

## Inspiring Science Award 2018

**Nominations open 9 April – 11 June 2018**

→ The Inspiring Science Award is an annual award for researchers or academics who are female or who identify as female\* up to 10 years since completion of PhD (this is regardless of any maternity leave(s) or other leaves of absences, therefore the 10 years of research does not have to be continuous). Applicants not yet in a tenured position (tenure-track positions are suitable) and those who may have secured first or second round of post-doctoral or individual funding are eligible to apply.

The award will be given to a researcher or academic who has made an exceptional contribution to scientific discovery and the literature, sometimes in spite of resources, location or language skills, and exhibits the potential for developing and leading an independent research group:

- This is likely to be reflected in publications, poster presentations and/or conference presentations.
  - Candidates are likely to have developed leadership skills, tutored undergraduate students, and/or mentored graduate students and should show a capacity for mentorship and influencing the next generation of scientists in their country.
  - We are particularly interested in hearing from candidates who have used social media or other forms of communication to showcase their own achievements, to network with researchers around the globe, who have organised events and/or facilitated access to science in their region. This will be supported by examples provided by the candidates.
  - Applications are welcome from across the natural and social sciences – biology, chemistry, physics, earth & environment, clinical, applied & social sciences, maths and engineering (mirroring the scope of *Nature* itself). Please note that researchers in areas that typically receive lower citations or engagement will have this taken into account during the application process.
- The award is given globally. To ensure applications from developing and emerging STEM nations, location will be taken into account during the process. Applicants from listed Springer Nature Research for Life countries (<https://www.springernature.com/gb/group/responsible-business/research-for-life>) will be awarded an additional 5 points before judging officially begins.

---

\*We use an inclusive definition of “woman” and “female” and we welcome trans women, genderqueer women, and non-binary people who are significantly female-identified.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES

## Nominations

- Candidates should be nominated by their research institutes via the [nomination form](#). The application includes an overview of the candidate's scientific achievements and public engagement from a senior nominator, as well as a supporting statement from the candidate themselves.
- All candidates should read the detailed [Terms & Conditions](#).
- Please email [inspiring@nature.com](mailto:inspiring@nature.com) for further information.

## Award Prizes

### The award winner will receive:

- A grant of \$10,000 to spend on initiatives linked to the award
- A grant of up to \$5,200 APC funding: to spend on article processing charges over the next 2 years at Springer Nature journals, should papers submitted be suitable for publication
- Invitation to the award ceremony in October/November 2018
- Feature and profile on the careers feature of *Nature*
- Guest blog post on Nature.com with links from *Scientific American* (blog post has to be of sufficient editorial standard to be published – authors will be expected to work alongside editorial teams to ensure this occurs)
- Interview with the winner for Nature Jobs podcast
- Access to online Nature Masterclasses courses
- Opportunity to work with organizations such as Finding Ada or Stemettes to address the gender imbalance in STEM
- Invitation to present their work or initiative to the scientists at The Estée Lauder Companies
- Mentoring through The Estée Lauder Companies

**IMPORTANT:** If the winner cannot demonstrate within 2 years of the prize being awarded that the money will be used to further their academic achievements, Nature Research reserves the right to donate the prize money to our supported organisations ([www.springernature.com/responsiblebusiness](http://www.springernature.com/responsiblebusiness)).

## Longlisted and Shortlisted Candidates

- All longlisted candidates will be profiled with a profile picture and brief biography on the Nature Research Awards website, and will have access to the 'closed' mentoring network with other longlisted candidates, Ambassadors and Judges.
- Shortlisted candidates, which will include the ultimate winner, will have a short media-friendly video prepared for them – these will be posted on Facebook, YouTube and WeChat (amongst others) with a link back to the Nature Research Awards website.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES

## Judging Panel and Timeline

Each award will have a separate [judging panel](#). The judging panel consists of editorial staff from Nature Research, academic scientists, external experts working in organisations supporting access to science for women and scientists from our corporate partner, The Estée Lauder Companies. Each panel has a Chief Judge who will make the final decision in the event of a tie.

- The Nature Research internal [editorial steering group](#) will conduct a first-round analysis of all applications between the closing date of 11 June 2018 and 21 June 2018, to ensure they meet the relevant criteria
- The judging panel will decide the 10 longlisted candidates, the shortlisted 5 candidates, and then the ultimate winner
- The 10 longlisted candidates will be announced Tuesday 24 July 2018
- The 5 shortlisted candidates will be announced Tuesday 4 September 2018
- The winner will be announced in October/November 2018
- The judging panel will make up 100% of the votes

## Judging Criteria

- Judges will read all nominations that pass the relevant editorial criteria.
- Judging will be based on the following criteria:
  - Scientific achievements – 15 points
  - Communicating or facilitating access to science in their region; taking into account situations where candidates have been working in emerging STEM markets or in difficult circumstances – 10 points
  - Future access plans and ideas – 5 points

Please note applications from [Research for Life](#) countries will have an additional 5 points allocated to their score.

Sub-criteria for judging to be defined by the judging panel if required during the shortlisting stage – these will be published on the Nature Research Awards website.

The Nature Research Awards are grateful to our Ambassadors and Judges for their support.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES