innovation. As the driving force for our economy, innovation will ensure America's continued success.

With a shared mission to celebrate the world's most influential U.S. patent holders and ensure that America's rich history of ingenuity is carried into the future, the USPTO is honored to support the ongoing work of the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

At the NIHF Induction Ceremony, the Greatest Celebration of American Innovation®, we will gather with the Inductees whose work has shaped our world and together support their passionate mission to deliver an even brighter future. This year's remarkable class of 2026 is inducted as we celebrate America's 250th-year anniversary. Since our nation's birth, innovation has been one of the fiercest drivers of our cultural heritage as Americans inexorably pushed the frontiers of science and technology – integral to the American identity and our prosperity. From our Founders' conception of a new way to govern and protect liberty, innovators helped freedom flourish by creating inventions and brands that push the boundaries of what is possible for individuals and our society, allowing our nation to spark the engine of the world. The spirit of innovation is the spirit of America. And nowhere is it more evident than in this year's 2026 NIHF Inductee class.

Join us as the NIHF Induction events offer a unique opportunity to share an evening with our nation's intellectual property and innovation community, as well as with innovators who have literally changed the world through their creativity, inspiration and perspiration. For more information about the NIHF Induction Ceremony – the Greatest Celebration of American Innovation – please visit [invent.org/induction](https://invent.org/induction).

Sincerely,

John A. Squires

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office



National Inventors  
Hall of Fame®

In partnership with



UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ®





*Inductee Kerrie Holley, inventor of Service-Oriented Architecture, with his wife and daughter.*

## EVENT OVERVIEW

Held annually in partnership with the USPTO, the National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is the year's most prestigious event for leaders in innovation. Honoring the world-changing legacies of 656 Inductees since 1973, each year brings an inspiring new class of U.S. patent holders whose work has made our lives easier, safer, healthier and more fulfilling. Your organization can make a significant impact by honoring even more innovative heroes and inspiring the next generation.

**Join in the celebration and become a partner for the National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.**



## ILLUMINATION CEREMONY

Wednesday, May 6, 2026  
National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum  
Alexandria, Virginia



## INDUCTION CEREMONY

Thursday, May 7, 2026  
The Anthem  
Washington, D.C.

# INDUCTEE CLASS OF 2026



National Inventors  
Hall of Fame®



**LOUIS  
ARGENTA**

Vacuum Assisted  
Closure® (V.A.C.®)



**SARA  
BLAKELY**

SPANX®  
Shapewear



**GEBISA  
EJETA**

Sorghum Hybrids



**TERESA  
MENG**

CMOS Wi-Fi



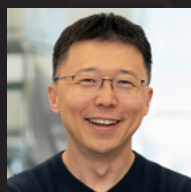
**MICHAEL  
MORYKVAS**

Vacuum Assisted  
Closure® (V.A.C.®)



**HENRY  
SAMUELI**

Broadband  
Communications



**FENG  
ZHANG**

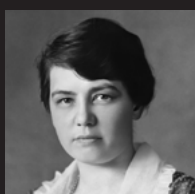
CRISPR  
Gene Editing

## HISTORICAL INDUCTEES



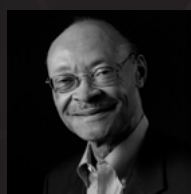
**DONALD  
ALSTADT**

Chemlok® Rubber-  
to-Metal Adhesive  
System



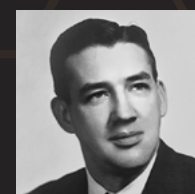
**OLIVE DENNIS**

Railroad  
Passenger Car  
Improvements



**FRANK S.  
GREENE JR.**

Semiconductor  
Memory  
Technology



**MAURUS  
LOGAN**

Ty-Rap®  
Cable Ties



**GEORGE  
MAISON**

Metered Dose  
Inhaler (MDI)



**IRVING  
PORUSH**

Metered Dose  
Inhaler (MDI)



**CHARLES  
THIEL**

Metered Dose  
Inhaler (MDI)



**REUBEN  
TRANE**

Lightweight  
Convactor Radiator





## WHY SPONSOR

With this exciting event, a meaningful partnership begins. For more than 50 years, our nonprofit has connected young innovators across the country with exceptional role models: our Hall of Fame Inductees. With your support, what might we accomplish in the next 50 years?

## INVALUABLE PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS

Induction sponsors receive brand recognition before, during and after the Induction events. The National Inventors Hall of Fame also offers collaborative support to highlight your brand through our digital and social media channels, and public relations.

At the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum, located at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, exhibits offer even more sponsorship opportunities that may be tailored to your brand and philanthropic goals.



## CONNECTIVITY CHANGES EVERYTHING

Trace the evolution of wireless technology from the breakthroughs that power your smartphone to the everything-connected world of 5G at this exhibit sponsored by Qualcomm.

