

Faculty & Friends

Double Helix Medals Dinner raises more than \$3 million



Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory celebrated its fifth Double Helix Medals Dinner, an annual event initiated to honor extraordinary individuals who have benefitted human health through game-changing biomedical research or raising awareness and funds for such endeavors.

An event that has quickly become a well-attended staple of New York City's Fall roster of philanthropic events, the Dinner was chaired by Larry Norton, Amy and John Phelan, David Koch, Ron Howard, and Patricia Quick, among others. The event raised more than \$3

million, which will serve as the financial backbone for the expansion of various research and education programs at the Laboratory.

At this year's November 9th gala, geneticist **Mary-Claire King** was honored with the Medal for Scientific Research

for her outstanding contributions toward understanding the genetics of breast cancer and mental illness. One of her most significant accomplishments was her demonstration that breast cancer is inherited in some families, as the result of mutations in the gene that she named BRCA1. This discovery revolutionized the study of numerous other common inherited diseases.

The Laboratory honored **Evelyn H. Lauder** with the Medal for Corporate Philanthropy. As Founder and Chairman of the The Breast Cancer Research Foundation, Mrs. Lauder has raised over \$300 million to support clinical and translational breast cancer research conducted by over 170 scientists worldwide, including CSHL's Michael Wigler.

Nobel laureate in Economic Sciences **John F. Nash** was awarded the Medal for Humanitarianism for having brought worldwide awareness to and appreciation for people suffering with schizophrenia. Using his influence as a public role model, Nash has served as an effective and passionate advocate for mental health issues, pushing for the installation of both laws and programs that allow those with mental illness to lead independent and productive lives. **Hema Bashyam**

More details and images of the event can be found at <http://doublehelixmedals.cshl.edu/>



2010 Honorees: John F. Nash, Jr., Mary-Claire King, and Evelyn H. Lauder