

THE NOBEL PRIZE

A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW

Introduction

- The Nobel Prizes were established in 1895 according to Alfred Nobel's will.
- They are awarded to individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions benefiting humanity.
- Alfred Nobel, a Swedish chemist, engineer, and industrialist, is most famous for inventing dynamite and left his fortune to create the prizes upon his death in 1896.

Nobel Prize Selection Process

- Nominations are solicited from about 3,000 experts, usually prominent academics in relevant fields.
- For the Peace Prize, inquiries are sent to governments, former Peace Prize laureates, and members of the Norwegian Nobel Committee.
- Nomination forms must be returned by January 31st of the award year.
- Nominees remain confidential for 50 years.
- Nobel Committees review nominations and consult experts in the respective fields.
- Reports and recommendations are submitted to prize-awarding institutions.

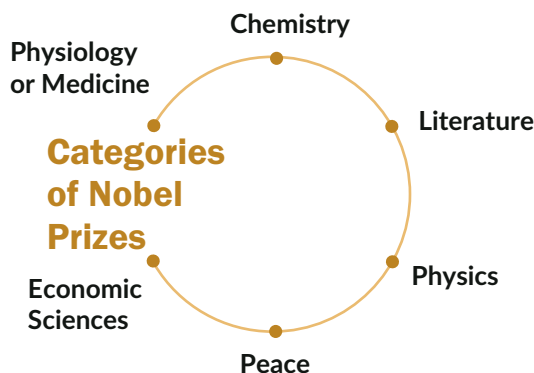


Notable Facts

- Nobel Prizes have been awarded 609 times to 975 individuals and 25 organizations.
- Peace Prize can be awarded to organizations.
- Posthumous awards not allowed, except if announced before recipient's death.
- Recognition time lag - prizes awarded for discoveries with a lasting impact.
- Nobel laureates required to give public lectures related to their prize.
- Some individuals and organizations have received multiple Nobel Prizes:
- Marie Curie (Physics in 1903, Chemistry in 1911)
- International Committee of the Red Cross (Peace in 1917, 1944, 1963)
- Linus Pauling (Chemistry in 1954, Peace in 1962)
- John Bardeen (Physics in 1956, 1972)
- Frederick Sanger (Chemistry in 1958, 1980)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Peace in 1954, 1981)
- Karl Barry Sharpless (Chemistry in 2001, 2022)

Notable Nobel Prize Laureates

- Youngest Nobel Laureate: Malala Yousafzai, who received the Nobel Peace Prize at the age of 17 in 2014.
- Oldest Nobel Laureate: John B. Goodenough, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry at the age of 97 in 2019.
- Only Person with More Than One Unshared Nobel Prize: Linus Pauling, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1954) and Nobel Peace Prize (1962).
- Country with the Most Nobel Laureates (as of 2022): The United States, with 403 Nobel laureates.
- Posthumous Nobel Prize Laureates: Erik Axel Karlfeldt (Literature in 1931), Dag Hammarskjöld (Peace in 1961), Ralph M. Steinman (Physiology or Medicine in 2011).
- Married Couples Who Received Nobel Prizes: Marie Curie and Pierre Curie (Physics in 1903), Irène Joliot-Curie and Frédéric Joliot (Chemistry in 1935), Gerty Cori and Carl Cori (Medicine in 1947), Gunnar Myrdal (Economics in 1974) and Alva Myrdal (Peace in 1982), May-Britt Moser and Edvard I. Moser (Medicine in 2014), Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee (Economics in 2019).
- Years Without Nobel Prizes (by Category): Several years in various categories, notably during World War I and World War II.



Nobel Medal

Nobel Prize medal plated with 24 karat gold. Features an image of Alfred Nobel.

Prize Money

Monetary award as of 2023: 11,000,000 SEK. Shared equally if multiple laureates. Common for laureates to donate prize money.

Award Ceremonies

Prizes presented annually on December 10th. Stockholm, Sweden, hosts most Nobel Prize ceremonies. Nobel Peace Prize awarded in Oslo, Norway. Ceremonies and banquets are international events.

Prize-Awarding Institutions

- There are four main awarding institutions for the six Nobel Prizes:
 - Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Economic Sciences)
 - Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute (Physiology or Medicine)
 - Swedish Academy (Literature)
 - Norwegian Nobel Committee (Peace)
- These institutions meet to select laureates by majority vote.
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed.
- A maximum of three laureates and two different works can be chosen per award, except for the Peace Prize, which can be awarded to institutions.