**Qualcomm**



## A LEGACY OF INNOVATION

Explore artifacts showing the evolution of major brands and see the difference between genuine and counterfeit products.

SPONSORED BY USPTO and  
International Trademark Association



# 2025 NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

**778,456** #NIHF2025 SOCIAL IMPRESSIONS

**798** NEWS HITS

**6.7** BILLION IMPRESSIONS GENERATED THROUGH MEDIA



*Inductees Pamela Marrone, inventor of Biological Pest Control, and Frances Ligler, inventor of Portable Optical Biosensors.*



*Inductees James Fujimoto, David Huang and Eric Swanson, co-inventors of Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) pose with their exhibit at the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum.*

# NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION PARTNERS HAVE INCLUDED:

Presenting Sponsor  
for Ceremony



Entrepreneur Sponsor



Visionary Sponsor



Honor Sponsors

**The Amos E. Joel**  
YOUNG INVENTORS FUND

**Mary Beth Carroll  
& Dr. Keith Wilson**

**Richard W. Pogue**

Inspire Sponsors

**Dr. Jean Bailey,**  
IN MEMORY OF CLYDE E. BAILEY, SR.



**Gary & Patty Sharp**

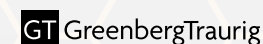


**WILSON  
SONSINI**

**Dr. Margaret M. Wu**  
SENIOR SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR (RETIRED)  
EXXONMOBIL RESEARCH ENGINEERING CO.

NATIONAL INVENTORS  
HALL OF FAME® INDUCTEE  
**James J. Wynne, Ph.D.**

Challenge Sponsors



**Dr. & Ms. Kristina Johnson  
and Veronica Meinhard**

**Ruth & Donald  
Keck**

**micron**



**Drs. Sumita and  
Sam Mitra**



**Russ &  
Phyllis Slifer**

**Karen & Frank  
Steininger**



**Jim & Marlene West**

**Tom Wolf**



For a complete list of our NIHF Induction partners, please visit [invent.org/induction](http://invent.org/induction).



## SPONSOR BENEFITS

National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction sponsorship packages are highly customizable, offering a wide range of benefits to meet your needs.

Secure your sponsorship now for the May 2026 National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony!

*Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*



Barrett Comiskey, co-inventor of Electronic Ink, and his wife Jojo Comiskey.



Debbie Freireich, daughter of 2025 Inductee Emil J Freireich, co-inventor of the Continuous-Flow Blood Cell Separator.



## SPONSOR BENEFITS

	Inductee \$100,000	Entrepreneur \$50,000	Visionary \$25,000	Honor \$10,000	Inspire \$5,000	Challenge \$2,500
National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF) Illumination Ceremony, Museum Exhibits Opening & VIP Dinner Invitations, May 6, 2026	4 VIP	2 VIP				
NIHF Induction Ceremony & Dinner Invitations, May 7, 2026	20 VIP	10 VIP	8 VIP	8	4	2
Priority Induction Ceremony seating with a NIHF Inductee	✓	✓	✓			
Opportunities for unique brand exposure at NIHF Induction Ceremony VIP Reception or Afterparty	✓					
Recognition in the Induction Ceremony highlight video	✓					
On-stage introduction of a 2026 NIHF Inductee	✓	✓				
Logo recognition on the Step-and-Repeat backdrop	✓	✓				
Featured recognition on the NIHF blog	✓	✓				
On-stage brand acknowledgment	✓	✓	✓			
Opportunity to host an event at the NIHF Museum	✓	✓	✓			
Opportunity to participate in a VIP NIHF Museum tour	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Recognition on the Induction Ceremony invitation	Logo	Logo	Logo	Listing		
Recognition in NIHF public relations	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Recognition on NIHF social media channels	Exclusive Post	Exclusive Post	✓	✓		
Logo recognition on NIHF eblasts featuring the Induction Ceremony	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Recognition at the NIHF Museum (located in Alexandria, VA, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office headquarters)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
On-screen logo recognition during the event	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo recognition in the printed program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Full-color advertisement in the printed program	Full Page	Full Page	1/2 Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	1/4 Page
Logo recognition on invent.org	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in the NIHF Annual Report	Logo	Logo	Listing	Listing	Listing	Listing





NATIONAL INVENTORS  
HALL OF FAME

# INDUCTION CEREMONY

WASHINGTON DC ◊ MAY 7, 2026

**CONFIRM YOUR SPONSORSHIP TODAY!**

Contact us at **800-968-4332** (option 6) or **[sponsor@invent.org](mailto:sponsor@invent.org)** to discuss partnership opportunities available for the upcoming Induction events.

SECURE MY SPONSORSHIP

HONOR ◊ INSPIRE ◊ CHALLENGE