Nobel Week
Stockholm
2019

Detailed information for the media
5 December 2019
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This Year’s Nobel Laureates

This year’s Laureates are 15 in number, including Abiy Ahmed Ali, who has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Since 1901, the Nobel Prize has been awarded 595 times to 947 Laureates. Because some have been awarded the prize twice, a total of 916 individuals and 24 organisations have received a Nobel Prize or the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

All of the Laureates whose prizes are awarded in Stockholm on the Nobel Day – 10 December 2019 – are presented below. Each Laureate and their significant other may invite an official party of 14 people to the Nobel Week in Stockholm.

THE NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

The 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded with one half to James Peebles “for theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology” and the other half jointly to Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz. “for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star”.

Professor Emeritus James Peebles was born in 1935 in Winnipeg, MB, Canada. He is affiliated with Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA. He will be arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Jean Alison and two daughters as well as additional relatives.

Professor Michel Mayor was born in 1942 in Lausanne, Switzerland. He is affiliated with the University of Geneva, Switzerland. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Françoise Mayor, their three children, grandchildren and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.

Professor Didier Queloz was born in 1966 in Geneva, Switzerland. He is affiliated with the University of Geneva, Switzerland and the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Tina Queloz and four children, his mother, father and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.
THE NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

The 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded with one third each to John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino “for the development of lithium-ion batteries”.

Professor John B. Goodenough was born in 1922 in Jena, Germany. He is affiliated with the University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA. He is the oldest Laureate ever and will arrive in Stockholm accompanied by colleagues and friends.

Professor M. Stanley Whittingham was born in 1941 in the United Kingdom and is affiliated with Binghamton University, State University of New York, Binghamton, NY, USA. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Georgina Judith Whittingham, two children, grandchildren and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.

Dr Akira Yoshino was born in 1948 in Suita, Japan and is affiliated with Meijo University, Nagoya, Japan. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his wife Kumiko Yoshino, their two daughters with significant others and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.
THE NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

THE 2019 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE has been awarded with one third each to William G. Kaelin Jr., Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe and Gregg L. Semenza “for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability”.

Professor William G. Kaelin Jr. was born in 1957 in New York, NY, USA. He is affiliated with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, USA; Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; and Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Chevy Chase, MD, USA. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his two children, his partner Karen S. Kantor and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.

Professor Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe was born in 1954 in Lancashire, United Kingdom. He is affiliated with the Francis Crick Institute, London, UK; the Target Discovery Institute, Oxford, UK; and the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Oxford, UK. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Fiona Ratcliffe, their four children and one grandchild, as well as colleagues, relatives and friends.

Professor Gregg L. Semenza was born in 1956 in New York, NY, USA. He is affiliated with Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Laura Margaret Kasch-Semenza, their three children and additional relatives, as well as colleagues and friends.
THE NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

THE 2018 NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE has been awarded to Olga Tokarczuk “for a narrative imagination that with encyclopaedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life”.

Olga Tokarczuk was born in 1962 in Sulechów, Poland and lives in Wrocław, Poland. She is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by her partner Grzegorz Zygadło, her son, her publisher and friends.

THE 2019 NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE has been awarded to Peter Handke “for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience”.

Peter Handke was born in 1942 in Griffen, Austria and lives in Chaville, France. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Sophie Semin Handke, three children, his publisher and friends.

THE PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES

THE 2019 SVERIGES RIKSBANK PRIZE in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded with one third each to Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer “for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty”.

Professor Abhijit Banerjee was born in 1961 in Mumbai, India. He is affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA. He is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Professor Esther Duflo and their two children, as well as colleagues, additional relatives and friends.

Professor Esther Duflo was born in 1972 in Paris, France. She is affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA. She is arriving in Stockholm accompanied by her family, including her husband Professor Abhijit Banerjee and their two children, as well as colleagues, additional relatives and friends.

Professor Michael Kremer was born in 1964 in New York, NY, USA. He is affiliated with Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA. He will arrive in Stockholm accompanied by his family, including his wife Dr Rachel Glennerster, two sons, as well as colleagues, additional relatives and friends.
The 2019 Nobel Week

The 2019 Nobel Week will begin with a visit to Nobel Prize Museum on Stortorget, the main square in Stockholm’s Old Town, on 6 December. Here this year’s Laureates and their families will be welcomed to an eventful week in Stockholm and will also meet as a group for the first time. At the museum, they can view the exhibition For the Greatest Benefit to Humankind. The visit to Nobel Prize Museum will end with Laureates autographing chairs at Bistro Nobel, in keeping with tradition, and donating an artefact to the museum’s collections.

Press Conferences

6 December

13.00 CET
Press conference for the Laureates in Literature at the Swedish Academy.

15.00 CET
Press conference for the Laureates in Physiology or Medicine at the Nobel Forum.

7 December

09.30 CET
Press conference for the Laureates in Physics, Chemistry and Economic Sciences at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Nobel Lectures

During the Nobel Week, in keeping with the statutes of the Nobel Foundation, all the Laureates will hold a Nobel Lecture concerning the discovery or achievements they have been rewarded for. With few exceptions, this has been done since the first Nobel Prizes were awarded in 1901. The scientific Nobel Lectures will be open to the general public and free of charge. It is not possible to reserve seats in the Aula Magna or in the Aula Medica, so it is important to arrive early.
Nobel Lectures in Physiology or Medicine
Aula Medica, Solnavägen 7–9, Karolinska Institutet, Campus Solna

7 December

Audience members must take their seats by 13.40

14.00 CET
“Hypoxia-Inducible Factors in Physiology and Medicine”
Gregg L. Semenza

“Elucidation of Oxygen Sensing Systems in Human and Animal Cells”
Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe

