

# Turing Award

The **ACM A.M. Turing Award** is an annual prize given by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) to an individual selected for contributions "of lasting and major technical importance to the computer field".<sup>[2]</sup> The Turing Award is generally recognized as the highest distinction in computer science and the "Nobel Prize of computing".<sup>[3][4][5][6]</sup>

The award is named after Alan Turing, a British mathematician and reader in mathematics at the University of Manchester. Turing is often credited as being the key founder of theoretical computer science and artificial intelligence.<sup>[7]</sup> From 2007 to 2013, the award was accompanied by an additional prize of US \$250,000, with financial support provided by Intel and Google.<sup>[2]</sup> Since 2014, the award has been accompanied by a prize of US \$1 million, with financial support provided by Google.<sup>[1][8]</sup>

The first recipient, in 1966, was Alan Perlis, of Carnegie Mellon University. The first female recipient was Frances E. Allen of IBM in 2006.<sup>[9]</sup>

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## Recipients







### ACM Turing Award




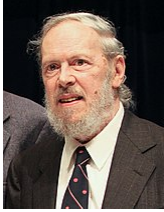






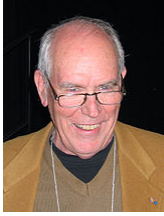






Stephen Kettle's slate statue of Alan Turing at Bletchley Park

<b>Awarded for</b>	Outstanding contributions in computer science
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Presented by</b>	Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
<b>Reward(s)</b>	US \$1,000,000 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>First awarded</b>	1966
<b>Last awarded</b>	2018
<b>Website</b>	<span>amturing.acm.org</span> ( <span>http://amturing.acm.org</span> )










Year	Recipient	Picture	Rationale
1966	<u>Alan J. Perlis</u>		For his influence in the area of advanced computer programming techniques and compiler construction. <sup>[10]</sup>
1967	<u>Maurice Wilkes</u>		Professor Wilkes is best known as the builder and designer of the EDSAC, the first computer with an internally stored program. Built in 1949, the EDSAC used a mercury delay line memory. He is also known as the author, with Wheeler and Gill, of a volume on "Preparation of Programs for Electronic Digital Computers" in 1951, in which program libraries were effectively introduced. <sup>[11]</sup>
1968	<u>Richard Hamming</u>		For his work on numerical methods, automatic coding systems, and error-detecting and error-correcting codes. <sup>[12]</sup>
1969	<u>Marvin Minsky</u>		For his central role in creating, shaping, promoting, and advancing the field of artificial intelligence. <sup>[13]</sup>
1970	<u>James H. Wilkinson</u>		For his research in numerical analysis to facilitate the use of the high-speed digital computer, having received special recognition for his work in computations in linear algebra and "backward" error analysis. <sup>[14]</sup>
1971	<u>John McCarthy</u>		McCarthy's lecture "The Present State of Research on Artificial Intelligence" is a topic that covers the area in which he has achieved considerable recognition for his work. <sup>[15]</sup>
1972	<u>Edsger W. Dijkstra</u>		Edsger Dijkstra was a principal contributor in the late 1950s to the development of the ALGOL, a high level programming language which has become a model of clarity and mathematical rigor. He is one of the principal proponents of the science and art of programming languages in general, and has greatly contributed to our understanding of their structure, representation, and implementation. His fifteen years of publications extend from theoretical articles on graph theory to basic manuals, expository texts, and philosophical contemplations in the field of programming languages. <sup>[16]</sup>
1973	<u>Charles W. Bachman</u>		For his outstanding contributions to database technology. <sup>[17]</sup>
1974	<u>Donald E. Knuth</u>		For his major contributions to the analysis of

