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Now accepting applications for the 2015 Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science

Recognizing excellence by young, immigrant biomedical scientists

New York, NY, February 10, 2014 — The Vilcek Foundation is seeking applications for the 2015 Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science. Three foreign-born biomedical scientists will be selected to receive the prizes, each including a cash award of $50,000.

Established in 2009, the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise raise public awareness of the key role foreign-born researchers play in sustaining the leadership position of the United States in the sciences; the prizes also serve to support younger scientists who have distinguished themselves early in their careers.

Researchers in all fields of biomedical science are encouraged to apply. Applicants must have been born abroad, be naturalized citizens or permanent residents of the United States, hold a doctoral degree, intend to pursue a career in the United States, and be no more than 38 years old as of December 31, 2014. In addition, they must also hold a full-time independent position at an academic institution or other organization.

A panel of distinguished members of the scientific community will select the recipients of the prizes. The jury will consider the candidates’ innovation, independence, creativity, clarity of vision, and impact on the field of biomedical research.

A written application, professional résumé, list of publications, and letters of recommendation are required. The deadline for submissions is June 10, 2014. Eligibility requirements and a link to the online application can be found at Vilcek.org.

The winners will be notified by November 2014 and honored at the Foundation’s annual awards ceremony, in New York City, in the spring of 2015.

The Vilcek Foundation was established in 2000 by Jan and Marica Vilcek, immigrants from the former Czechoslovakia. The mission of the Foundation, to honor the contributions of foreign-born scholars and artists living in the United States, was inspired by the couple’s careers in biomedical science and art history, respectively, as well as their personal experiences and appreciation for the opportunities they received as newcomers to this country. The Foundation hosts events to promote the work of immigrants, awards annual prizes to prominent immigrant biomedical scientists and artists, and sponsors cultural programs such as the Hawaii International Film Festival.

To learn more about the Vilcek Foundation, please visit Vilcek.org.