

30th

Albert B. Sabin

Gold Medal
& Rising Star



Commemorative Edition:

30 Years of Celebrating Vaccine Excellence





ABOUT SABIN VACCINE INSTITUTE

The Sabin Vaccine Institute is a leading advocate for expanding vaccine access and uptake globally, advancing vaccine research and development, and amplifying vaccine knowledge and innovation. Sabin has built a robust ecosystem of partners including funders, innovators, implementers, practitioners, policy makers and public stakeholders to advance its vision of a future free from vaccine-preventable diseases.

As a non-profit with three decades of experience, Sabin is committed to finding sustainable solutions and extending the benefits of vaccines to all people, regardless of who they are or where they live.

At Sabin, we believe in the power of vaccines to change the world.

Thanks to the sponsors who make this ceremony possible



American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene

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Past Rising Star Recipients

History of Dr. Sabin & the Gold Medal



1906

Early Life

Dr. Sabin was born on August 26, 1906, in Bialystok, Poland. He emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1921 to avoid persecution against Jews.

1931

Dr. Sabin's Contributions to Medicine

He received his MD from New York University in 1931 and immediately began research on polio, an acute viral infection that can cause death or paralysis and which had, at the time, reached epidemic proportions around the globe.

After the start of World War II, he joined the U.S. Army Epidemiological Board's Virus Committee and accepted assignments in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. During this phase of his career, Dr. Sabin developed vaccines for encephalitis (sleeping sickness), sand-fly fever, and dengue.

1957

Developing the Polio Vaccine

Following the war, he returned to focus on polio. While developing the vaccine, Dr. Sabin and his research associates ingested the avirulent (live but weakened) viruses themselves before experimenting on others. The oral vaccine was initially tested from 1957 to 1959. The team's vaccine was first made available in 1961 and used around the world.

1970

Later Life & Career

From 1970 until 1972, Dr. Sabin served as President of the Weizmann Institute of Science and then as a full-time consultant to the U.S. National Cancer Institute in 1974.

1986

Advocate for Science and Peace

After Dr. Sabin's retirement from full-time roles in 1986, he continued to be a powerful force in the international scientific community as medical statesman, consultant and lecturer until the end of his life. He became an advocate for peace and fought the diseases of ignorance and poverty by espousing the same strategies of mutual trust and international cooperation which led to his conquest of polio.

1993

Sabin Vaccine Institute Established

Dr. Sabin passed away on March 3, 1993. To honor his vision and carry on his legacy, his widow, Heloisa Sabin, and his long-time friends, Dr. H.R. Shepherd and Dr. Philip K. Russell, set up the Sabin Vaccine Institute to expand the benefits of immunization to all. Dr. Sabin and his wife are both buried at Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington D.C.

1994

Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Introduced

The Sabin Gold Medal is the highest scientific honor given by the Sabin Vaccine Institute. The first annual award was given to Dr. Donald A. Henderson, who led the decade-long WHO campaign to eradicate smallpox. Awarded every year since, the Sabin Gold Medal is given to a distinguished individual who has made extraordinary contributions in the field of vaccinology or a complementary field.





**2023
Albert B. Sabin
Gold Medal
Recipient**

**Thomas P.
Monath**

Thomas (Tom) P. Monath, MD, is internationally recognized for his work in both virology and vaccinology. His four decade-long career began in the U.S. government, transitioned to the biotechnology sector, and resulted in several innovative vaccines including those for Ebola Zaire, smallpox, West Nile virus, Zika and influenza. Four of his vaccines are licensed and commercialized. Dr. Monath became a partner at what is now called Kleiner Perkins, a leading venture capital firm, where, with his partners, he helped to establish the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, often referred to as BARDA. He has served on numerous government and international committees on infectious diseases and biosecurity and published more than 425 scientific papers, six books on virology and vaccine development, and has 35 patents to his name.