“The von Hippel-Lindau TumorSuppressor Protein: Insights into Oxygen Sensing”
William B. Kaelin

Nobel Lectures in Literature
Swedish Academy, Källargränd 4, Old Town, Stockholm

7 December

16.45 CET
“Czuby narrator”
(Original title in Polish. In English: “A Sensitive Narrator”)  
Olga Tokarczuk

Nobel Lecture by Peter Handke
Nobel Lectures in Physics, Chemistry and Economic Sciences
Aula Magna, Stockholm University

8 December

09.00 CET
Introduction to the 2019 Nobel and Prize Lectures

09.05–10.55 CET
The Nobel Prize in Physics

“How Physical Cosmology Grew”  
James Peebles

“Plurality of Worlds in the Cosmos: A Dream of Antiquity, A Modern Reality of Astrophysics”  
Michel Mayor

“Exoplanets: 51 Pegasi b and All the Others...”  
Didier Queloz

11.20–13.10 CET
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry

“Designing Lithium-ion Battery Cathodes”  
John B. Goodenough

“The Lithium Battery: From an Idea to Domination of Energy Storage”  
M. Stanley Whittingham

“Brief History and Future of Lithium-ion Batteries”  
Akira Yoshino

14.00–15.50 CET
The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel

“Field Experiments and the Practice of Economics”  
Abhijit Banerjee
“Field Experiments and the Practice of Policy”
Esther Duflo

“Experimentation, Innovation and Economics”
Michael Kremer

Nobel Laureates’ Call to Space Station

Nobel Laureates in Physics and Chemistry will talk to astronauts on the International Space Station on 6 December as the Nobel Week festivities begin in Stockholm. The discoveries made by the Laureates are crucial to the work taking place on the International Space Station.

ESA astronaut Luca Parmitano and NASA astronaut Jessica Meir will talk to two of the Nobel Laureates in Physics, Didier Queloz and Michel Mayor, and one of the Nobel Laureates in Chemistry, Stanley Whittingham. The conversation will be about their perspective on the universe, exoplanets and the challenges of spacewalking. ESA astronaut Christer Fuglesang will moderate the conversation. The event will start with a question and answer session with the Nobel Laureates, moderated by Anna Sjöström Douagi, Science and Programme Director, Nobel Prize Museum.

The event has been organised by Nobel Prize Museum and the European Space Agency and will take place at the museum. The in-flight call will be streamed at: https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/ESA_Web_TV
**Nobel Prize Concert**

The Nobel Prize Concert will take place at 19.00 CET on 8 December at Konserthuset Stockholm (the Stockholm Concert Hall). This year the world-renowned Swedish conductor Herbert Blomstedt will lead the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra. Herbert Blomstedt is Sweden’s greatest conductor of modern times. Among the international orchestras he has worked with are the Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Orchestre de Paris and not least the San Francisco Symphony, where he was Music Director for ten years. This year’s soloist is Miah Persson, Swedish soprano and Court Singer.

The programme, which is all-Nordic, will begin with Carl Nielsen’s *Aladdin Suite* and continue with two songs by Wilhelm Stenhammar and two songs by Edvard Grieg. After the interval the programme will conclude with the *Symphony No. 2* of Jean Sibelius.

The Nobel Prize Concert will be broadcast in its entirety starting at 20.45 CET on 14 December on Swedish Television’s SVT2 channel. The Nobel Prize Concert is a joint project between Nobel Media and Konserthuset Stockholm. It is part of the official Nobel Week programme.
Nobel Week Dialogue – Into the unknown

On 9 December, Nobel Laureates will exchange ideas with some of the world’s most prominent experts and artists during the Nobel Week Dialogue in Gothenburg, Sweden. This annual event during the Nobel Week offers discussions about a theme – both on-site and online – aimed at inspiring people to seek knowledge, ask questions and strive to understand and improve the world. There will be onstage conversations, interviews and discussions about how uncertainty and risk affect our society, our culture and our daily lives. The theme Into the unknown – Uncertainty, risk and opportunity will be scrutinised from many perspectives.

Five Nobel Laureates will be participating: Steven Chu (Physics, 1997), John Polanyi (Chemistry, 1986), Peter C. Doherty (Physiology or Medicine, 1996), Françoise Barré-Sinoussi (Physiology or Medicine, 2008) and Tawakkol Karman (Peace, 2011).

Françoise Barré-Sinoussi will speak about global health risks and how she deals with risks in her work as a researcher.

“For me, risk opens the world to novel opportunities and to novel discoveries because we have to respond to this risk, and to take it into consideration to make new discoveries,” she says.

During the all-day event, some 20 experts will explore the intricacies of such questions as: How can we evaluate risk? Can we learn to live with uncertainty? What are the biggest risks facing our society? How will the future look with artificial intelligence (AI)? How can climate risk best be addressed? What can we do to prevent a nuclear war? Can we live in a world that is entirely predictable? And how can uncertainty be regarded as an opportunity?

Alex Honnold, free-solo rock climber

One of the speakers is Alex Honnold, the daring free-solo rock climber who was the first to ascend Yosemite’s El Capitan without a rope or safety equipment. His climb up this more than 900-metre high cliff is portrayed in the documentary film Free Solo, which received a 2019 Oscar for Best Documentary Feature. Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, co-director of the film, will hold an onstage conversation with Alex Honnold about how they dealt with the uncertainty and risks they encountered while shooting the film. Alex Honnold will also participate in a panel discussion about fear together with psychology researcher Armita Golkar.

