

The 20th Mystery of Life Awards

Award Categories:

Life Sciences / Humanities and Social Sciences / Activities



The Mystery of Life Awards was instituted to manifest the Catholic Church's teachings on the sanctity of human life. It aims to advance scholarly research within the domains of life sciences and humanities/social sciences while fostering initiatives that safeguard life, thereby propagating a culture of life.

Aligned with the forthcoming World Youth Day (WYD) in Seoul 2027, we are pleased to announce, for the first time, the inclusion of young international applicants. This expansion reflects the inclusive and global spirit of WYD, as we actively seek the engagement of young researchers from around the world.

- Awards**
- **Excellence Award:** 200 million won (approx. \$150,000)
 - **Achievement Award:** 100 million won (approx. \$75,000)
 - **Encouragement Award:** 30 million won (approx. \$22,500)

- ※ The Excellence Award is given to one individual or institution across all categories.
- ※ The Achievement Award and Encouragement Award are each awarded within every category.

Eligibility

- **Life Sciences:** Individual researchers and organizations that have contributed to advancements in embryonic stem cell research, cell therapy research, and life sciences based on Catholic bioethics
- **Humanities and Social Sciences:** Individuals and organizations recognized for their original research contributions, papers, and publications in fields such as ethics, philosophy, sociology, law, theology, literature, and related academic disciplines informed by Catholic bioethics
- **Activities:** Individuals and organizations that have played a vital role in promoting a culture of life by safeguarding human life, providing care, and upholding the dignity of human life

Application Schedule

- **Application Period:**
September 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025
※ Please note that submitted documents will not be returned.
- **Announcement of Winners:**
Sunday, May 3, 2026

Contact

- The Committee for Life
(Humanities and Social Sciences and Activities)
☎ +82-2-727-2353 vitavia@hanmail.net
- The Catholic Institute of Cell Therapy
(Life Sciences)
☎ +82-2-3147-9540 cic@catholic.ac.kr
- ※ For details and information on qualifications for nominators and submission forms, please refer to the Mystery of Life Awards official website (mysteryoflife.or.kr)

● **Host :**  Archdiocese of Seoul
The Committee for Life

● **Sponsor :** OPERASALUTARIS CO.,LTD