			algorithms and the design of programming languages, and in particular for his contributions to " <u>The Art of Computer Programming</u> " through his well-known books in a continuous series by this title. <sup>[18]</sup>
1975	<u>Allen Newell</u>		In joint scientific efforts extending over twenty years, initially in collaboration with <u>J. C. Shaw</u> at the RAND Corporation, and subsequently with numerous faculty and student colleagues at <u>Carnegie Mellon University</u> , they have made basic contributions to artificial intelligence, the psychology of human cognition, and list processing. <sup>[19]</sup>
	<u>Herbert A. Simon</u>		
1976	<u>Michael O. Rabin</u>		For their joint paper "Finite Automata and Their Decision Problem," <sup>[20]</sup> which introduced the idea of <u>nondeterministic machines</u> , which has proved to be an enormously valuable concept. Their (Scott & Rabin) classic paper has been a continuous source of inspiration for subsequent work in this field. <sup>[21][22]</sup>
	<u>Dana S. Scott</u>		
1977	<u>John Backus</u>		For profound, influential, and lasting contributions to the design of practical high-level programming systems, notably through his work on <u>FORTRAN</u> , and for seminal publication of <u>formal procedures for the specification of programming languages</u> . <sup>[23]</sup>
1978	<u>Robert W. Floyd</u>		For having a clear influence on methodologies for the creation of efficient and reliable software, and for helping to found the following important subfields of <u>computer science</u> : the theory of parsing, the <u>semantics of programming languages</u> , <u>automatic program verification</u> , <u>automatic program synthesis</u> , and <u>analysis of algorithms</u> . <sup>[24]</sup>
1979	<u>Kenneth E. Iverson</u>		For his pioneering effort in programming languages and mathematical notation resulting in what the computing field now knows as <u>APL</u> , for his contributions to the implementation of interactive systems, to educational uses of APL, and to programming language theory and practice. <sup>[25]</sup>
1980	<u>Tony Hoare</u>		For his fundamental contributions to the definition and design of programming languages. <sup>[26]</sup>

			
<b>1981</b>	<u>Edgar F. Codd</u>		For his fundamental and continuing contributions to the theory and practice of database management systems, esp. relational databases. <sup>[27]</sup>
<b>1982</b>	<u>Stephen A. Cook</u>		For his advancement of our understanding of the complexity of computation in a significant and profound way. <sup>[28]</sup>
<b>1983</b>	<u>Ken Thompson</u>		For their development of generic operating systems theory and specifically for the implementation of the <u>UNIX</u> operating system. <sup>[29][30]</sup>
	<u>Dennis M. Ritchie</u>		
<b>1984</b>	<u>Niklaus Wirth</u>		For developing a sequence of innovative computer languages, <u>EULER</u> , <u>ALGOL-W</u> , <u>MODULA</u> and <u>Pascal</u> .
<b>1985</b>	<u>Richard M. Karp</u>		For his continuing contributions to the theory of algorithms including the development of efficient algorithms for network flow and other combinatorial optimization problems, the identification of polynomial-time computability with the intuitive notion of algorithmic efficiency, and, most notably, contributions to the theory of <u>NP-completeness</u> .
<b>1986</b>	<u>John Hopcroft</u>		For fundamental achievements in the design and analysis of algorithms and data structures.
	<u>Robert Tarjan</u>		
<b>1987</b>	<u>John Cocke</u>		For significant contributions in the design