In an interview with National Geographic he said: “With free-soloing, obviously I know that I’m in danger, but feeling fearful while I’m up there is not helping me in any way. It’s only hindering my performance, so I just set it aside and leave it be.”
Cai Guo-Qiang, master of gunpowder

Artist Cai Guo-Qiang is known for his large-scale outdoor explosion art and installations. He uses gunpowder and fireworks to draw pictures in the air. Sometimes his works are over in a few seconds, and sometimes they result in traces of explosions on paper or canvas. Many of his works have been highly acclaimed, especially his fireworks during the opening of the Beijing Olympics in 2008 and his Sky Ladder project, which has also become a documentary film.

During the Nobel Week Dialogue he will show examples of a number of his works from various parts of the world.

“Today, we are faced with ceaseless terror and violence all around the world. Humans have created a power for large-scale devastation, yet there is still someone using this power to create beauty – this in itself gives humanity a little bit of hope,” Cai Guo-Qiang says.

Cai Guo-Qiang has received numerous prizes for his work, among them a Gold Lion at the 1999 Venice Biennale, the Hiroshima Art Prize in 2007 and Japan’s Praemium Imperiale in 2012.

Panellists

Here you will find the names of all participants in the panel discussions:
www.nobelprixe.org/events/nobel-week-dialogue/gothenburg-2019/panellists/

Programme

Here you will find the entire programme for the day:
www.nobelprixe.org/events/nobel-week-dialogue/gothenburg-2019/agenda/#tab-content
Lecture at Chalmers
The Nobel Week Dialogue will begin a day early, on 8 December, with a lecture by John Polanyi (Laureate in Chemistry, 1986) at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg. His lecture will be about how we can prevent a nuclear war. There will also be a round-table discussion at the university with students.

Morning lecture at Hvitfeldtska gymnasiet
On the morning of 9 December, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi will visit Hvitfeldtska gymnasiet (founded in 1647), an upper secondary school in Gothenburg. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi was awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for having – together with a colleague – identified the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). This discovery was crucial for improving the treatment of patients with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Students at the school will have an opportunity to ask the Laureate in Physiology or Medicine their questions.
Nobel Day at Nobel Prize Museum

On 10 December the Nobel Day will be celebrated with free admission to the museum. During the day there will be extra Nobel Banquet tours. A three-course lunch will be served, inspired by the Nobel Banquets. Advance reservations for the lunch are required.

The artefacts that this year’s Laureates donate to the museum and the chairs they sign when they arrive in Stockholm will be on display during the Nobel Day. For the first time, the Nobel diplomas will also be shown at the museum on 10 December. The Prize Award Ceremonies at both the Oslo City Hall and Konserthuset Stockholm will be live-streamed on a screen at the museum.

Throughout the day, the museum will also offer guided tours of the exhibition *For the Greatest Benefit to Humankind*.

*For the Greatest Benefit to Humankind*
What would the world be like without penicillin? What are good examples of discoveries that will decrease our climate impact? How do we help people who have become refugees? These are some of the questions highlighted in the exhibition *For the Greatest Benefit to Humankind*.

A number of Nobel Prizes have rewarded discoveries that led to cures for diseases and health problems. Other prizes have recognised those who helped to create a more peaceful world. Several Nobel Prize-awarded achievements are connected either directly or indirectly to food production and distribution. Some of our knowledge about how our lifestyle affects the environment is based on the discoveries of Nobel Laureates. Numerous components in computers, telephones and telecommunication systems are also the fruit of Nobel Prize-awarded work. The exhibition enables museum visitors to learn more about achievements that have saved lives, fed humanity, protected the planet and connected people.

The exhibition includes a wealth of images and playfully presented artefacts. Statistics about our world are presented with the aid of models and props that stimulate curiosity and thoughts. An interactive installation enables visitors to have an impact by stating their wishes about how we can improve the world.

On the Nobel Day you will have a chance to meet those who have worked with the floral arrangements that frame the Prize Award Ceremony at Konserthuset Stockholm. The flowers are a gift from Sanremo, Italy, the city where Alfred Nobel lived his last years. During the conversation, you can learn more about how the team handles the task of creating the floral display – from the concept stage through the intensive hours when 25,000 flowers must be arranged on the concert hall stage.
The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony in Stockholm

The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony

A complete programme and time schedule are attached

The Nobel Day, 10 December, will begin with the traditional Nobel Prize Award Ceremony at Konserthuset Stockholm (the Stockholm Concert Hall). There will be presentation speeches about the year’s prizes before an audience of about 1,560 guests, who will then watch the Laureates as they receive their medals and diplomas from the hand of H.M. the King of Sweden. The seats closest to the stage are reserved primarily for the Laureates’ families, representatives of the prize-awarding institutions, members of the Swedish government and Riksdag (Parliament) and the diplomatic corps. Seated on the stage will be about 90 people. They are members of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Nobel Assembly of Karolinska Institutet, the Swedish Academy and the Board of Directors of the Nobel Foundation, as well as previous Laureates.

In front of them on the stage will sit this year’s Laureates and members of Sweden’s Royal Family: H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf, H.M. Queen Silvia, H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria och H.R.H. Prince Daniel. In the first row closest to the stage will be H.R.H. Prince Carl Philip, H.R.H. Princess Sofia and H.R.H. Princess Madeleine.
Presentation Speeches

The Chairman of the Board of the Nobel Foundation, Professor Carl-Henrik Heldin, will hold an opening address. After that, the year's Nobel Laureates and the Economics Prize Laureates will be presented.

