Announcement from The Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Japan

Ryoji Noyori Prize

sponsored by Takasago International Corporation and administered by The Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Japan

Ryoji Noyori Prize, sponsored by Takasago International Corporation, was established in 2002 by The Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Japan (SSOCJ) in commemoration of Professor Ryoji Noyori's winning of the 2001 Nobel Prize in Chemistry as well as the 60th anniversary of SSOCJ.

The purpose of the Prize is to recognize outstanding contributions to research in asymmetric synthetic chemistry defined in its broadest sense.

The International Prize Committee selects a recipient who meets the above-mentioned criteria each year, and the Prize, which consists of a certificate, a plaque, and a monetary prize of USD 10,000, is bestowed to the recipient. The award ceremony will be held at the annual general meeting of SSOCJ next February.

The Winner of the Prize for the award year 2026 is Professor Takahiko Akiyama, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Gakushuin University, Japan.

Professor Akiyama has made outstanding contributions to chiral Brønsted acid organocatalysis by developing (*R*)-BINOL-derived chiral phosphoric acids. Functioning as conceptual chiral protons, these catalysts efficiently activate various substrates, including imines, carbonyls, alcohols, and others, enabling diverse enantioselective transformations such as carbon–carbon, carbon-halogen bond-forming reactions and transfer hydrogenations. His pioneering studies established the essential foundation for a major subset of organocatalytic reactions. This breakthrough captured global attention among researchers, prompting many to enter the field and driving the rapid, dramatic development of chiral Brønsted acid chemistry worldwide.



The past recipients:

Henri B. Kagan	(2002)	Gilbert Stork	(2003)
Dieter Seebach	(2004)	Tsutomu Katsuki	(2005)
David A. Evans	(2006)	Tamio Hayashi	(2007)
Andreas Pfaltz	(2008)	Yoshio Okamoto	(2009)
Eric N. Jacobsen	(2010)	Hisashi Yamamoto	(2011)
Masakatsu Shibasaki	(2012)	Barry M. Trost	(2013)
Dieter Enders	(2014)	Larry E. Overman	(2015)
Keiji Maruoka	(2016)	David W. MacMillan	(2017)
Yoshito Kishi	(2018)	Scott E. Denmark	(2019)
Tsuneo Imamoto	(2020)	Erick M. Carreira	(2021)
Gregory C. Fu	(2022)	Kenso Soai	(2023)
Thorsten Bach	(2024)	Manfred Reetz	(2025)

The members of the International Prize Committee for the award year 2026:

Masahiro Terada (Chairperson)	Thorsten Bach
John F. Hartwig	Yujiro Hayashi
Motomu Kanai	Benjamin List
Mikiko Sodeoka	Yasuhiro Uozumi

Call for Nominations for the Award Year 2027

(*Deadline: May 1, 2027*)

Any individual may nominate one individual for the award year 2027 by May 1, 2027. The nomination form can be downloaded from the SSOCJ webpage (*https://www.ssocj.jp/en/award/ryoji-noyori-prize/*). The documents are retained on file for three award years.

Preferred method of submittal is by e-mail attachment of the form.

e-mail address: support@ssocj.or.jp

However, submittal by express or conventional mail is also acceptable.

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