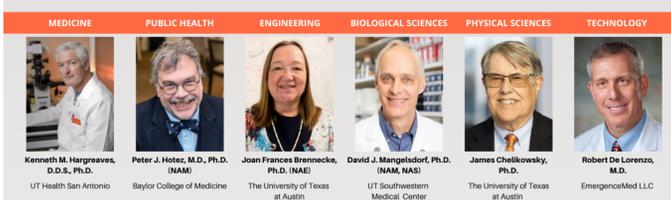


Newsletter

HIGH-RISK. HIGH-IMPACT.
2025 Hill Prizes Recipients



TAMEST and Lyda Hill Philanthropies have unveiled the prestigious recipients of the 2025 Hill Prizes. The prizes, funded by Lyda Hill Philanthropies, propel high-risk, high-reward ideas and innovations that demonstrate very significant potential for real-world impact and can lead to new, paradigm-shifting paths in research.

Recipients of the winning proposals will be recognized the evening of February 4, 2025, at the opening reception of the TAMEST 2025 Annual Conference in Irving, Texas. Each of the six winning proposals will receive \$500,000 in funding from Lyda Hill Philanthropies to accelerate their work. [Read More](#)



TAMEST Board of Directors Appoints New Leadership

The TAMEST Board of Directors is proud to announce the appointment of **Ganesh Thakur, Ph.D. (NAE), University of Houston**, as Board President and **Cheryl Lyn Walker, Ph.D. (NAM), Baylor College of Medicine**, as Board Vice President. Both will serve a two-year term beginning February 4, 2025. The TAMEST Board President and Vice President help coordinate and guide the TAMEST Board of Directors in planning strategy, programs and communications. TAMEST also gives special thanks to **Brendan Lee, M.D., Ph.D. (NAM), Baylor College of Medicine**, who served as President for the last two years and will now become Past President. [Read More](#)



TAMEST Welcomes 2025 Protégé Class

TAMEST is pleased to welcome 60 talented early-career researchers to the TAMEST 2025 Annual Conference: **Transformational Breakthroughs** as TAMEST protégés. Each year, TAMEST members have a unique opportunity to help nurture the next generation of researchers in Texas. Through the TAMEST Protégé Program, early-career researchers are selected on an individual basis by TAMEST members to attend the TAMEST annual conference. They also have the opportunity to participate in the TAMEST Protégé Poster Challenge, which recognizes research and technology that could have significant impact on scientific understanding and society. [Read More](#)

Featured Photo



THANK YOU TO THE PRESENTING SPONSORS: **breyercapital** **LYDA HILL PHILANTHROPIES**

[Register Today](#)

There's still time to register and join us next week for the TAMEST 2025 Annual Conference: **Transformational Breakthroughs**, February 4-6, at the Westin Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas in Irving, Texas. The conference will explore some of the most disruptive breakthroughs in science and technology set to change our way of life in the coming years. Speakers will examine game-changing advancements in the fields of materials science and nanotechnology, space exploration, regeneration and synthetic biology, energy transition and more.

TAMEST In The News

Dallas Innovates: TAMEST, Lyda Hill Philanthropies Announce 2025 Hill Prizes, 2025 TAMEST Hill Prizes Recipients

KXAN: UT Scientist Selected for National Inventors Hall of Fame for Work on COVID, RSV Vaccines, 2022 Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award in Medicine Recipient Jason McLellan, Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin

Center Times Plus: Biomedical Engineering Symposium Reveals How Rapid Advances in Technology are Transforming Medicine, TAMEST 2025 Kay Bailey Hutchison Distinguished Service Award Recipient Lyda Hill Philanthropies, TAMEST 2025 Annual Conference Co-Chair Samuel Achilefu, Ph.D. (NAM) and TAMEST 2023 Annual Conference Speaker Daniel J. Siegwart, Ph.D., UT Southwestern Medical Center

Earth: Light-Activated Molecules Kill Cancer Cells with Precision, TAMEST Member James M. Tour, Ph.D. (NAE), Rice University