The presentation speeches will take place as follows:
Physics – Professor Mats Larsson
Chemistry – Professor Olof Ramström
Physiology or Medicine – Professor Anna Wedell
Literature, 2018 – Author Per Wästberg, PhD
Literature, 2019 – Professor Anders Olsson
Economic Sciences – Professor Jakob Svensson

The formal ceremony will be framed by brief musical interludes and floral arrangements. When the ceremony is over and the Royal Family has left the stage, family members and colleagues are welcomed onto the stage to congratulate their Laureates.

Musical Interludes

The Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of conductor David Björkman, will provide musical interludes during the award ceremony. The soloist at the award ceremony is Sofie Asplund, soprano. They will perform pieces by the British composer Edward Elgar, the French composer Charles Gounod and Finland's Jean Sibelius, among others.
Magnificent Floral Donations Since 1905

In homage to Alfred Nobel, who spent his final years in Sanremo, Italy, where he died on 10 December 1896, Regione Liguria, the City of Sanremo and the Chamber of Commerce of Riviere di Liguria send flowers to decorate Konserthuset Stockholm and the Stockholm City Hall every year. This important donation is delivered in boxes, with most flowers nowadays standing in water, which means that they rarely need to be re-cut. The flowers are placed in different temperature zones, depending on their sensitivity and blooming phase. The floral decorations for the Prize Award Ceremony are produced in temperature-regulated greenhouses and are brought to Konserthuset Stockholm like pieces of a puzzle on 9 December. In the City Hall, the flowers are arranged directly on the spot, without access to cooling or refrigeration.

This Year’s Floral Decorations, Concert Hall

For the 19th consecutive year Helén Magnusson, chief florist at Hässelby Blommor, has designed the floral decorations for the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony. Together with 14 florists, she works for four days to create the decorations that will adorn the stage at the concert hall.

The flowers grown in and donated from Sanremo are delivered on 4 December to Hässelby Blommor, where the task of preparing the 25,000 flowers ahead of the decoration work begins immediately.

The 2019 decorations are inspired by the new visual identity and graphic profile of the Nobel Prize. There will be about 300 kilograms of foliage and 25,000 flowers, including yellow, cream and apricot-coloured carnations, chrysanthemums, white cymbidium orchids, white phalaenopsis orchids, roses in apricot, yellow and cream-white nuances, various asparagus branches in yellow nuances and mimosa. The floral wall in the middle of the stage, which is 15 square metres in size, will be decorated with 9,000 roses, carnations, germini and chrysanthemums in white nuances.
The Nobel Banquet in Stockholm

*The time schedule for the Banquet is attached*

After the ceremony at Konserthuset Stockholm, it will be time for the evening’s Nobel Banquet at the Stockholm City Hall. The banquet programme will follow tradition and begin with the entry procession of the Royal Family and other guests of honour down the grand stairway and into the Blue Hall at 19.00 CET. Prior to this, the guests of honour will have been presented to the Royal Family in the Prince’s Gallery of the City Hall. Behind the Master of Ceremonies will be two attendants followed by H.M. the King with his dinner companion and H.M. the Queen with Professor Carl-Henrik Heldin, Chairman of the Board of the Nobel Foundation and the host of the evening’s banquet. In 1901 the first Nobel Banquet, held in the Hall of Mirrors of the Grand Hôtel, had 113 guests. Today the Nobel Banquet is served to about 1,350 guests.

This year’s chef is Sebastian Gibrand and the year’s pastry chef is Daniel Roos, both of them celebrated Swedish culinary innovators.

**Sebastian Gibrand** is responsible for the first course and the main course. In January 2019 Sebastian won the silver medal at the Bocuse d’Or, the world’s most prestigious international culinary competition. He was captain of the Swedish National Culinary Team in 2012-2016.

The Nobel Banquet menu is based on top-quality ingredients and Swedish flavours.

Sebastian’s approach to cooking is based on an “uncompromising focus on the individual ingredient – elevating its characteristics and bringing out its natural magic, with a polished technical finish.” In this year’s Banquet menu, Sebastian works with all parts of each ingredient to reduce food waste and be able to showcase the fantastic quality of Swedish producers.

**Daniel Roos**, who is in charge of the Banquet dessert for the sixth consecutive year, was a member of the Swedish Culinary Team in 2009-2012, including when it won the gold at the 2012 Culinary Olympics. He manages K-märkt Restaurant and K-märkt Patisserie & Bageri. Daniel also created the dessert for the wedding of Sweden’s Crown Princess Victoria in 2010.

The task of composing the menu for the Nobel Banquet has been under way since early last spring, including a number of cooking and tasting tests.
The menu has been developed in close collaboration with the Nobel Foundation’s gastronomic advisors: Fredrik Eriksson of Långbro Värdshus and Restaurant Nationalmuseum, Artistic Leader of Restaurangakademien; Gert Klötzke, Professor of Gastronomy at Umeå University; and Gunnar Eriksson, Chef de Cuisine at Stadshusrestauranger (City Hall Restaurants). The menu will be revealed only when all guests have been seated at 19.00 CET.

The tables will be set with the Nobel tableware created for the 90th anniversary of the Nobel Prize in 1991 by three Swedish designers, Karin Björquist (Rörstrand/Gustavsberg), Gunnar Cyrén (Orrefors) and Ingrid Dessau (Klässbols Linneväveri). The 65 tables in the Blue Hall will be covered with some 500 metres of linen cloth, and the meticulous table setting will comprise no fewer than some 9,540 porcelain pieces, 5,400 glasses and 9,450 items of cutlery. This will be the eighth year that Stadshusrestauranger and its CEO Maria Strandh will be responsible for presenting the Nobel Banquet. Chef de Cuisine for his seventeenth Nobel Banquet is Gunnar Eriksson.

