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## **LASKER FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES CANCELLATION OF THE 2020 LASKER AWARDS**

(New York, May 27, 2020) The Lasker Foundation today announced the cancellation of its 2020 Lasker Awards due to health and safety constraints surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic.

“It is with great regret that we must cancel this important tribute to biomedical science and to the researchers whose work elucidates fundamental questions of biology and delivers powerful new therapies to improve human health,” said Claire Pomeroy, president of the Lasker Foundation. “Sustained investment in biomedical research has never been more critical to the future of our world – and we salute the many scientists who are striving to find answers that respond to the current pandemic.”

The Lasker Awards program, widely recognized as America’s top biomedical research prize, will resume in the fall of 2021. Nominations for the 2021 Lasker Awards will be open in November 2020. Nominations submitted for the 2020 Awards will automatically be considered in 2021.

**About the Lasker Foundation:** The Lasker Foundation seeks to increase support for biomedical research by celebrating the power of biomedical science to save and improve human lives. Through its internationally renowned Lasker Awards, educational initiatives, and advocacy, the Foundation recognizes the most important achievements in science and public service, supports and encourages the scientific leaders of tomorrow, and raises awareness of the ever-present need for research funding. Established in 1942 by Albert and Mary Lasker, the Foundation is committed to inspiring robust and sustained support for biomedical research, fueled by Mary Lasker’s call to action: “If you think research is expensive, try disease!”

**About the Lasker Awards:** The Lasker Awards, America’s most prestigious biomedical research awards, have recognized the contributions of leaders who made major advances in the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, cure, or prevention of human disease. Recipients of the Lasker Medical Research Awards are selected by a distinguished international jury chaired by Joseph L. Goldstein, recipient of the 1985 Lasker Award for Basic Medical Research and the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Lasker-Bloomberg Public Service Award winners are selected by a jury chaired by Alfred Sommer, recipient of the 1997 Lasker Award for Clinical Medical Research. Ninety-one Lasker Laureates have received the Nobel Prize, including 36 in the last three decades. More details on the Lasker Award recipients, the full citations for each award category, video interviews and photos of the awardees, and additional information on the Foundation are available at [www.laskerfoundation.org](http://www.laskerfoundation.org). Follow the Awards on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).