My passion was always to develop vaccines as countermeasures that could help save people's lives. The Gold Medal has put me in such esteemed scientific company. And, that is gratifying and humbling.



**2023
Sabin Rising
Star Recipient**

**Sangwe
Clovis
Nchinjoh**

Sangwe Clovis Nchinjoh, MD, MPH, MS, is a public health physician and researcher in Cameroon. His work primarily focuses on generating evidence on the best approaches to identifying, mapping, and vaccinating zero-dose children in missed communities and conflict settings. Using geospatial analysis and the World Health Organization's Behavioral and Social Drivers framework, Dr. Nchinjoh investigated factors affecting immunization coverage in missed populations. More than 8,500 zero-dose children in 20 target health areas were reached through this initiative. He recorded remarkable results in increasing vaccination demand by enhancing access to primary healthcare services in the hard-to-reach Manoka district, a remote island. It raised the district's childhood vaccination coverage from 15.4% to 70% and improved access to maternal and child health care.



I grew up in a community where we really had issues with health care access, a key reason why I wanted to be a medical doctor.

PAST GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Awarded annually since 1994, the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal honors individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to immunization and global health. This award commemorates the legacy of the late Dr. Albert B. Sabin, who discovered the oral polio vaccine and dedicated his life to ensuring everyone in the world had access to vaccines.



2022

Kathrin Jansen, PhD

Dr. Jansen has spent nearly 30 years advancing vaccine research and development for a range of diseases from COVID-19 to HPV to pneumonia, all of which place a heavier burden on children and adults in low- and middle-income countries with already fragile health care systems.



2021

Barney Graham, MD, PhD

As a researcher, mentor, and vaccine advocate, Dr. Graham has a long and accomplished record of designing vaccines for emerging viruses. He played a key role in the development of one of the COVID-19 vaccines that is widely used today.



2020

Gordon Dougan, FRS

Professor Dougan is a leader in research and discovery, clinical evaluation and advocacy around vaccine affordability. His work contributed to the success of the acellular pertussis vaccine and conjugate vaccines against typhoid fever and cholera. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in the United Kingdom.



2019

Carol J. Baker, MD

Dr. Baker's groundbreaking research and advocacy has enabled doctors to save the lives of countless newborn babies. Her work on group B Streptococcus (GBS) prevention created a sea change in maternal immunization policy in the United States.



2018

Paul Offit, MD

Dr. Offit is the co-inventor of a vaccine for rotavirus, a leading cause of death of children under five. His work as an author has also helped translate complex scientific concepts for people worldwide.



2017

Jan Holmgren, MD, PhD

Dr. Holmgren is a pioneer in oral vaccine research, including developing the world's first effective oral cholera vaccine. He then provided technical assistance to enable cost-effective manufacturing of the vaccine in India, Vietnam, and Korea.



2016

George R. Siber, MD

Dr. Siber's contributions to immunology and infectious diseases research have led to the development of life-saving vaccines for childhood diseases, including pneumococcus, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), and meningococcus.



2013

Anne A. Gershon, MD

Dr. Gershon's research and public health leadership was critical to the widespread adoption of the varicella vaccine, which prevents chickenpox.



2015

Roger I. Glass, MD, PhD

Dr. Glass has documented the epidemiology and burden of rotavirus throughout the world. He helped develop a novel rotavirus vaccine for India that cost the public US\$1.00 per dose, a fraction of the cost of existing vaccines.



2012

F. Marc LaForce, MD

Dr. LaForce oversaw the development, licensure, and widespread introduction of a vaccine providing long-lasting protection against meningitis — the first internationally licensed vaccine specifically designed for and introduced in Africa.



2014

Mathuram Santosham, MD, MPH

Dr. Santosham is a leader in conducting research, vaccine efficacy trials, and advocacy to prioritize Hib vaccines. His work helped make the oral rehydration solution, known as "Pedialyte" in the U.S., the standard of care for treating diarrheal dehydration, saving an estimated 60 million lives since 1980.