Those who will be working with the banquet meal during the evening include a total of more than 40 chefs and 190 servers.

This year for the sixth time, the Nobel Banquet will serve the Nobel Prize Museum Tea Blend, which was created in honour of Alfred Nobel. Nobel Prize Museum in Stockholm writes the following: “In honour of our distinguished scientist, we have composed a special tea blend.... The blend is based on a Chinese Keemun tea produced in Qimen County situated in Anhui Province.” The Nobel Prize Museum Tea Blend was created in collaboration with the late tea specialist Vernon Mauris and is sold exclusively at the museum in Stockholm.
Divertissement

The Earth We Inherited

The theme of this year’s divertissement is the Swedish ballad tradition, where the ancient and the contemporary live side by side. Carl Michael Bellman, Evert Taube, Cornelis Vreesvijk, Joakim Thåström – every age has its troubadours and ballad composers who describe their own era and history, in a constantly changing expression. The music is connected with this year’s floral decorations in its ambition to portray an eternal cycle of life and death through the changes of the seasons and the various moods of day and night. We inherit our earth and pass it on to future generations – just as with music.

Hans Ek

Through his ability to make music relevant in our time, whatever its origin or genre, arranger and conductor Hans Ek has carved out a unique niche in Swedish musical life. He has worked with such artists as Laleh, Veronica Maggio, Ane Brun and Renée Fleming and with such orchestras as the Gothenburg Symphony, the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Copenhagen Phil, the Metropole Orchestra and more. Hans Ek has created a number of his own concert productions, such as Made by Björk, Bowie in Berlin, Chelsea Hotel, Kosmische Musik och Dance Music Symphony. He is regularly engaged by orchestras both in Sweden and abroad.

Lisa Nilsson

Lisa Nilsson's big breakthrough came with the album Ticket to Heaven in 1992. Over the years, she has combined song writing and concert work with acting and dance. Lisa has played two acclaimed main roles at Stockholms Stadsteater in the musicals Next to Normal and Chicago. She has also acted in various feature films. Last year she launched her own show entitled Kvinnan som är jag (The Woman I Am).

Magnus Carlson

Magnus Carlson is a singer and songwriter, known for his voice in the group Weeping Willows. In addition to several albums with Weeping Willows, Magnus has also released a number of albums as a solo artist. He became known to a broader audience in Sweden through his participation in the music-themed TV reality show Så mycket bättre (2016). His third solo album, issued in 2017, is Den långa vägen hem (The Long Way Home).
The Swedish Chamber Orchestra
Within its unique musical dialect, the Örebro-based Swedish Chamber Orchestra occupies its own obvious niche in the international arena. This is also indicated by the orchestra’s numerous recordings and appearances on such stages as the BBC Proms in London, Lincoln Center in New York and the Salzburg International Festival. Starting in September 2019, conductor and clarinetist Martin Fröst is the Chief Conductor of the Swedish Chamber Orchestra.

Marie-Louise Sid-Sylwander
Producer of the divertissement. After a career as a first soloist dancer, since 1996 she has worked in the artistic team of the Royal Swedish Ballet. Sid-Sylwander assisted Swedish choreographer Alexander Ekman in his work with the ballets *Tulle* and *Midsummer Night’s Dream* and most recently with the ballet *The Escapist*. She is a producer and artistic director at Hammars Drama Productions AB which, together with Swedish Television, produced the award-winning dance film *Ingmar Bergman Through the Choreographer’s Eye*.

Håkan Ekman
Håkan Ekman works as a manager for Hans Ek at On a Boat Productions AB, a production company that is also a general agency for artists in various genres. The company is active internationally and focuses on musical and cultural productions as well as moderator and lecturer assignments. In addition to his involvement in On a Boat, Håkan also works as a choir producer and classical music recording engineer.
This Year’s Floral Decorations, City Hall

For the fifth consecutive year, Per Benjamin will be in charge of the floral decorations at the City Hall.

He won the Fleurop Interflora World Cup in 2002 and has been active on the international scene since then.

The theme of this year’s floral decorations is the interaction between humans and nature, the natural cycle and our seasons. By decorating the City Hall with dreamcatchers, Per has tried to visually portray the emotions we associate with nature’s seasonal changes. On the Table of Honour, he will create a modern interpretation of a flowery summertime meadow.

This past summer he gathered various types of grass, grains and seed pods which were then dried to be used in decorating this year’s Nobel Banquet. The environmental and sustainability perspective is important to Per, who tries to recycle as much as possible during production. Sanremo has donated the flowers used at the City Hall, as well as at Konserthuset Stockholm. This year about 25,000 stems, flowers and pieces of foliage will be used to decorate the City Hall.

Speeches of Thanks

Towards the end of the Banquet, students will assemble with massed standards on the grand stairway and the balustrade above the Blue Hall. Colleges and universities from all parts of Sweden will be represented among the standards. When coffee and liqueurs are served, Laureates will hold speeches of thanks after being introduced by the evening’s toastmaster, Sara Tabari. Only one Laureate from each prize category will speak, in “Nobel order”, that is, in the order that Nobel listed the prizes in his will:

- Physics: James Peebles
- Chemistry: M. Stanley Whittingham
- Physiology or Medicine: Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe
- Literature, 2018: Olga Tokarczuk
- Literature, 2019: Peter Handke
- Economic Sciences: Esther Duflo

End of the Evening

The Banquet will conclude at about 23.00 CET. Dancing will then begin in the Golden Hall, with music by the Laszlo Royale Dance Orchestra, featuring Malena Laszlo and Mikael Grahn.
Nobel Diplomas and Medals

In the Golden Hall, the Nobel medals and diplomas will be shown in display cases during the evening. This year Elsebeth Malmsten did the art work on the diplomas for the Laureates in Physics, Stanislaw Zoladz created the art work on the diplomas for the Laureates in Chemistry and Berndt Wennström produced the art work on the diplomas for the Laureates in Economic Sciences.

