Recipients

Legacy Award

Harold Varmus, M.D.
Nobel Laureate and Lewis Thomas University professor, Weill Cornell Medicine

“It is now not enough to say that we need medical research to improve health, to extend lives, or to sustain the economy. We need to preserve and promote our science — in all of its forms — because it represents the best of what we have been — and must continue to be — as a nation.”

Edwin C. Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy

The Honorable John Edward Porter; Harold Varmus, M.D.; William N. Hait, M.D., Ph.D.

“The gratification of what we’ve been able to do particularly in health research has been incredible. We were able to secure a 6.5 percent increase for health research. Hopefully with your advocacy and my colleagues, we’ll step up once again and do things that allow this to become the norm rather than the exception.”

Edwin C. Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy

The Honorable Roy Blunt
U.S. Senator (R-MO)

“Your tireless advocacy and effort to educating members in both parties on how important basic research is and what it can yield to this country has been absolutely indispensable in accomplishing what we have this past year.”

Isadore Rosenfeld Award for Impact on Public Opinion

Taoist Monk Yunrou; Lisa Paulsen

“Thank you to Research!America and all of my fellow awardees for being such incredible advocates for these heroes, we need them now more than ever. Let’s continue to work together to support research that is truly saving and improving lives.”

2016 Advocacy Awards
Robert Langer, Sc.D.
David H. Koch Institute Professor, MIT

“I feel very privileged to receive this award. I want to tell you about my own life as an engineer in hopes that maybe other engineers will do basic research as an engineer and basic research in medicine. I had this dream of using my background to improve people’s health.”

Gordon and Llura Gund Leadership Award

George & Trish Vradenburg
Co-founders, UsAgainstAlzheimer’s (UsA2)

“The Alzheimer’s epidemic will be a death sentence for over 100 million people around the world in the coming decades. Together, we can succeed in defeating this toxic and cruel destroyer of families. Our confidence is rooted in our committed and sustained partnerships with the teams of world-class scientists, entrepreneurs, advocates and visionaries.”

Geoffrey Beene Builders of Science Award

John Noseworthy, M.D.
President & CEO, Mayo Clinic

“I’m honored and delighted to accept this award on behalf of the researchers and physician scientists at the Mayo Clinic. This award recognizes those who have provided leadership and determination, building an outstanding scientific research organization. That’s something that we’ve been doing at the Mayo Clinic more than 150 years. To our founders, research was essential to our mission and that remains the case today.”

Paul G. Rogers Distinguished Organization Advocacy Award

The ALS Association
Barbara Newhouse
President & CEO

“The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge ‘turned a little-known disorder into a global conversation.’ I’m not accepting this award as the President of The ALS Association, I’m accepting it on behalf of the entire ALS community. The donations to The ALS Association have reenergized and reinforced our work to find treatments and a cure for this disease through not only research but also advocacy and care services. We must finish what the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge started, continuing to motivate and inspire advocates to fight for the ALS community.”
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Mark Your Calendar for the 2017 Advocacy Awards: March 15, 2017
To submit a nomination for the 2017 Advocacy Awards, please visit www.researchamerica.org/nominations. The deadline for nominations is May 20, 2016.