

## Innovating Science Award 2018

**Nominations open 9 April – 11 June 2018**

- The Innovating Science Award is an annual award for an individual or a group\* from across academia, education, organisations and corporate entities who have set up or run grassroots initiatives that support girls and young women to study, engage with and enjoy STEM subjects
- The award will be given to an individual or a group who has made an exceptional contribution to the promotion and engagement of girls and young women in any area of STEM, and exhibits the potential for developing and encouraging more girls and young women to study STEM subjects
  - These contributions are likely to include teaching courses, the development of online applications, apps or career material, running/being involved in organisations, events, social media campaigns or groups and/or speaking in or supporting schools.
  - The candidates will have demonstrated the ability to go beyond the 'norm' and worked hard to encourage, support or promote the interest of girls and/or young women in any of the STEM subjects.
  - Please note the grassroots initiative can be a day-job or an additional project (if an additional project the amount that can be achieved alongside a full-time job will be taken into consideration)
- The award is given globally. To ensure applications from developing and emerging STEM nations, location will be taken into account during the process. Applicants from listed Springer Nature Research for Life countries (<https://www.springernature.com/gb/group/responsible-business/research-for-life>) will be awarded an additional 5 points before judging officially begins.

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\*Applications of individuals or groups are eligible. However, when applying in a group, a main point of contact should be selected who will receive the prize when awarded, whilst ensuring the organisation and all relevant nominees are listed.

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## Nominations

- The candidate(s) should fill in an [application form](#) including a description of the initiative and evidence of successfully increasing the interest and participation in STEM subjects among girls and young women alongside a supporting statement from an independent nominator. The independent nominator can be the candidate's principal investigator or someone from the candidate's research institute, company or organisation or other institution, but should not be personally involved in the activity or initiative that they are submitting for the award.
- All candidates should read the detailed [Terms & Conditions](#).
- Please email [innovating@nature.com](mailto:innovating@nature.com) for further information.

## Award Prizes

### The award winner will receive:

- A grant of \$10,000 to spend on initiatives linked to the award
- A grant of up to \$5,200 event funding: to spend on an event over the next 2 years that showcases the initiative
- Invitation to the award ceremony in October/November 2018
- Feature and profile on the careers feature of *Nature*
- Guest blog post on Nature.com with links from *Scientific American* (blog post has to be of sufficient editorial standard to be published – authors will be expected to work alongside editorial teams to ensure this occurs)
- Interview with the winner for Nature Jobs podcast
- Access to online Nature Masterclasses courses
- Opportunity to work with organizations such as Finding Ada or Stemettes to address the gender imbalance in STEM
- Invitation to present their work or initiative to the scientists at The Estée Lauder Companies
- Mentoring through The Estée Lauder Companies

**IMPORTANT:** If the winner cannot demonstrate within 2 years of the prize being awarded that the money will be used to further their academic achievements, Nature Research reserves the right to donate the prize money to our supported organisations ([www.springernature.com/responsiblebusiness](http://www.springernature.com/responsiblebusiness)).

## Longlisted and Shortlisted Candidates

- All longlisted candidates will be profiled with a profile picture and brief biography on the Nature Research Awards website, and will have access to the 'closed' mentoring network with other longlisted candidates, Ambassadors and Judges.
- Shortlisted candidates, which will include the ultimate winner, will have a short media-friendly video prepared for them – these will be posted on Facebook, YouTube and WeChat (amongst others) with a link back to the Nature Research Awards website.

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## Judging Panel and Timeline

Each award will have a separate [judging panel](#). The judging panel consists of editorial staff from Nature Research, academic scientists, external experts working in organisations supporting access to science for women and scientists from our corporate partner, The Estée Lauder Companies. Each panel has a Chief Judge who will make the final decision in the event of a tie.

- The Nature Research internal [editorial steering group](#) will conduct a first-round analysis of all applications between the closing date of 11 June 2018 and 21 June 2018, to ensure they meet the relevant criteria
- The judging panel will decide the 10 longlisted candidates, the shortlisted 5 candidates, and then the ultimate winner
- The 10 longlisted candidates will be announced Tuesday 24 July 2018
- The 5 shortlisted candidates will be announced Tuesday 4 September 2018
- The winner will be announced in October/November 2018
- The judging panel will make up 100% of the votes

## Judging Criteria

- Judges will read all nominations that pass the relevant editorial criteria.
- Judging will be based on the following criteria:
  - Grassroots initiative - 10 points
  - Widening access to STEM - 10 points
  - Future access plans and ideas - 10 points

Please note applications from [Research for Life](#) countries will have an additional 5 points allocated to their score.

Sub-criteria for judging to be defined by the judging panel if required during the shortlisting stage - these will be published on the Nature Research Awards website.

The Nature Research Awards are grateful to our Ambassadors and Judges for their support.

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