Marie A Györi did the calligraphy for the Physics, Chemistry and Economic Sciences diplomas, while Marianne Pettersson Soold did the monograms. Susan Duvnäs was responsible for the calligraphy on the diplomas for the Laureates in Physiology or Medicine and the Laureates in Literature.

Leonard Gustafssons Bokbinderi AB – established in 1888 and located in the Östermalm district of Stockholm – was in charge of binding all the diplomas. The 2019 Nobel medals were made by Svenska Medalj in Eskilstuna. The cases in which the medals are kept were handcrafted by Anders Eriksson’s atelier.

Previous Nobel Laureates

In 2019 a number of previous Laureates will attend the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony and the Nobel Banquet. They are Steven Chu (Physics, 1997), John Polanyi (Chemistry, 1986), Bengt Samuelsson (Physiology or Medicine, 1982), Peter C. Doherty (Physiology or Medicine, 1996) and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi (Physiology or Medicine, 2008).
The Nobel Week Concludes

Videotaping of the TV programme Nobel Minds
Since the 1960s, during the Nobel Week the Laureates have gathered for a round-table discussion for television, Nobel Minds. The programme has a popular science approach and examines general questions related to science, research and literature. The programme will be videotaped on 9 December before an invited audience. This year the programme format is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Nobel Minds is a production of Swedish Television and BBC World News. The discussion will be moderated by Zeinab Badawi of the BBC.

The Laureates visit the Nobel Foundation
On 11, 12 and 13 December, the Laureates will make individual visits to the Nobel Foundation. Here they will retrieve their medals and diplomas, which will have been displayed in the Golden Hall of the City Hall during the Nobel Banquet. At the Nobel Foundation, they will also discuss the details concerning the transfer of their prize money. On 12 December, the Laureates will be invited to a reception at the Nobel Foundation.

Nobel Laureates at the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament)
All of Sweden’s MPs have been invited to meet three of the 2019 Laureates – Esther Duflo, M. Stanley Whittingham and Didier Queloz – on 11 December. The seminar is being organised by the Nobel Prize Museum and the Swedish Society for MPs and Researchers (RIFO) and will focus on how the path to a Nobel Prize may look and what role our politicians can play in further social advances and research.

Nobel Laureate in a conversation on pandemics
Nobel Laureate Peter C. Doherty (Physiology or Medicine, 1996) knows everything about how pandemics arise, are spread and eliminated. In her novel Som pesten (Like the Plague), Danish writer Hanne-Vibeke Holst portrays the challenges that a major flu epidemic could cause. On 11 December they will converse with Amina Manzoor, medical reporter at the Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter and provide a survival guide for both individuals and society. The conversation will take place at 18.00 CET at Under fontänen (Under the Fountain), Sergels torg, Stockholm.
Nobel Laureate Michael Kremer will speak at a seminar
Nobel Prize Museum and the Centre for Business and Policy Studies (SNS) are inviting the public to a seminar featuring Michael Kremer, one of this year’s Laureates in Economic Sciences. The research published by this year’s Laureates in Economic Sciences has greatly improved our ability to combat global poverty. In the space of only two decades, their new experimental approach has transformed development economics into a flourishing field of research. Michael Kremer will provide a picture of this research area and answer questions. The seminar will take place on 12 December at Finlandshuset in Stockholm. The moderator will be Martina Björkman Nyqvist, Associate Professor at the Stockholm School of Economics.

School visits, university visits and Lucia celebrations
During their stay in Sweden, the Laureates will be invited to a number of schools. From 13 December onward, Laureates will visit universities and colleges. The Laureates are also invited to attend the Stockholm University Student Union’s Lucia Ball or the Medical Students’ Union Lucia Ball on the evening of 13 December.

Podcast series to be launched during the Nobel Week
During this year’s Nobel Week a new podcast series will be launched, featuring interviews with Laureates in Economic Sciences. The first podcast is an interview with Richard H. Thaler, 2017 Laureate in Economic Sciences. The conversation focuses on motivation, creativity and choices in life — large and small. Adam Smith of Nobel Media will carry out the interviews. Nobel Prize Conversations will consist of ten programmes and will be available for listening via podcast platforms and on nobelprize.org, the official website of the Nobel Prize.
Follow the Nobel Prize

The Nobel Prize Digital Channels

The Nobel Prize digital channels aim to engage, inspire and inform people about the Nobel Prize and the major issues of our era related to science, humanism and peace. Their ambition is to achieve a global reach, and they have grown rapidly. The Nobel Prize has more than five million followers on social media. During this year’s Prize announcement period in October, the Nobel Prize digital channels reached an average of 15 million individuals per day.

The Nobelprize.org website contains official information from the prize-awarding institutions, interesting stories, detailed biographies and in-depth information about all the Laureates since 1901. Other digital channels – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and most recently LinkedIn – provide live broadcasts, exclusive video material, interviews and unique behind-the-scenes looks with a strong focus on telling the remarkable stories behind the Laureates’ discoveries and advances.

