

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Open Call for Nominations: The 2021 Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare

The \$10,000 prize celebrates outstanding immigrant healthcare professionals in the United States

November 17, 2020 New York, NY | The Vilcek Foundation and The Arnold P. Gold Foundation are pleased to announce an open call for nominations for the 2021 Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare.

Inaugurated in 2019, the Vilcek-Gold Award recognizes a foreign-born healthcare or public health professional for their outstanding contributions to humanistic and community-centered healthcare in the United States. The award includes an unrestricted \$10,000 cash prize and will be presented at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual meeting in 2021.

A shared initiative of the Vilcek Foundation and The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the Vilcek-Gold Award embodies the respective missions of both organizations: to honor the outstanding contributions of immigrants to society, and to celebrate the positive outcomes that can be achieved when healthcare is practiced with humanism. The 2019 Vilcek-Gold Award was bestowed upon Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, for her ongoing leadership in addressing the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. Dr. Vivek Murthy, 19th Surgeon General of the United States and the founder of Doctors for America, receives the 2020 Vilcek-Gold Award for his holistic and community-centered approach to care.

“One does not have to look far to find evidence of immigrant contributions in the United States, and medicine is no exception,” says Jan Vilcek, chairman and CEO of the Vilcek Foundation. “The challenges of 2020 have starkly illuminated how reliant the United States is on immigrant workers— particularly in essential services and healthcare. Through the Vilcek-Gold Award, we honor those immigrant professionals whose work is at the foundation of protecting the health, safety, and well-being of our communities.”

“Humanism in healthcare – placing human interests, values, and dignity at the core of care – defines the quality of care that every single person deserves,” said Dr. Richard I. Levin, President and CEO of the Gold Foundation. “The expertise and compassion that immigrant health professionals bring to their work has a profound impact on healthcare in the United States. This is what the Vilcek-Gold Award celebrates.”

Nominees will be reviewed by a panel of distinguished medical and health experts, and the recipient of the 2021 Vilcek-Gold Award will be announced in June 2021. Nominators may

propose any foreign-born person based in the United States whose work in healthcare, medicine, or public health demonstrates a commitment to humanistic values.

Nominations for the 2021 Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare may be made through January 24, 2021, 11:59 pm EST. The nomination form and eligibility details are available at gold-foundation.org.

The Vilcek Foundation

The Vilcek Foundation raises awareness of immigrant contributions in the United States and fosters appreciation of the arts and sciences. The foundation was established in 2000 by Jan and Marica Vilcek, immigrants from the former Czechoslovakia. The mission of the foundation—to honor immigrant contributions to the United States, and more broadly to foster appreciation of the arts and sciences—was inspired by the couple’s respective careers in biomedical science and art history. Since 2000, the foundation has awarded over \$5.8 million in prizes to foreign-born individuals and supported organizations with over \$5.2 million in grants.

The Vilcek Foundation is a private operating foundation, a federally tax-exempt nonprofit organization under IRS Section 501(c)(3). To learn more, please visit vilcek.org.

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation believes that healthcare is dramatically improved by placing human interests, values, and dignity at the core of teaching and practice. The foundation engages schools, health systems, companies, and individual clinicians in the joy and meaning of humanistic healthcare, so that they have the strength and knowledge to ensure patients and families are partners in collaborative, compassionate, and scientifically excellent care. To learn more, please visit gold-foundation.org.