

Commendation Ceremony for "Materials Science Idea Contest –Challenger to the Future–" (March 24, 2012)

AIMR in collaboration with MANA performed a commendation ceremony for "Materials Science Idea Contest –Challenger to the Future–" at National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo on March 24, 2012.

The ceremony was held with attendance of recipients of the Award for Excellent Challenger listed below, who were chosen from 320 applications through a rigorous screening process, as well as their families and guests.

| Recipient | Address | Title |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|
| Mr. Yuta Kashiwazaki | Kawasaki, Kanagawa | Fabrics that can be sterilized by solar energy |
| Mr. Koichi Kido | Kodaira, Tokyo | Wave Lock: Materials that cause a change in properties and shapes by sound waves or vibrations |
| Mr. Tadashi Kohashi | Sapporo, Hokkaido | Create sounds from sense of smell or taste !! Intuitive synthesizer !! |
| Miss Yuka Sakurada | Machida, Tokyo | Harmless and transferable cloud-like materials |
| Mr. Kanta Sugiyama | Sendai, Miyagi | Superthermal conductor and superthermal non-conductor |
| Miss Miyu Suzuki | Fuchu, Tokyo | Dilatancy materials that change shapes due to oscillation |
| Miss Miwa Tamai | Hachioji, Tokyo | Shape-memory thread |
| Mr. Kengo Hashimoto | Chigasaki, Kanagawa | Shape-memory alloy transformed by a current |
| Mr. Masaru Matsumoto | Hachioji, Tokyo | Camera that can revive eyesight !! |
| Mr. Atsushi Yamamoto | Setagaya, Tokyo | 20% of conversion efficiency !! High-performance thermoelectric transducer |

* ordered in the Japanese alphabet

The ceremony started with an opening address by MANA Director General Masakazu Aono, and afterward Director General Aono and AIMR Center Director Yoshinori Yamamoto presented the award certificates, medals and extra prizes to each winner and honored their achievements. Additionally, the facilitators introduced the reasons for selection of each idea and



Opening address by MANA Director General Aono

interviewed every recipient about the thoughts on their works. Although some of them seemed to be shy to give a speech, they enthusiastically talked about their works varied from creative ideas produced from a youthful and fresh viewpoint, to feasible and viable ideas.

Futhermore, the Special Recognition Award was announced. The two winners below were selected from the recipients of the Award for Excellent Challenger. They were recognized for their ideas filled with dreams and given the award certificates and one-day passports for Tokyo Disneyland/Tokyo DisneySea by Ms. Yukiko Tokue from The Walt Disney Company (Japan) Ltd.

- Mr. Tadashi Kohashi: Create sounds from sense of smell or taste !!
Intuitive synthesizer !!
- Miss Yuka Sakurada: Harmless and transferable cloud-like materials



Mr. Kohashi (Left photo: pictured left) and Miss Sakurada (Right photo: pictured left)

The following two winners were recognized for their ideas that contain the technical feasibility leading to a social contribution. Dr. Itaru Ishii from National Museum of Nature and Science presented the award certificates, free invitations to “The Exhibit of the Inca Empire” and the Museum’s gift items to them.

- Mr. Kengo Hashimoto: Shape-memory alloy transformed by a current
- Mr. Kanta Sugiyama: Superthermal conductor and superthermal non-conductor



Mr. Hashimoto (Left photo: pictured left) and Mr. Sugiyama (Right photo: pictured left)

The members of the screening committee individually made comments and sent messages with expectations to the young people who will build a future. At the end of the ceremony, AIMR Center Director Yamamoto delivered a closing address. After some group photos were taken, the ceremony ended in a relaxed atmosphere.



Closing address by AIMR Center Director Yamamoto

Then the attendance moved to the exhibition space on the 1st floor of Global Gallery in National Museum of Nature and Science and watched the award-winning works. The works can be seen in the display space from March 24 through April 22, 2012.

We thank you for a large number of applications for this contest. To the award winners, we would like to send congratulations for their excellent work. We also appreciate support and efforts by the persons involved in organizing this contest. Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all applicants and those who were involved in this contest.



Pictured (left to right) Front Row: Mr. Masaru Matsumoto, Mr. Kengo Hashimoto, Miss Miwa Tamai, Miss Miyu Suzuki, Mr. Kanta Sugiyama, Miss Yuka Sakurada, Mr. Tadashi Kohashi, Mr. Koichi Kido, Mr. Kengo Kashiwazaki. (Mr. Atsushi Yamamoto couldn't attend the ceremony due to a personal reason.) Back Row: Ms. Yukiko Tokue (The Walt Disney Company (Japan) Ltd.), Mr. Mitsuyuki Ueda (MEXT), Director-General Masakazu Aono (MANA), Center Director Yoshinori Yamamoto (AIMR), Dr. Itaru Ishii (National Museum of Nature & Science), Dr. Genki Yoshikawa (MANA).



Award-winning ideas on display