2011

**Douglas R. Lowy, MD
& John T. Schiller, PhD**

Drs. Douglas R. Lowy and John T. Schiller's research led to the development of the first vaccines intended to prevent cancer. Their work advanced the development of vaccines against the human papillomavirus (HPV), the cause of virtually all cases of cervical cancer.



2010

John D. Clemens, MD

Dr. Clemens led the first efficacy trial of an oral vaccine against cholera, and conducted critical research on a measles vaccine during the 1980s. He is also a pioneer in using international diplomacy to increase access to vaccines globally.



2007

Hilary Koprowski, MD

d. 2013

Dr. Koprowski was a pioneer in vaccinology and cancer immunotherapy. He developed a live oral poliomyelitis vaccine, the first such vaccine to be used in mass trials. He also was part of a team that engineered a more effective and less painful rabies vaccine than the traditional Pasteur technique.



2009

Rino Rappuoli, PhD

Dr. Rappuoli's use of genetic information for vaccine development, called "reverse vaccinology," was a paradigm shift in the field and directly led to a group B meningococcal vaccine.



2006

William H. Foege, MD, MPH

Dr. Foege is an epidemiologist who worked in the successful campaign to eradicate smallpox in the 1970s. He has also worked to raise public policy awareness about the importance of disease eradication, including Guinea worm, polio, and measles.



2008

Ruth S. Nussenzweig, MD, PhD

d. 2018

Dr. Nussenzweig's discovery that protective immunity against malaria can be induced by irradiating the parasite that causes the disease paved the way for several malaria vaccines.

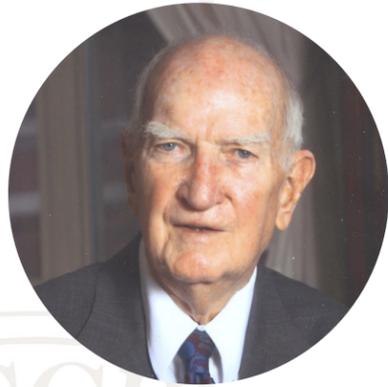


2005

Albert Z. Kapikian, MD

d. 2014

Dr. Kapikian led a nearly 25-year effort to develop an oral rotavirus vaccine that became the first rotavirus vaccine licensed in the United States. He also helped identify the virus that causes hepatitis A.



2004

William S. Jordan, Jr., MD

d. 2008

Dr. Jordan was a practicing physician, dedicated teacher, and infectious disease researcher. His annual scientific review, known as the Jordan Report, was considered by many in the field to be the most complete reference available on vaccine research and development.



2001

John B. Robbins, MD

d. 2019

Dr. Robbins played a pivotal role in the development of Hib conjugate vaccine which led to a dramatic decline in the number of children suffering from meningitis and pneumonia globally. His research also supported the development of vaccines for typhoid fever and pertussis.



2003

Samuel L. Katz, MD

d. 2022

Dr. Katz was responsible for co-developing the measles vaccine now used worldwide. His work to prevent pediatric infectious disease also included research on vaccinia, polio, rubella, influenza, pertussis, and HIV.



2000

Ciro A. de Quadros, MD, MPH

d. 2014

Dr. de Quadros was an epidemiologist and public health reformer whose leadership helped eradicate smallpox and polio in Latin America, a feat cited as one of the boldest projects in epidemiological history. He also set the immunization strategies and led the region through the elimination of measles and rubella.



2002

Stanley A. Plotkin, MD

Dr. Plotkin is the developer of the rubella vaccine that is the only one in use in the United States and throughout most of the world. His research has demonstrated the efficacy of the current anthrax vaccine and contributed to vaccines for polio, rabies, and varicella.



1999

Maj. Gen. Philip K. Russell, MD

d. 2021

Major General (Ret.) Philip K. Russell was a physician, scientist, and global health advocate. His research contributed to the development of vaccines for adenovirus, meningitis, and hepatitis A and B.



