



## Hope Funds for Cancer Research

Press Release

### HOPE FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH FIFTH ANNUAL GALA AWARDS DINNER RAISES NEARLY \$375,000 FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

For Immediate Release  
Media Contact:  
Kelly Powers  
401-847-3286  
[media@hope-funds.org](mailto:media@hope-funds.org)

**NEWPORT, RI -- June 13, 2011** -- Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for the most difficult-to-treat cancers, today announced its Gala, held on June 9th in New York City, raised nearly \$375,000, which will be used to fund postdoctoral fellowships in cancer research. The Honorary co-chairs of the Gala were Dr. James E Darnell, Jr., from the Rockefeller University and his wife Kristin Holby Darnell. The Gala was chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Ross Sinclair Cann, Dr. and Mrs. Jonathan Lewis, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Schaap. In his welcoming remarks, Dr. Darnell stated, "Since complete across the board cancer cures have eluded my generation, and to be honest even the generation after me, hope is embodied in the upcoming generation. The brightest, most promising and most devoted among whom, it is not at all unreasonable to hope that they will make the advances that will stymie the disease that each year kills over half a million in this country and millions world wide."



The White Tie Dinner, was held in honor of the Hope Funds Awards of Excellence Recipients. The 2011 Honorees were Joan Massague, Ph.D., from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, for Basic Science; Kenneth C. Anderson, M.D., from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, for Clinical Development; Larry Norton, M.D., from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, for Medicine; Ellen Stovall from the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, for Advocacy; and Donald Listwin, founder of the Canary Foundation, for Philanthropy. In addition, David Koch accepted the 2010 Award for Philanthropy, which he was awarded last year.



The Gala was attended by luminaries in the fields of cancer research, oncology drug development and in philanthropy and highlighted the integration of medicine, clinical development and basic science. The point was well made by Dr. Joan Massague in his acceptance remarks, "As basic researchers, our feet may be grounded in the concepts and techniques of molecular biology and genetics, but our heads are firmly turned towards the suffering of people affected by this condition."

*All photography, courtesy of Julie Skarratt.* Additional information and photographs from this event can be found at: [Hope Funds 2011 Awards Gala](#)



### About the Honorees

#### *Joan Massagué, Ph.D.*

Dr. Massagué holds the Alfred P. Sloan Chair in the Cancer Biology and Genetics Program at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and is also a professor at the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences. His research is in the areas of cell division and cancer metastasis, with a focus on signaling mechanisms that are essential for normal tissue growth and development, but which are altered in many cancers. Most notably, he isolated TGF- $\beta$  (transforming growth factor beta), a protein involved in immune response and in cell division during embryonic development. By decoding the entire TGF- $\beta$  signaling pathway, he discovered important principles about how external signals arrest cell proliferation, a process that leads to tumor formation. Building on this work, Dr. Massagué also identified mechanisms that control breast cancer metastasis.



After obtaining his doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Barcelona, Dr. Massagué worked as a research fellow at Brown University, then joined the biochemistry department at the University of Massachusetts. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the European Molecular Biology Organization, and Spain's Royal National Academy of Medicine.

One of the 50 most often cited researchers over the past 20 years, Dr. Massagué has authored or co-authored 250 scientific articles and received more than 25 awards, including Spain's national prize for research awarded in 1993 by King Juan Carlos I, the 2002 Howard Taylor Ricketts Award, and the 2004 Prince of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research (with Judah Folkman, Tony Hunter, Bert Vogelstein, and Robert Weinberg). In 2006, he was awarded the Creu de Sant Jordi (St. George's Cross) of Catalonia.

#### *Kenneth C. Anderson, M.D.*

Dr. Anderson is the Kraft Family Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of both the LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics and the Jerome Lipper Center for Multiple Myeloma at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He is a Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Research Scientist and an American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professor.

For the past 30 years, Dr. Anderson's laboratory and clinical research has focused on multiple myeloma, including that development of laboratory and animal models of the tumor in its microenvironment, which resulted in the identification of novel targets and the validation of targeted therapies. His team led preclinical and clinical studies of the proteasome inhibitor bortezomib and the immunomodulatory drug lenalidomide, both of which received rapid FDA approval for the treatment of myeloma and are now markedly improving patient outcomes. Dr. Anderson's work has transformed myeloma therapy, offering great promise even for patients with other hematologic malignancies and solid tumors.

A graduate of Johns Hopkins Medical School, Dr. Anderson trained in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital, then completed hematology, medical oncology, and tumor immunology training at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. His awards include the 2003 Waldenström's Award, the 2005 Robert A. Kyle Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2007 Joseph H. Burchenal Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Research, and the 2008 William Dameshek Prize. He was elected into the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars in 2009 and, in 2010, to the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academies and the U.K.'s Royal College of Pathologists.



*Larry Norton, M.D.*

Dr. Norton is a professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College. At Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, he is deputy physician-in-chief for Breast Cancer Programs, medical director of the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center, and holds the Norna S. Sarofim Chair in Clinical Oncology.



Dr. Norton's research applies the biology of cancer and the mathematics of tumor causation and growth to the development of novel approaches to better diagnose, prevent, and treat the disease. His "Norton-Simon Hypothesis" (derived with Dr. Richard Simon) has led to more effective and less toxic cancer therapies, as well as to other major discoveries, including the molecular identification of aberrant genes that predispose people to cancer and the development of drugs, such as monoclonal antibodies that target growth factor receptors and anti-cancer immunotherapy. He is currently working with Dr. Joan Massagué on a novel hypothesis linking cancer metastasis with cancer growth.