Nobelprize.org Follows the Nobel Week

The Nobel Prize Award Ceremonies in Oslo and Stockholm will be webcast live on the official website Nobelprize.org at 13.00 and 16.30 CET, respectively, on 10 December. The complete presentation speeches at the Nobel Prize Award Ceremonies will be posted at the same times, and the menu from the Nobel Banquet at the Stockholm City Hall will be published at 19.00. Press photos of the various dishes served at the Nobel Banquet will be published during the evening. The speeches of thanks held by Laureates during the Banquet will be posted later the same evening. However, the seating plan for the Table of Honour will be published earlier, at 13.00 on 9 December. The Nobel Lectures will also be webcast live on Nobelprize.org at the above-stated times.

Broadcasts on SVT

Sveriges Television (SVT) will broadcast live from the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony and the Nobel Banquet. In addition to its live broadcasts from Konserthuset Stockholm and the Stockholm City Hall on 10 December, SVT will broadcast its Nobelstudion programme on 2, 7, 8 and 9 December. It will also broadcast portraits of the Laureates, their Nobel and Prize Lectures and the Nobel Week Dialogue. The Nobel Prize Concert will be broadcast at 20.45 on 14 December. Nobel Minds will be shown on the SVT 2 channel at 20.00 on 16 December.
International Distribution of the Programmes

International media that will broadcast television coverage from the Nobel Day include the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Associated Press Television News (APTN) and Thomson Reuters.

Nobel Prize Museum

The Nobel Prize shows that ideas can change the world. The courage, creativity and perseverance of Nobel Laureates inspire us and give us hope for the future. Based on the Nobel Prize’s unique combination of fields – natural sciences, literature and peace – the Nobel Prize Museum would like to invite you to its exhibitions, school programmes, lectures and dialogues about the major issues of our time.

Over the past 20 years, public activities related to the Nobel Prize have expanded. They include school programmes for thousands of curious students. Exhibitions, international meetings, digital channels and activities in Stockholm and Oslo have helped bring about new encounters between people.

During 2019 a number of seminars and panel discussions have been organised to draw attention to how science makes a difference in people’s lives. A number of Performance Lectures on topics ranging from the happiness to truth have been produced in collaboration with the Dramaten&, the side programming unit of Stockholm’s Royal Dramatic Theatre. During the announcement period of this year’s Nobel Prize in October, the museum organised seminars, a crash course in this year’s scientific Nobel Prizes and talks by authors, enabling Stockholm residents and tourists to both celebrate and learn more about the discoveries, literary works and peace efforts being honoured this year.

More than 350 teachers from 30 countries gathered in October for the Nobel Prize Teacher Summit in Stockholm. It was the third year that the global Nobel Prize network for teachers and school administrators held such a meeting. This year’s theme was how teachers can work with the climate change issue in their classrooms.

Today nearly all these activities take place at Nobel Prize Museum in Stockholm’s Old Town. To bring together Nobel Prize-related public activities and create a natural destination for people from all over the world – tourists, Stockholm residents, researchers and school children – a new home for the Nobel Prize is being planned in the heart of Stockholm. It will enable us to improve our accessibility and create opportunities for a larger number of fruitful encounters between researchers and the general public, commentators, writers, opinion leaders and experts.
Historical Background

The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony

The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony assumed its fundamental shape as early as 1901. During the early years, the programme was the same as today in all essential respects, but there were differences in the format of the ceremony. Both the Laureates and the Royal Family sat in the seats closest to the stage, and on the stage there was an orchestra or choir. There were also floral decorations and the same bust of Alfred Nobel that is still being used. In charge of the decorations was Palace Architect Agi Lindegren. Until 1925, the Nobel Prize was awarded at the Royal Swedish Academy of Music, but when Konserthuset Stockholm (the Stockholm Concert Hall) was completed in 1926 the Nobel Prize began to be awarded there. This has been the case except in 1971 and 1972, when a renovation caused the Award Ceremony to move first to Filadelfiakyrkan, a large church in Stockholm, and then to Stockholm International Fairs (then called S:t Eriksmässan) in Älvsjö south of the city centre. In 1975 S:t Eriksmässan was used again, in conjunction with the 75th anniversary of the Prize. In 1991 the Prize Award Ceremony took place at the Ericsson Globe (then called the Stockholm Globe Arena). During the years 1914–1919 and 1939–1944, the Prize Award Ceremony was cancelled due to the world situation and in 1924 because no Laureates came to Stockholm.

In 1928 the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony was broadcast on the radio for the first time, and as early as 1950 a trial television broadcast took place, but the Ceremony has been broadcast on TV regularly since 1959. At the early Nobel Prize Award Ceremonies, mainly Swedish music was played. Over time, the organisers tried to adapt the choice of music to the Laureates’ countries of birth, but today they look for a suitable theme in a varied repertoire. At the opening and closing, the same pieces of music recur: first the royal anthem Kungssången and then Mozart’s March in D major, KV 249 when the Laureates enter. The ceremony closes with the national anthem Du gamla, du fria and then The Queen of Sheba’s Festivity March by Hugo Alfvén.

The Nobel Banquet

The Banquet following the Prize Award Ceremony has grown from a small dinner for the Nobel Laureates and representatives of the prize-awarding institutions into an internationally renowned celebration.
During the early decades, between 100 and 300 people were invited, and the dinners consisted of five courses. They began with hors d’oeuvres or soup, then fish, meat and fowl, plus dessert. As the number of guests has increased, the number of courses has decreased, first to four and then to the current three. The menus have also followed increasingly well-thought-out themes based on Swedish cuisine.

Until 1933 the Banquet took place at the Grand Hôtel. As early as 1930 the Banquet was held in the Golden Hall of the City Hall, but it moved back to the Hall of Mirrors at the Grand. Starting in 1934, the Banquet has been held at the Stockholm City Hall every year, first in the Golden Hall and since 1974 in the Blue Hall. The exceptions were in 1924, when the festivities were cancelled because all the Laureates were prevented from attending; in 1956, when out of consideration for the political situation (the Soviet Union’s military occupation of Hungary) the organisers chose to hold a smaller dinner at the Grand Hall (Börssalen) of the Swedish Academy; as well as during the war years 1914–1919 and 1939–1944.