KXAN: Advisor Named to CYAUSA, Dr. Mark McClellan, TAMEST Member Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D. (NAM), The University of Texas at Austin

MUSA: Semiconductor Company AMD Plans \$163M Austin Expansion, TAMEST Member Lisa T. Su, Ph.D. (NAE), AMD

[Read More](#)

Member Briefs

2025 NAS Awards Recipients Announced

The National Academy of Sciences honored 20 individuals with awards recognizing their extraordinary scientific achievements in a wide range of fields spanning the physical, biological, social and medical sciences. TAMEST Member **Peter G. Wolynes, Ph.D. (NAS, FRAS, Rice University)**, will receive the NAS Award in Chemical Sciences for breakthrough contributions that enhance our understanding of protein structure dynamics and function. [Read More](#)

Big Recommendations for Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos

Cancer is a big health issue for Latinos and all people. That's why TAMEST Member **Amelie Ramirez, Dr.P.H. (NAM), UT Health San Antonio**, Director of Salud America! and the Institute for Health Promotion Research, partnered with the Mays Cancer Center to create the Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos (ASCL) biennial conference. [Read More](#)

AI Health Care Innovator Will Lead Computational Medicine Research at UT

The inventor of the most widely adopted artificial intelligence technology in United States health care is joining The University of Texas at Austin. The hire comes a year and a half after The University of Texas System announced an ambitious plan to establish an academic medical center in Austin, the largest United States city without one. TAMEST Member **Charles "Charley" Taylor, Ph.D. (NAE)**, an internationally recognized leader in artificial intelligence, machine learning and digital twin technology, will lead a new Center for Computational Medicine at UT Austin. [Read More](#)

Dedicating a 'Place of Firsts'

It is being celebrated as "a place of firsts." On Nov. 13, UT Health San Antonio proudly dedicated a new \$472 million UT Health San Antonio Multispecialty and Research Hospital in front of leaders from The University of Texas System, UT Health San Antonio and Mays Cancer Center, as well as donors, elected officials and other distinguished guests. The new hospital will be the only facility of its kind in South Texas where patients will have access to therapies and expertise unavailable elsewhere, including access to top specialists and pioneering therapies, especially in cancer treatment. [Read More](#)

Research Sparks Prevention Techniques for Wildfires and Outages

Fires can start in 10s of milliseconds, and approximately 10% of wildfires are started by something related to the power system. For over 30 years, researchers in the Power System Automation Laboratory in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Texas A&M University including TAMEST Member **B. Don Russell, Ph.D. (NAE)**, have been studying ways to monitor electric power lines for faults and failures to correct those conditions before an outage, fire or catastrophic failure occurs. In that time, they have conducted several projects to enhance their Distribution Fault Anticipation (DFA) system. [Read More](#)

[Read More](#)

About TAMEST

TAMEST was co-founded in 2004 by the Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison and Nobel Laureates Michael S. Brown, M.D., and Richard E. Smalley, Ph.D. With more than 345 members, eight Nobel Laureates and 24 member institutions, TAMEST is composed of the Texas-based members of the three National Academies (National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Engineering and National Academy of Sciences) and other honorific organizations. We bring together the state's brightest minds in medicine, engineering, science and technology to foster collaboration, and to advance research, innovation and business in Texas.

TAMEST's unique interdisciplinary model has become an effective recruitment tool for top research and development centers across Texas. Since our founding, more than 300 TAMEST members have been inducted into the National Academies or relocated to Texas.

TAMEST's 24 Member Institutions



TAMEST recognizes members of the Founders of the Endowment and the Legacy Circle, whose extraordinary commitment ensures sustainable funds to continue the mission of promoting excellence in science and technology.

Founders of the Endowment
Anadarko Foundation • AT&T • BNSF Foundation • ConocoPhillips
Energy Future Holdings • Edith and Peter O'Donnell • Temple-Inland
The USAA Foundation

Legacy Circle
The Eugene McDermott Foundation