1998

Allen C. Steere, MD

Dr. Steere discovered Lyme disease and conducted subsequent studies that paved the way for development of a vaccine to prevent the disease.



1996

Joseph L. Melnick, PhD, DSc

d. 2001

Dr. Melnick conducted groundbreaking polio research and trained more than 100 virologists at the Ph.D. or postdoctoral level, many of whom now are leading efforts to develop new vaccines and improve immunization.



1998

Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH

Dr. Levine is an infectious disease researcher, teacher, and mentor. He has devoted his career to accelerate the development and introduction of vaccines against infections that pose a great burden on children and adults in low- and middle-income countries, including shigella, typhoid, and cholera.



1995

Robert M. Chanock, MD

d. 2010

Dr. Chanock began his career in Dr. Albert Sabin's laboratory. He was the first to identify and characterize respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), which causes the deaths of an estimated 40,000 children under five years of age, and hospitalizes more than 2.5 million young ones in the world.



1997

Maurice R. Hilleman, PhD

d. 2005

Dr. Hilleman is credited with developing more vaccines than any other person in history—including for measles, mumps, rubella, Marek's disease, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and adenoviruses.



1994

Donald A. Henderson, MD, MPH

d. 2016

Dr. Henderson directed the decade-long World Health Organization global campaign that eradicated smallpox.

THE SABIN RISING STAR AWARD

Instituted and first presented in 2020, the Rising Star award celebrates an emerging vaccine leader whose work is both advancing the field of immunization and furthering vaccine equity.



2022

Kizzmekia Corbett, PhD

Dr. Corbett works to advance vaccine development for pandemic preparedness and to build public confidence in vaccines, particularly among communities of color facing health disparities. While at the National Institutes of Health, she was a member of the team whose research on the novel coronavirus laid the groundwork for the COVID-19 Moderna vaccine — the first candidate to be tested in Phase 1 clinical trials in the U.S.