Alfred Nobel

Alfred Nobel (1833–1896) is best known as the inventor of dynamite. He was also a businessman with extensive international operations. He was born in Stockholm, but spent most of his life outside the borders of Sweden, in such places as St. Petersburg, Hamburg, Paris and Sanremo. His life consisted largely of travel and work, and he never started a family. As a young man, Nobel was interested in literature, but his education focused on natural science. While staying in Paris, he came into contact with nitroglycerine, an effective but dangerous explosive. Dynamite, a mixture of nitroglycerine and kieselguhr (a kind of sand) was Nobel’s way of making the explosive safer and easier to handle. This led to an industrial breakthrough, and Nobel established more than 90 factories in 20 countries. During his lifetime, Nobel was already a philanthropist. In particular, he was involved in the European peace movement. Nobel was influenced by the ideals of the Enlightenment – which was apparent from the will he signed in Paris on 27 November 1895. In the will, Nobel stipulated that his fortune should be transformed into a fund, whose interest should constitute prizes awarded to persons who “conferred the greatest benefit to humankind”. The structure of the prize categories shows the breadth of Nobel’s thinking. In order to create a more peaceful and prosperous world, progress was needed in both science and literature, as well as through political efforts.
Selecting the Laureates

The task of selecting Nobel Laureates is based on a nomination procedure whose principles were devised during negotiations in 1897–1900. For each prize category, there is a Nobel Committee, and in September this committee sends out invitations to Academy members, university professors, other researchers, parliamentarians, previous Laureates etc. to submit nominations. These must be in the hands of the committee no later than January 31. From February until early October, the prize-awarding institutions work on evaluating the nominees. When a decision is made, the Laureate is notified and then the general public at a press conference. In 1968 Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden’s central bank) established the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, which is awarded at the same prize ceremony. The Laureates are selected by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, but the Prize is funded by Sveriges Riksbank.
Preliminary Timetable for the 2019 Nobel Prize Award Ceremony

16.30  *Drumroll*, Royal Family proceed to their seats onstage, the Swedish royal anthem, *Kungssången*

16.31  *March in D Major, KV 249* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Laureates proceed to the stage

16.34  Speech by Professor Carl-Henrik Heldin, Chairman of the Board of the Nobel Foundation

16.40  *Finale: Allegro* from *Suite for Large Orchestra* by Helena Munktell

**PHYSICS**

16.44  Presentation of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics to Professors Peebles, Mayor and Queloz after a presentation speech by Professor Mats Larsson

16.50  *Arioso* by Jean Sibelius

**CHEMISTRY**

16.54  Presentation of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Professors Goodenough, Whittingham and Yoshino after a presentation speech by Professor Olof Ramström

17.00  *Je veux vivre* from *Romeo and Juliet* by Charles Gounod

**PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE**

17.04  Presentation of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine to Professors Kaelin, Ratcliffe and Semenza after a presentation speech by Professor Anna Wedell
LITERATURE
17.10 Presentation of the 2018 Nobel Prize in Literature to writer Olga Tokarczuk after a presentation speech by author Per Wästberg

17.15 Allegro from The Drottningholm Music by Johan Helmich Roman

17.17 Presentation of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Literature to writer Peter Handke after a presentation speech by Professor Anders Olsson

17.22 Salut d’Amor by Edward Elgar

ECONOMIC SCIENCES
17.26 Presentation of the 2019 Sveriges Riksbanks Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel to Professors Banerjee, Duflo and Kremer after a presentation speech by Professor Jakob Svensson

17.32 The Swedish national anthem Du gamla, Du fria

17.34 The Queen of Sheba’s Festivity March from The Prodigal Son by Hugo Alfvén. Played while the guests are leaving the auditorium

about

17.37 The Ceremony ends

MUSIC PERFORMED BY:
The Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra
Conductor: David Björkman
Soloist: Sofie Asplund
Seating Plan on the Stage, 2019 Nobel Prize Award Ceremony

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Preliminary Time Schedule for the 2019 Nobel Banquet

18.30  Guests are welcomed into the Blue Hall and requested to take their seats

19.30  **Fanfares** – Guests at the Table of Honour enter in procession to organ and trumpet

19.13  Guests have taken their seats – champagne is served at the Table of Honour

19.16  **Fanfare** – His Majesty’s toast is proposed by the host of the evening’s events

19.18  **Fanfare** – A toast to Alfred Nobel’s memory is proposed by His Majesty the King

19.20  Photo opportunity at the Table of Honour (2x2 min)

19.24  **Divertissement I** (6:31 min)

19.31  The first course is served – parade via the grand stairway

19.53  Photo opportunity at the Table of Honour (2x2 min)

20.20  **Divertissement II** (6 min)

20.36  The main course is served – parade via the grand stairway

21.13  The main course plates and cutlery are cleared

21.24  Dessert wine is served

21.39  **Divertissement III** (6 min)

21.45  **Divertissement IV** (4.30–5 min)

21.45  Dessert parade via the grand stairway

Coffee and liqueur are served

22.27  The students of Sweden parade their flags, balustrade and grand stairway

22.30  The Laureates’ speeches of thanks

About

23.02  A signal is given when the guests may rise from the table
Seating Plan for the 2019 Nobel Banquet
Contact Details

Country code for Sweden +46.
Omit the first “0” in the area code when calling from abroad.

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