

3M, UT Austin and Nobel Prize Outreach collaborate to inspire future innovators

Three Nobel Laureates will engage with students in free, two-day virtual event

AUSTIN, Texas, April 19, 2021 [/PRNewswire/](#) -- 3M, The University of Texas at Austin and Nobel Prize Outreach proudly announced today a collaboration to inspire the next generation of innovators in a two-day virtual event called [The Nobel Prize Inspiration Initiative \(NPII\)](#) on April 21-22. The event will be free and open to the public and is highlighted by the participation of three Nobel Laureates, [Elizabeth Blackburn](#) (Physiology/Medicine, 2009), [Andrew Fire](#) (Physiology/Medicine, 2006) and [Robert Grubbs](#) (Chemistry, 2005).

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"The challenges of tomorrow will be solved by the students of today," said Denise Rutherford, 3M's senior vice president and chief corporate affairs officer. "3M believes science will create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world, and we want to inspire others to apply science to improve lives around the world. We're thrilled to partner with UT Austin and Nobel Prize Outreach to offer this unique event."

The NPII is a global program that brings Nobel Laureates to universities and research centers to inspire and engage students. 3M has been a Nobel International Partner since 2016 and helped bring the 2018 NPII event to the Twin Cities in partnership with the University of Minnesota. This is the first such collaboration with UT Austin. The event will also include students from the Austin Independent School District, a community of 75,000 students and 125 K-12 schools.

"Here at UT, we're all about creating opportunities to learn from the world's greatest minds," said UT Austin President Jay Hartzell. "Getting to interact with Nobel Laureates has the potential to be pivotal and transformative for our students as they work out their own world-changing paths."

UT Austin and 3M are long-time community partners and recently teamed up to launch the [Women in STEM Leadership Collaborative](#) led by the Cockrell School of Engineering's Women in Engineering Program. The effort reflects the shared vision of both organizations to advance equity for women in STEM fields.

"We are delighted to have come together with 3M and UT Austin to deliver this digital event in challenging times," said Laura Sprechmann, CEO of Nobel Prize Outreach. "The Nobel Prize Inspiration Initiative strives to bring Nobel Laureates into close contact with the scientists of tomorrow, and we believe that connecting people is crucial – or almost existential – at this difficult moment."

The event registration website can be [viewed here](#).

<https://news.3m.com>

About 3M

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with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M's creative solutions to global challenges at www.3M.com or on Twitter [@3M](https://twitter.com/3M) or [@3MNews](https://twitter.com/3MNews).

About Nobel Prize Outreach

Nobel Prize Outreach spreads knowledge about Nobel Prize-awarded achievements and stimulates interest in science, literature and peace in line with Alfred Nobel's vision and legacy. The company reaches a global audience of millions through its high-quality productions: The official digital channels of the Nobel Prize, the Nobel Prize Concert, as well as a series of intercontinental, inspirational lecture events featuring Nobel Laureates. www.nobelprize.org

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