

National Inventors Hall of Fame Annual Induction Fact Sheet



National Inventors
Hall of Fame®

The National Inventors Hall of Fame Annual Induction event is our nation's Greatest Celebration of Innovation - annually honoring and celebrating the world's foremost inventors and their contributions to society. This black tie gala not only hails the outstanding achievements of U.S. patent holders, but also brings those men and women together with innovation leaders and fellow inventors.

- Each year, the National Inventors Hall of Fame selects a new Class of Inductees through a process that accepts nominations from all sources and relies on a panel of experts in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to screen, vet, and make final selections.
- The criteria for induction into the National Inventors Hall of Fame requires candidates to hold a United States patent that has contributed significantly to the nation's welfare and the advancement of science and the useful arts.
- Every Inductee selected has had a revolutionary impact on our nation, and yet each of their journeys is fascinating and unique. Through our Annual Induction events we shine a spotlight on these innovative spirits, share their contributions in STEM, and ultimately tell their stories of perseverance, creativity, and determination.

Ceremony Details for 2017

The 2017 National Inventors Hall of Fame Ceremony will be a two-day event comprised of the following:

- **Illumination Ceremony, May 3, 2017:** The Illumination Ceremony will take place at the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum at the United States Patent and Trademark Office Headquarters in Alexandria, VA. This is an intimate event where new Inductees place their personalized, illuminated hexagons into our Gallery of Icons exhibit, forever commemorating their inclusion into our Hall of Fame and contribution to humanity.
- **Induction Ceremony, May 4, 2017:** This black tie gala will kick off with a VIP reception at 6:00pm, followed by the Awards Ceremony and dinner at 7:00pm. During the Ceremony each of our 2017 Inductees or their families will be brought on stage to receive their official medallions and be honored for their groundbreaking, patented innovations. Mo Rocca, *CBS Sunday Morning* correspondent and host of *The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation* will be the Master of Ceremonies. The event will wrap up with an Innovation Celebration After Party, which immediately follows the awards and dinner. All of the festivities will be held at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

Past Inductee Highlights

Henry Ford
1982, *Transmission Mechanism*

Stephanie Kwolek
1995, *Kevlar®*

Jim West and Gerhard Sessler
1999, *Electret Microphone*

Steve Wozniak
2000, *Personal Computer*

Art Fry and Spencer Silver
2010, *Post-it® Notes*

Steve Sasson
2011, *Digital Camera*

Esther Takeuchi
2011, *Medical Device Batteries*

Ashok Gadgil
2014, *UV Water Disinfectant*

Chuck Hull
2014, *3-D Printing*

Jaap Haartsen
2015, *Bluetooth® Wireless Technology*

Shuji Nakamura
2015, *Blue LED*

Sheldon Kaplan
2016, *EpiPen® Auto-Injector*

For more information on our Inductees, please visit www.invent.org/honor/inductees/

About Us

The National Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 1973 in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to honor the individuals who conceived, patented, and advanced the greatest technological achievements of our nation. Since then, the organization has evolved to be the nation's leading non-profit providing STEM and innovation-focused education programs, competitions, and events. We believe our role as a Hall of Fame is to not only honor the individuals whose inventions have made the world a better place, but also to ensure American ingenuity continues to thrive in the hands of the generations to come. This belief is what drives our mission: to recognize inventors and invention, celebrate our country's rich, innovative history, inspire creativity, and advance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Educational Programs (Pre-K - 12)

Inspired by the National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees, our [educational programs](#) are designed to impact young minds through fun, hands-on activities infused with the spirit of innovation. Through summer camps, after school programs, and internship opportunities, NIHF is encouraging and embracing the exploration of STEM-based education. To date, NIHF has impacted over 1 million children in all 50 states.

Collegiate Inventors Competition

The [Collegiate Inventors Competition](#) was founded in 1990 to encourage and drive innovation and entrepreneurship at the collegiate level. This competition recognizes and awards students engaged in cutting-edge research and discovery. Over the last 27 years, in partnership with our sponsors, we have awarded over \$1 million to 183 of the country's most innovative collegiate students.

Available Resources:

[Press Room](#)

[Invent.org](#)

[NIHF Facebook](#)

[NIHF Twitter](#)

[NIHF Instagram](#)

[Camp Invention Facebook](#)

[Camp Invention Twitter](#)

[USPTO Facebook](#)

[USPTO Twitter](#)

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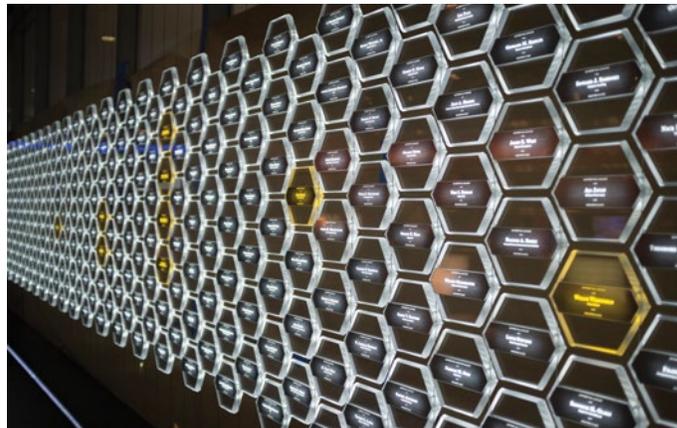
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Spread the word, and get others excited about the 2017 National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



Victor Lawrence, Inventor of Signal Processing in Telecommunications, at the 2016 National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



The Gallery of Icons at the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum

Like the National Inventors Hall of Fame on Facebook
www.facebook.com/InventorsHOF

Hashtag to Use: #NIHF17
Follow: @InventorsHOF

Sample Facebook Posts

Fifteen of the nation's brightest minds will join the @InventorsHOF this spring. Learn more about each Inductee and his or her life-changing invention before the May 4th Induction Ceremony at www.invent.org/honor/Inductees. #NIHF17

The @InventorsHOF honors, inspires, and challenges future generations. Visit www.invent.org/inspire to learn how NIHF comes to life in classrooms, curricula, and competitions throughout the country. #NIHF17

The @InventorsHOF will welcome 15 new Inductees on May 4th, 2017. Learn more about how each of these @USPTO patent holders has made an impact on society: <http://bit.ly/2jQVRQk>! #NIHF17

Not only do @InventorsHOF Inductees work to improve society, they change the world. Join us as we celebrate and honor the new 2017 Inductee Class. Learn more about this year's class and their inventions at www.invent.org/honor/Inductees. #NIHF17

This year's #NIHF17 Class of Inductees will play an integral role in the @CampInvention curriculum! Imagine your child meeting and interacting with some of the nation's brightest thinkers – National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees! Learn more about Camp Invention's all-new activities at www.invent.org/inspire #NIHF17

Sample Tweets

On May 4, 15 distinguished innovators will be inducted into the '17 @InventorsHOF Inductee Class! Learn more: www.invent.org/honor/Inductees #NIHF17

15 inspiring innovators will be inducted into the @InventorsHOF at the nation's Greatest Celebration of Innovation! www.invent.org/honor/Inductees #NIHF17

@InventorsHOF Inductees change the world and play an integral role in @CampInvention curriculum. Learn more: www.invent.org/inspire #NIHF17

#DYK @InventorsHOF named its 2017 Inductee Class? Learn about the 15 individuals who have changed our world: www.invent.org/honor/Inductees #NIHF17



Mo Rocca hosting the 2016 National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony