

Nomination deadline:

Friday, January 15, 2027, 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Program Information and Scoring Criteria

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Jenesis Trailblazer Awards™ provide a funding award to exceptional US- or Canada-based clinicians who are conducting innovative research in the fields of pulmonary hypertension (PH), idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), or lung transplantation (LTx). Up to two unrestricted research grants of up to \$5,000 will be issued to the awardee's affiliated research institution for a project of their choice.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program will provide recognition to two clinicians annually – the Jenesis Trailblazer Award™ and the Jenesis Emerging Trailblazer Award™. Recipients of these grants will be selected by an independent Scientific Review Committee (SRC), comprised of leaders in the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx. The SRC will review all submitted, complete nominations. Recognition of award recipients will be made at events hosted or sponsored by United Therapeutics.

Please refer to the Eligibility for Nomination section below to review the criteria nominees must meet to be considered for an award. Nominations from prior cycles will be considered, pending confirmation from the nominator that the nominee still meets the eligibility criteria.

SCIENTIFIC FOCUS

The program aims to acknowledge and support the development of leaders in the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx by issuing an unrestricted grant to an affiliated research institution.

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (SRC)

Nominations will be assessed by an independent SRC comprised of leaders in the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx.

CHAIR:

Stephen Chan, MD, PhD, FAHA
Vitalant Chair in Vascular Medicine
Professor of Medicine, Division of Cardiology
Director, Vascular Medicine Institute
Director, Center for Pulmonary Vascular Biology and Medicine
Associate Chief of Cardiology, Basic Science
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and UPMC
Pittsburgh, PA

REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Sophia Airhart, MD, FACC
Medical Director, Pulmonary Hypertension
Regional Medical Director of Heart Failure
Baystate Health
Springfield, MA

Pedro Catarino, MD
Professor, Cardiac Surgery
Director, Aortic Surgery
Staff Physician, Smidt Heart Institute
Department of Cardiac Surgery
Cedars Sinai
Los Angeles, CA

Sachin Chaudhary, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine
Director, Interstitial Lung Disease and Scleroderma
Lung Program
University of Arizona
Tucson Arizona

Vinicio A. de Jesus Perez, MD, FCCP, FAHA, ATSF
Associate Dean of MD Admissions, Stanford School of Medicine
Professor of Medicine with Tenure
Co-Director, Stanford Translational Investigator Program (TIP)
Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, CA

Nicholas Kolaitis, MD, MAS, ATSF, ISHLTF

Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine
Director of Bronchoscopy
Pulmonary Hypertension and Lung Transplant Programs
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy, & Sleep Medicine
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Deborah Levine, MD

Clinical Professor of Medicine
Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Lung Transplantation
Stanford Medicine
Director, Lung Transplant Outreach
Stanford, CA

Yolanda Mageto, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine, Texas A&M School of Medicine
Medical Director, Interstitial Lung Disease
Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Baylor Scott & White Health, University Medical Center Dallas
Dallas, TX

Kenneth McCurry, MD

The Jack B. Lally Endowed Chair in Thoracic Surgery
Surgical Director, Lung and Heart-Lung Transplant Program
Director, Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion Program
Director, Respiratory ECMO Program
Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland, OH

Lana Melendres-Groves, MD

Assistant Dean of Faculty Affairs
Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
Clinical Professor
Director, Pulmonary Hypertension
Medical Director, Clinical Trial Unit
Department of Internal Medicine
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Albuquerque, NM

Imre Noth, MD

Dudley F. Rochester Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Joshua Solomon, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
Director, Interstitial Lung Disease Program
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine
National Jewish Health
Denver, CO

ELIGIBILITY NOMINATION

These awards are intended for clinicians conducting research in the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx.

JENESIS TRAILBLAZER AWARD™

At the time of nomination submission, nominees must meet the following requirements:

- Hold the title of either Associate Professor or Professor
- Hold a doctoral level clinical degree (such as MD, DO, PharmD)
- Be a US or Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or hold a valid nonimmigrant visa. This visa must be valid for the one-year award period
- Be responsible for providing exceptional patient care and contributing innovative research to the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx

JENESIS EMERGING TRAILBLAZER AWARD™

At the time of nomination submission, nominees must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a title of no higher rank than Assistant Professor. Fellows and instructors are eligible
- Hold a doctoral level clinical degree (such as MD, DO, PharmD)
- Be a US or Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or hold a valid nonimmigrant visa
- Be responsible for providing exceptional patient care and contributing innovative research to the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx

NOMINEE REVIEW CRITERIA

Nominees are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Exhibited clinical and scientific expertise
- Novelty/innovation of the research
- Potential impact and application of the research or ability to address unmet medical needs
- Impact the nominee may have had on the therapeutic discipline by advancing foundational and clinical research, transforming clinical understanding and management of the disease, and advancing patient care

PROGRAM TIMELINE**Nomination Deadline:**

Friday, January 15, 2027, 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Nominee Notification:

Monday, March 29, 2027

Jenesis Awards Reception:

ATS 2027 (May 14-19, 2027, New Orleans, LA) Exact Date TBD

INQUIRIES/CONTACT INFORMATION**For general inquiries, please email:**

Attn: Jenesis Trailblazer Awards Coordinator

Email: info@utjenesisawards.com

**JENESIS TRAILBLAZER AWARD™
RECIPIENTS**

2026

George Washko, MD

Physician-Scientist at Brigham and Women's Hospital
Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

2025

Marilyn Glassberg, MD

John W. Clarke Chair and Professor of Medicine
Loyola University Chicago
Stritch School of Medicine
Chicago, IL

2024

Patricia A. Thistlewaite, MD, PhD

Professor and Program Director
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, CA

2023

Teresa De Marco, MD, FACC, FHSA

Professor of Medicine
R.H. and Jane G. Logan Endowed Chair in Cardiology
Founder of UCSF Adult PH Comprehensive Care Center
Medical Director of Heart Transplantation
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

2022

Erika Berman Rosenzweig, MD

Director, Adult and Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension
Comprehensive Care Center and CTEPH Program
Director, PPHNet
Vice Chair for Clinical and Translational Research,
Department of Pediatrics
Professor of Pediatrics (in Medicine)
Columbia University Irving Medical
Center – New York-Presbyterian
New York, NY

**EMERGING JENESIS TRAILBLAZER AWARD™
RECIPIENTS**

2026

Sasha Prisco, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cardiovascular Division
Faculty, Department of Integrative Biology and Physiology
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

2025

Jianing Fu, PhD

Assistant Professor in Medical Sciences
Columbia Center for Translational Immunology
New York, NY

2024

Anna Podolanczuk, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medicine
Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
New York, NY

2023

Kara Goss, MD

Assistant Professor*
UT Southwestern
Dallas, TX

Ke Yuan, MD

Assistant Professor
Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

**At time of award*