2021

Nginache Nampota-Nkomba, MBBS, MSc

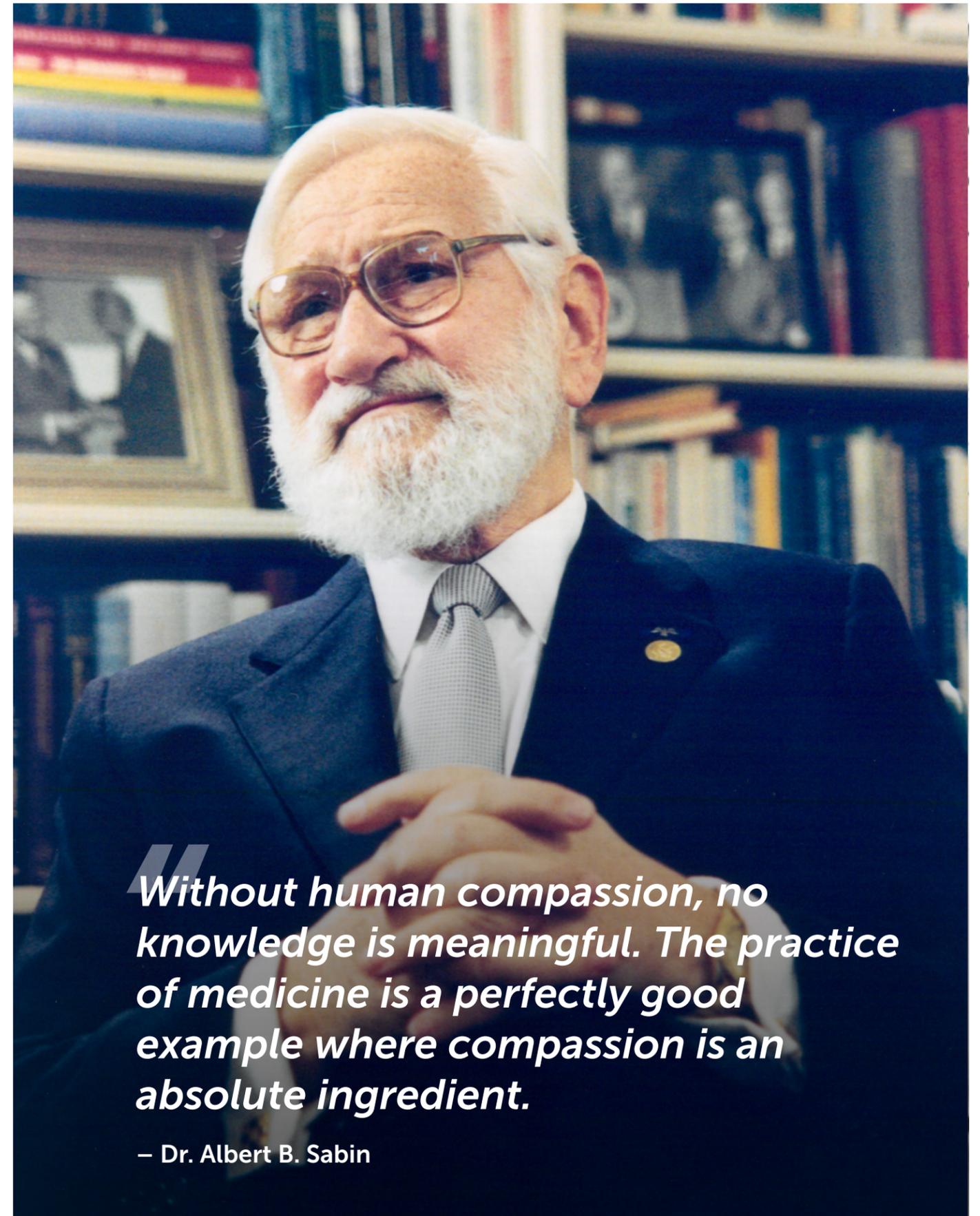
Dr. Nampota-Nkomba is a research physician, clinical research site leader, and vaccine advocate. She leads a research team that is part of a partnership between the Universities of Malawi, Maryland (U.S.), and Michigan State (U.S.). Her work includes serving as on-site investigator for a clinical trial of a novel typhoid conjugate vaccine in children.



2020

Katherine E. Gallagher, MSc, PhD

Dr. Gallagher's work focuses on vaccine efficacy and immunization program sustainability. Her assessment of barriers to the HPV vaccine informed the WHO recommendations and the Gavi application process. At the time of the award, she was conducting a trial of cost-effective doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in Kenya.



“Without human compassion, no knowledge is meaningful. The practice of medicine is a perfectly good example where compassion is an absolute ingredient.”

– Dr. Albert B. Sabin

Anthrax Chickenpox Cholera COVID-19 Ebola Group B Streptococcus Hepatitis A Hepatitis B HIV HPV Influenza Lyme disease Malaria Measles Meningitis Mumps Pertussis Pneumonia Polio Rabies Rotavirus RSV Rubella Smallpox Typhoid West Nile virus Yellow Fever Zika Dengue Lassa fever Nipah virus Anthrax Chickenpox Cholera COVID-19 Ebola Group B Streptococcus Hepatitis A Hepatitis B HIV HPV Influenza Lyme disease Malaria Measles Meningitis Mumps Pertussis Pneumonia Polio Rabies Rotavirus RSV Rubella Smallpox Typhoid West Nile virus Yellow Fever Zika Dengue Lassa fever Nipah virus Anthrax Chickenpox Cholera COVID-19 Ebola Group B Streptococcus Hepatitis A Hepatitis B HIV HPV Influenza Lyme disease Malaria Measles Meningitis Mumps Pertussis Pneumonia Polio Rabies Rotavirus



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