			and theory of compilers, the architecture of large systems and the development of reduced instruction set computers (RISC).
1988	<u>Ivan Sutherland</u>		For his pioneering and visionary contributions to <u>computer graphics</u> , starting with <u>Sketchpad</u> , and continuing after.
1989	<u>William Kahan</u>		For his fundamental contributions to <u>numerical analysis</u> . One of the foremost experts on <u>floating-point computations</u> . Kahan has dedicated himself to "making the world safe for numerical computations."
1990	<u>Fernando J. Corbató</u>		For his pioneering work organizing the concepts and leading the development of the general-purpose, large-scale, time-sharing and resource-sharing computer systems, <u>CTSS</u> and <u>Multics</u> .
1991	<u>Robin Milner</u>		For three distinct and complete achievements: 1) <u>LCF</u> , the mechanization of Scott's Logic of Computable Functions, probably the first theoretically based yet practical tool for machine assisted proof construction; 2) <u>ML</u> , the first language to include polymorphic <u>type inference</u> together with a <u>type-safe exception-handling</u> mechanism; 3) <u>CCS</u> , a general theory of concurrency. In addition, he formulated and strongly advanced full abstraction, the study of the relationship between <u>operational</u> and <u>denotational semantics</u> . <sup>[31]</sup>
1992	<u>Butler W. Lampson</u>		For contributions to the development of distributed, personal computing environments and the technology for their implementation: workstations, networks, operating systems, programming systems, displays, security and document publishing.
1993	<u>Juris Hartmanis</u>		In recognition of their seminal paper which established the foundations for the field of computational complexity theory. <sup>[32]</sup>
	<u>Richard E. Stearns</u>		
1994	<u>Edward Feigenbaum</u>		For pioneering the design and construction of large scale artificial intelligence systems, demonstrating the practical importance and potential commercial impact of artificial intelligence technology. <sup>[33]</sup>



	<u>Raj Reddy</u>		
<b>1995</b>	<u>Manuel Blum</u>		In recognition of his contributions to the foundations of computational complexity theory and its application to <u>cryptography</u> and <u>program checking</u> . <sup>[34]</sup>
<b>1996</b>	<u>Amir Pnueli</u>		For seminal work introducing <u>temporal logic</u> into computing science and for outstanding contributions to program and systems <u>verification</u> . <sup>[35]</sup>
<b>1997</b>	<u>Douglas Engelbart</u>		For an inspiring vision of the future of interactive computing and the invention of key technologies to help realize this vision. <sup>[36]</sup>
<b>1998</b>	<u>Jim Gray</u>		For seminal contributions to <u>database</u> and <u>transaction processing</u> research and technical leadership in system implementation.
<b>1999</b>	<u>Frederick P. Brooks, Jr.</u>		For landmark contributions to <u>computer architecture</u> , <u>operating systems</u> , and <u>software engineering</u> .
<b>2000</b>	<u>Andrew Chi-Chih Yao</u>		In recognition of his fundamental contributions to the theory of computation, including the complexity-based theory of pseudorandom number generation, <u>cryptography</u> , and <u>communication complexity</u> .
<b>2001</b>	<u>Ole-Johan Dahl</u>		For ideas fundamental to the emergence of <u>object-oriented programming</u> , through their design of the programming languages <u>Simula I</u> and <u>Simula 67</u> .
	<u>Kristen Nygaard</u>		
<b>2002</b>	<u>Ronald L. Rivest</u>		For their ingenious contribution for making <u>public-key cryptography</u> useful in practice.
	<u>Adi Shamir</u>		

			
	<u>Leonard M. Adleman</u>		
<b>2003</b>	<u>Alan Kay</u>		For pioneering many of the ideas at the root of contemporary object-oriented programming languages, leading the team that developed Smalltalk, and for fundamental contributions to personal computing.
<b>2004</b>	<u>Vinton G. Cerf</u>		For pioneering work on internetworking, including the design and implementation of the Internet's basic communications protocols, <u>TCP/IP</u> , and for inspired leadership in networking.
	<u>Robert E. Kahn</u>		
<b>2005</b>	<u>Peter Naur</u>		For fundamental contributions to programming language design and the definition of ALGOL 60, to compiler design, and to the art and practice of computer programming.
<b>2006</b>	<u>Frances E. Allen</u>		For pioneering contributions to the theory and practice of optimizing compiler techniques that laid the foundation for modern optimizing compilers and automatic parallel execution.
<b>2007</b>	<u>Edmund M. Clarke</u>		For their roles in developing model checking into a highly effective verification technology, widely adopted in the hardware and software industries. <sup>[37]</sup>
	<u>E. Allen Emerson</u>		

