

For Immediate Release

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**2013 VILCEK PRIZES FOR CREATIVE PROMISE
IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE EXPANDS IN FIFTH YEAR**

Celebrating achievement by young, immigrant biomedical scientists

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

New York, NY, May 16, 2012 – In 2013, the Vilcek Foundation will award the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science for the fifth time. It will be the first time, however, that three prizes will be presented; there will also be an increase in the cash award in 2013, to \$35,000.

Established in 2009, the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise raise public awareness of the key role foreign-born researchers play in sustaining the leadership position of the United States in the sciences; the prizes also serve to support younger scientists who have distinguished themselves early in their careers.

“The Vilcek Foundation has always been conscious of the impact that young, immigrant researchers had on the American sciences,” said Jan Vilcek, President of the Foundation. “We were amazed, however, to witness the large number of excellent candidates applying each year. In response, the Foundation has decided to broaden the reach of the prizes.”

Researchers in all fields of biomedical science are encouraged to apply. Applicants must have been born abroad, be a naturalized citizen or permanent resident of the United States, hold a doctoral degree, intend to pursue a career in the United States, and be no more than 38 years old as of December 31, 2012. In addition, they must also hold a full-time independent position in an academic institution or other organization.

A panel of distinguished members of the scientific community will select the recipients of the prize. The jury will consider the candidates’ innovation, independence, creativity, clarity of vision, and impact on the field of biomedical research.

A written application, professional resume, list of publications, and letters of recommendation are required. The deadline for submissions is August 14, 2012. Eligibility requirements and a link to the online application can be found at www.vilcek.org.

The winners will be notified in November 2012 and honored at the Foundation’s annual awards ceremony, in New York City, in April 2013.

VILCEK FOUNDATION

The Vilcek Foundation aims to raise awareness of the contributions of immigrants to the sciences, arts, and culture in the United States. The Foundation achieves its mission through hosting immigrant artists and performers at its gallery space in New York City, awarding annual prizes in the biomedical sciences and the arts, and sponsoring cultural programs. For more information about the Vilcek Foundation and the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise, please visit www.vilcek.org.

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