2016 Blavatnik Regional Awards
Institutional Nomination Guidelines

The Blavatnik Regional Awards for Young Scientists celebrate the excellence of outstanding postdoctoral scientists from institutions in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut working in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, and Chemistry. Three winners will each receive $30,000 in unrestricted funds and six finalists will each receive $10,000 in unrestricted funds.

Eligibility

The nominee must:

- Have been born in or after 1974.
- Hold a doctoral degree (PhD, DPhil, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.).
- Hold a postdoctoral position at an academic or research institution located in New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut.
- Currently conduct research in one of the disciplinary categories in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, and Chemistry.

Previously nominated individuals who were not selected as winners or finalists of the Blavatnik Awards may be nominated again. The Blavatnik Awards welcomes nominations from underrepresented groups in science and engineering.

Limited Submission

Institutional nominations must be submitted online by the President or Provost of the nominee's host institution (or their official designee). Each institution may nominate up to fifteen candidates. **Institutions must send a brief statement to blavatnikawards@nyas.org naming the official designees as nominators before submitting nominations.**

Self-nominations are not allowed. Nominees do not submit their own nomination materials and should direct all their questions to the nominator.

Evaluation Criteria

Nominees and their work will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- *Quality*: The extent to which the work is reliable, valid, credible, and scientifically rigorous.
- *Impact*: The extent to which the work addresses an important problem and is influential in the nominee's field.
- *Novelty*: The extent to which the work challenges existing paradigms, employs new methodologies or concepts, and/or pursues an original question.
- *Promise*: Nominee's potential for an independent career and further significant contributions to science or science-related fields.

Important Dates

- December 8, 2015: Nominations open
- February 2, 2016: Nominations close
- February 16, 2016: Letters of support due
- Summer 2016: Winners and finalists selected and notified
- November 2016: Awards ceremony in New York City

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Nomination Materials

The following documents and information are required to submit a nomination:

- Nominee's name, date of birth, title, contact information, and disciplinary category.
- Nominator's name, title, and contact information.
- Nominator's **Rationale for Nomination**: statement explaining why the nominee has been selected by the institution (200-word maximum).
- Nominee's **Curriculum Vitae** (4-page maximum, PDF).
- Nominee's **Research Summary** (1,000-word maximum, PDF).
- **Full-text publications and/or patents** representing the nominee's work (up to 4 publications, PDF).
- Names and email addresses for two letter writers familiar with the nominee's scientific contributions who will provide letters of support.

Rationale for Nomination

A 200-word statement that explains why the nominee has been selected by the institution based on his/her strong record of significant scientific contributions, early career success, and promise of sustained or accelerated progress in the future.

Curriculum Vitae **(Label file: LastName_FirstName-CV.pdf)**   CV Format Example

- 4 pages maximum
- Full name, current institution(s), and position title.
- Education and training – List institutions, degrees, years, and fields of study; include postdoctoral training or residency, if applicable.
- Employment history.
- Honors and awards with years when they were received.
- Select peer-reviewed publications – List only published work or manuscripts in press; do not include manuscripts that are submitted or in preparation. Conference abstracts and proceedings should only be included if they are the primary way of disseminating new results in the nominee's field, such as in computer science and mathematics.
- Select patents and patent applications, with years.
- Research grants – List funding for the ongoing and completed projects on which the nominee is a PI, co-PI, or listed as key personnel.

Research Summary **(Label file: LastName_FirstName-Summary.pdf)**

A 1,000-word maximum summary of up to five of the nominee's most significant scientific contributions and research accomplishments. Key results, their impact on the nominee's field of study, and the nominee's specific role in the described work should be included. Information about the nominee's positions, awards, and service should be excluded. One figure illustrating the most significant research results is allowed. Citations and figure caption do not count toward the word limit.

Key Publications and Patents **(Label files: LastName_FirstName-Pub1.pdf, etc.)**

Full-text published papers or filed patents representing the nominee's best work (four publications maximum). Each publication should not be larger than 10MB. **Work published by the nominee during graduate training will not be considered.**

Letters of Support

Letters of support should:

- Be a maximum of two pages, single-spaced, and uploaded as PDF files.
- Describe the nominee's most significant research contributions according to the *Quality*, *Impact*, *Novelty*, and *Promise* criteria and explain their importance for the nominee's research area.
- Assess the nominee's accomplishments in comparison with those of his or her peers at the same career stage.
- Focus on the nominee's scientific accomplishments during his/her post-doctoral career and omit information typically included in the CV, such as positions and awards.

Submitting Nominations Online

Nominations must be submitted using the online nomination system between Tuesday, December 8, 2015 and Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

The nominator must create an account in the nomination system by clicking the '*Sign-Up*' button on the nomination system front page. The nominator will receive an automated email to verify his/her email address. Nominators may use their accounts created in previous award cycles as long as the email addresses linked with these accounts remain active.

Nominators with verified accounts may log into the nomination system and begin the nomination process by clicking the '*Create New Submission*' button. Partially completed nominations may be saved by clicking '*Save and Continue Editing*' or "Save and Exit' and accessed later until the nomination is submitted.

To complete a nomination, nominators must:

1. Fill out the Nomination Form:
    Enter the nominee's information: institution, name, email address, phone number, title, department, address, date of birth, and disciplinary category.
    a. Enter the nominator's information: name title, institution, email address, and phone number.
    a. Enter the Rationale for Nomination.
    b. Upload all supporting documents (CV, Research Summary, publications/patents).
    c. Confirm the nomination by checking the box to agree to the statement of confirmation: "*By checking the box below, I confirm that this nomination represents one of up to fifteen individuals nominated by my institution for the 2016 Blavatnik Regional Awards, and has the full support of my institution.*"

2. Request Letters of Support:
    Enter the names and email addresses of two letter writers. Letter writers will receive an automated email with instructions on uploading their letters. **Letter writers must upload letters of support by 11:59PM ET on Tuesday, February 16, 2016**. Once *both letters* have been uploaded, the nominator and the nominee will receive automated notifications. Letters of support are confidential: neither the nominator nor the nominee will be able to view the contents of the letters.

3. Submit the nomination:
    Once the Nomination Form is complete and letters of support have been requested, the '*Submit the Nomination*' button will be activated at the bottom of the nomination page. This button must be clicked to submit the nomination before **11:59PM ET on Tuesday, February 2, 2016.**

Once a nomination has been submitted, the nominator will receive an on-screen confirmation notice and an automated email, which is also sent to the nominee. Nominations may not be edited after submission; however, nominators may view the nomination and check the status of the letters of support by logging into their accounts.

Questions

For general questions about the rules and eligibility requirements, please consult the Frequently Asked Questions page.

For all other inquiries, please contact the Blavatnik Awards team at blavatnikawards@nyas.org or 212.298.8624.

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