

PRESS RELEASE



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KYOTO PRIZE AT OXFORD

The University of Oxford invites the Kyoto Prize to the UK

A new collaboration between the University of Oxford and the Inamori Foundation will bring the laureates of the Kyoto Prize to the UK.

From May 2017 the University of Oxford will host the Kyoto Prize laureates for the *Kyoto Prize at Oxford*, a brand new event which will generate a variety of lectures, interactive seminars and panel discussions.

The *Kyoto Prize at Oxford* event will take place at the Blavatnik School of Government, the newest department of the University of Oxford. The School shares with the Inamori Foundation a commitment to enhancing human well-being and the betterment of society. To this end, the Blavatnik School of Government strives to improve government and leadership around the world. The new collaboration will draw on the common values of the two organisations to inspire and to promote academic and cultural development.

The *Kyoto Prize at Oxford* will provide opportunities for students and faculty across Oxford, and more broadly for people across Europe, to learn about Dr Inamori's philosophy and the values of the Kyoto Prize.

Professor Louise Richardson, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, said: "The ties between the University of Oxford and Japan stretch back almost 400 years, and it is a privilege to add a new chapter to this history of collaboration. The Kyoto Prize laureates have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of mankind and we are honoured to have the opportunity to bring them to our University to amplify public appreciation of this award in the United Kingdom and Europe."

Professor Ngaire Woods, Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government, said:

"This is a truly exceptional partnership – inspiring, educating and connecting individuals who strive for the greater good of humankind and society is at the heart of what both the Blavatnik School of Government and the Inamori Foundation do every day. It is this sense of shared purpose that inspires our partnership, and we are honoured to offer a home for the Kyoto Prize at Oxford and an annual event to celebrate talent applied to public good."

Dr Kazuo Inamori, President of the Inamori Foundation, said:

"For thirty years the Kyoto Prize has been implemented according to the principle that "people have no higher calling than to strive for the greater good of humankind and society and that the future of humanity can be assured only when there is a balance between scientific development and the enrichment of the human spirit". I was very pleased to receive this proposal that demonstrates that these values have been understood and are shared. The activities to date have been principally in Japan and the US, and I am delighted that through the Kyoto Prize at Oxford, understanding of the Kyoto Prize will be deepened in the UK and throughout Europe."

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About the Kyoto Prize

The Kyoto Prize is awarded annually to persons who have made significant contributions in the three categories of Advanced Technology, Basic Sciences, and Arts and Philosophy. Through this Prize, the Inamori Foundation seeks not only to recognize outstanding achievements but also to promote academic and cultural development and to contribute to mutual international understanding.

About the Inamori Foundation

The Inamori Foundation was founded on April 12, 1984, by Kazuo Inamori (now Chairman Emeritus of Kyocera Corporation) and began its operations in 1985. The activities of the Inamori Foundation reflect the lifelong beliefs of its founder that people have no higher calling than to strive for the greater good of humankind and society and that the future of humanity can be assured only when there is a balance between scientific development and the enrichment of the human spirit. The Foundation seeks to actively promote peace and prosperity among all people on earth through the promotion of mutual understanding. It does this through programs of public recognition and the support of creative activities to foster science, culture, and the enrichment of the human spirit, as well as through social contributions.
www.inamori-f.or.jp/en/

About the Blavatnik School of Government

Founded at the University of Oxford in 2010, the Blavatnik School of Government exists to inspire and support better government and public policy around the world. We teach current and future public leaders through innovative programmes, conduct deep research into pressing issues facing policy makers around the world, and convene leaders and experts to foster better public policy. With a strong global outlook, we combine insights from a range of academic disciplines and derive lessons from the public, private and third sectors. The School has been developing its links with Japan over the past few years – four Japanese nationals are currently studying for a Master in Public Policy, and we also have three Japanese alumni. The School's International Advisory Board features the Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture Hidehiko Yuzaki.
www.bsg.ox.ac.uk

About the University of Oxford

The University of Oxford is the oldest university in the English speaking world with a history of over 900 years. Oxford's research and teaching excellence across the Humanities, Social Sciences, Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences, and Medical Sciences are widely recognised throughout the world. The University of Oxford has educated 26 British Prime Ministers, at least 30 international leaders, 51 Nobel Prize winners, and Oxford alumni can be found achieving at the highest levels in almost every field of human endeavour. Oxford has strong links with Japan and has had a representative office in Tokyo for over 25 years.
www.ox.ac.uk