	<u>Joseph Sifakis</u>		
<b>2008</b>	<u>Barbara Liskov</u>		For contributions to practical and theoretical foundations of programming language and system design, especially related to data abstraction, fault tolerance, and distributed computing.
<b>2009</b>	<u>Charles P. Thacker</u>		For his pioneering design and realization of the <u>Xerox Alto</u> , the first modern personal computer, and in addition for his contributions to the Ethernet and the Tablet PC.
<b>2010</b>	<u>Leslie G. Valiant</u>		For transformative contributions to the theory of computation, including the theory of probably approximately correct (PAC) learning, the complexity of enumeration and of algebraic computation, and the theory of parallel and distributed computing.
<b>2011</b>	<u>Judea Pearl</u> <sup>[38]</sup>		For fundamental contributions to artificial intelligence through the development of a calculus for probabilistic and causal reasoning. <sup>[39]</sup>
<b>2012</b>	<u>Silvio Micali</u>		For transformative work that laid the complexity-theoretic foundations for the science of cryptography and in the process pioneered new methods for efficient verification of mathematical proofs in complexity theory. <sup>[40]</sup>
	<u>Shafi Goldwasser</u>		
<b>2013</b>	<u>Leslie Lamport</u>		For fundamental contributions to the theory and practice of distributed and concurrent systems, notably the invention of concepts such as causality and logical clocks, safety and liveness, replicated state machines, and sequential consistency. <sup>[41][42]</sup>
<b>2014</b>	<u>Michael Stonebraker</u>		For fundamental contributions to the concepts and practices underlying modern database systems. <sup>[43]</sup>
<b>2015</b>	<u>Martin E. Hellman</u>		For fundamental contributions to modern cryptography. Diffie and Hellman's groundbreaking 1976 paper, "New Directions in Cryptography," <sup>[44]</sup> introduced the ideas of public-key cryptography and digital signatures, which are the foundation for most regularly-used security protocols on the internet today. <sup>[45]</sup>
	<u>Whitfield Diffie</u>		



			
<b>2016</b>	<u>Tim Berners-Lee</u>		For inventing the <u>World Wide Web</u> , the first <u>web browser</u> , and the <u>fundamental protocols and algorithms</u> allowing the Web to scale. <sup>[46]</sup>
<b>2017</b>	<u>John L. Hennessy</u>		For pioneering a systematic, quantitative approach to the design and evaluation of computer architectures with enduring impact on the microprocessor industry. <sup>[47]</sup>
	<u>David A. Patterson</u>		
<b>2018</b>	<u>Yoshua Bengio</u>		For conceptual and engineering breakthroughs that have made <u>deep neural networks</u> a critical component of computing. <sup>[48]</sup>
	<u>Geoffrey Hinton</u>		
	<u>Yann LeCun</u>		

## See also

- List of ACM Awards
- List of science and technology awards
- List of prizes named after people
- IEEE John von Neumann Medal
- List of Turing Award laureates by university affiliation
- Turing Lecture
- Nobel Prize
- Schock Prize
- Nevanlinna Prize
- Kanellakis Award
- Millennium Technology Prize

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## External links

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- ACM Chronological listing of Turing Laureates (<https://amturing.acm.org/byyear.cfm>)
  - Visualizing Turing Award Laureates (<http://www.tableau.com/public/gallery/turingawards>)
  - ACM A.M. Turing Award Centenary Celebration ([https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0nrSd4xjjaL\\_AVb5DKvxxvBhXb8Xrrv5](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0nrSd4xjjaL_AVb5DKvxxvBhXb8Xrrv5))
  - ACM A.M. Turing Award Laureate Interviews (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0nrSd4xjjaSLBSzmno-3Ods6FJE9nlO>)
  - Celebration of 50 Years of the ACM A.M. Turing Award ([https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0nrSd4xjjam-7b7tu1\\_\\_4Xowkq9o1rR](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0nrSd4xjjam-7b7tu1__4Xowkq9o1rR))
  - ACM A.M. Turing Award (announcements, bios, lectures) by SFBayACM (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL87GtQd0bfJwEnxpK-3LJUKxq6Dye0nG8>)
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