

# Nomination deadline:

## Friday, January 16, 2026, 11:59 PM Eastern Time

### Program Information and Scoring Criteria

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Jenesis Trailblazer Awards™ recognize two exceptional US- or Canada-based researchers or clinicians who have completed innovative research in the fields of pulmonary hypertension (PH), idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), or lung transplantation (LTx). A one-time award up to \$5,000 will be issued for professional development and/or training of their choice.

#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program will provide recognition to two researchers or clinicians annually – one for the Jenesis Trailblazer Award™ and one for the Jenesis Emerging Trailblazer Award™ which recognizes an early-to-mid career researcher or clinician for innovative contributions to PH, IPF, or LTx. Recipients of these awards 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 celebrate the development of leaders in the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx and feed the talent pipeline by recognizing them at critical points in their careers.

#### SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (SRC)

Applications 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

**Murali Chakinala, MD**  
Professor of Medicine  
Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine  
Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Care Center  
Director, Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia Center  
Washington University in St. Louis  
St. Louis, MO

**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

**Deborah Levine, MD**

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

**Bradley Maron, MD**

Professor of Medicine  
Senior Associate Dean for Precision Medicine  
Executive Co-Director, Institute for Health Computing  
Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Center  
University of Maryland  
Baltimore, MD

**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

- Hold a PhD degree or equivalent, or a doctoral-level clinical degree, such as MD, DO, or 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 or 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 PhD degree or equivalent, or a doctoral-level clinical degree, such as MD, DO, or PharmD
- Be a US or Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or hold a valid nonimmigrant visa
- Be responsible for providing exceptional patient care or contributing innovative research to the fields of PH, IPF, or LTx

**NOMINEE REVIEW CRITERIA**

Nominees are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Exhibited scientific/technical/clinical 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 careers of other researchers or proteges

**PROGRAM TIMELINE****Nomination Deadline:**

Friday, January 16, 2026, 11:59 PM Eastern Time

**Nominee Notification:**

Monday, March 30, 2026

**Jenesis Awards Reception:**

ISHLT 2026 (April 21-25, 2026, Toronto) Exact Date TBD

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

**Attn:** Jenesis Trailblazer Awards Coordinator

**Tel:** 516-287-5015

**Email:** utjenesisawards@j-jhealth.com

**ELIGIBILITY NOMINATION**

These awards are intended for researchers or clinicians working 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

**JENESIS TRAILBLAZER AWARD™  
RECIPIENTS**

**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, FHFS**

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 – NewYork-  
Presbyterian  
New York, NY

**EMERGING JENESIS TRAILBLAZER AWARD™  
RECIPIENTS**

**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*