13\textsuperscript{th} Knuth Prize: Call for Nominations

David S. Johnson

The Donald E. Knuth Prize for outstanding contributions to the foundations of computer science is now awarded annually by the ACM Special Interest Group on Algorithms and Computing Theory (SIGACT) and the IEEE Technical Committee on the Mathematical Foundations of Computing (TCMF). The Prize is awarded for major research accomplishments and contributions to the foundations of computer science over an extended period of time. The first Knuth Prize was presented at the 1996 ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC). Going forward, prize presentations will alternate between STOC in odd years and the IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS) in even years. The winner is invited to give a lecture at the conference.

The prize is named in honor and recognition of the extraordinary accomplishments of Prof. Donald Knuth, Emeritus at Stanford University. Prof. Knuth is best known for his ongoing multivolume series, “The Art of Computing Programming,” which has played a critical role in establishing and defining Computer Science as a rigorous, intellectual discipline. Prof. Knuth has also made fundamental contributions to the subfields of analysis of algorithms, compilers, string matching, term-rewriting systems, literate programming, and typography. His TeX and MF systems are widely accepted as standards for electronic typesetting. Prof. Knuth’s work is distinguished by its integration of theoretical analyses and practical, real-world concerns. In his work, theory and practice are not separate components of Computer Science but rather inexorably linked branches of the same whole.

The 2013 Prize will be presented at STOC 2013, to be held June 1-4 in Palo Alto, California. **Nominations are due on January 31, 2013.** The winner will be selected by a Prize Committee consisting of six people appointed by the SIGACT and TCMF Chairs. The Prize includes a $5000 award and a $1000 travel stipend (for travel to the award ceremony) that are paid by SIGACT and TCMF.

The Prize Committee for the 13\textsuperscript{th} Knuth Prize consists of:
* David Johnson, Chair (AT&T Labs - Research)
* Russell Impagliazzo (University of California, San Diego)
* Ravindran Kannan (Microsoft Research)
* Anna Karlin (University of Washington)
* Ronitt Rubinfeld (Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Tel Aviv University)
* Alistair Sinclair (University of California, Berkeley)

In selecting the Knuth-Prize winner, the Committee will pay particular attention to a sustained record of high-impact, seminal contributions to the foundations of computer science. The selection may also be based partly on educational accomplishments and contributions such as fundamental textbooks and high-quality students. The award is not given for service to the theoretical computer science community, but service might be included in the citation for a winner if appropriate.
Nominations  
*Arrival deadline: Thursday, January 31, 20132*

Nominations should be sent, by email if possible, to the Chair of the Prize Committee:

David S. Johnson  
AT&T Labs - Research  
180 Park Avenue, Room C239  
Florham Park, NJ 07932  
USA  
dsj@research.att.com

The nomination should state the nominee’s name, summarize his or her contributions in one or two pages, provide a CV for the nominee or a pointer to the nominee’s webpage, and give telephone, postal, and email contact information for the nominator. Any supporting letters from other members of the community (up to a limit of 5) should be included in the package that the nominator sends to the Committee chair. Supporting letters should contain substantial information not in the nomination. Others may endorse the nomination simply by adding their names to the nomination letter. All nominations will be considered by the Committee, including those submitted in previous years, but nomination is not a requirement to receive the Prize. Note that the Knuth prize is awarded to a single individual each year. Nominations of groups of researchers will not be considered.

**Past Winners**

2012: Leonid Levin  
2011: Ravindran Kannan  
2009: David Johnson  
2008: Volker Strassen  
2007: Nancy Lynch  
2005: Mihalis Yannakakis  
2003: Miklos Ajtai  
2002: Christos Papadimitriou  
2000: Jeffrey D. Ullman  
1999: László Lovász  
1997: Leslie G. Valiant  
1996: Andrew C.-C. Yao