After receiving his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, Dr. Norton trained in internal medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and later served as a clinical associate and investigator at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). From 1977 to 1988, he was a faculty member of the Mount Sinai Medical Center. Former positions include chair of the Breast Committee of the NCI's Cancer and Leukemia Group B, president of the National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations, and president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. In 1999, he was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve on the NCI's National Cancer Advisory Board.

Dr. Norton's awards include the 1999 NCI's Director's Award, the 2004 Karnofsky Medal, the 2004 Brinker Award, the 2006 Rose Award, and the 2008 McGuire Lectureship from the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium.

*Ellen Stovall*

A three-time survivor of Hodgkins disease, Ms. Stovall has been advocating for more than 30 years to improve cancer care in the United States. She is currently the senior health policy advisor for the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS), which conducts evidence-based advocacy for systemic changes at the federal level in how the United States researches, regulates, finances, and delivers high-quality cancer care.

Ms. Stovall is also a member of the Institute of Medicine's (IOM's) National Cancer Policy Forum, established in May 2005 to succeed the National Cancer Policy Board (NCPB). The forum allows government, industry, academic, and survivor advocacy representatives to meet and privately discuss public policy issues that arise in the prevention, control, diagnosis, and treatment of

cancer. Prior to the establishment of the forum, she was vice-chair of the National Cancer Policy Board's Committee on Cancer Survivorship and co-edited the IOM report *From Cancer Patient to Cancer Survivor: Lost in Transition*, which addresses issues faced by adult cancer survivors.

Ms. Stovall is frequently called upon to advise U.S. presidential administration and congressional members on a variety of cancer-related policy issues; in particular, the improvement of access to quality cancer care. She serves on the boards of directors of the National Committee for Quality Assurance and The Leapfrog Group. She is on the steering committee of the National Quality Forum to establish consensus around cancer care quality measures and sits on several advisory panels, working groups, and committees of the National Cancer Institute, the American Association for Cancer Research, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. In 1992, President Bill Clinton appointed Ms. Stovall to a six-year term on the NCI's National Cancer Advisory Board.



#### *Donald J. Listwin*

A 25-year veteran executive of the technology industry, Mr. Listwin is the founder and chairman of the Canary Foundation, the nation's only nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to early detection of cancer, a research area receiving less than 15 percent of funding despite the knowledge that early detection and intervention are far more effective than late-stage treatment of cancer.

Mr. Listwin's motivation is his family, which has been deeply affected by cancer. His father is a colon cancer survivor, and his mother died from ovarian cancer. Her death prompted him to become involved in finding a cure, including pledging millions of dollars to early detection research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the Stanford Medical School, the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, and other leading cancer institutions.



In 2004, Mr. Listwin's philanthropic efforts became full time with his launch of the Canary Foundation, which funds teams of leading cancer researchers who are collaborating to translate research on early detection into clinical applications. By delivering the first effective test for early detection, the foundation aims to spur a dramatic increase in NCI and venture capital funding that will allow tests based on this research to reach patients sooner and save millions of lives. The hope is that cancer screening will one day be as universal as cholesterol testing, leading to the early detection and elimination of most cancers.

Mr. Listwin holds a degree in electrical engineering and an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Saskatchewan. He serves on the boards of directors for several organizations, including the Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Research Center in Melanoma at the Moffitt Cancer Center, Stratos Biosciences, and the Listwin Family Foundation. He is an advisory board member for both the Center for Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence and the Early Neoplasia Detection Center, at Stanford, and is a board of trustees member for the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

#### *David H. Koch*

David H. Koch is an executive vice president and a board member of Koch Industries, Inc. Mr. Koch, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, applies that scientific expertise in his other role as chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Koch Chemical Technology Group, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries. Prior to joining Koch Industries in 1970, Mr. Koch worked as a research engineer and process design engineer for Amicon Corporation, in

Cambridge, Mass.; Arthur D. Little, Inc., also in Cambridge, Mass.; and Halcon International, Inc. and its affiliate, the Scientific Design Company in New York City.

In addition to his business activities, Mr. Koch has personally pledged and contributed more than \$500 million to a wide variety of organizations and programs that further cancer research, enhance medical centers and support educational institutions, as well as programs that sustain arts and cultural institutions. In 2011, the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research was dedicated at MIT.



Mr. Koch serves on more than 20 non-profit boards including: Member, National Cancer Advisory Board of the National Cancer Institute; New York-Presbyterian Hospital; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Rockefeller University; the Whitehead Institute; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Johns Hopkins University; The Prostate Cancer Foundation; Aspen Institute. He has been honored by The New York Academy of Medicine for his support of biomedical research, healthcare and education, honored by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's Double Helix award, and the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's Excellence in Corporate Leadership award. Mr. Koch was born in Wichita, Kansas. He and his wife, Julia, have three children.

Additional information is available at [2011 Honorees](#) and [2010 Honorees](#).

#### Award of Excellence

Honorees who receive this award are suggested through a formal nomination process and selected based on their contributions to the field of cancer research and treatment, their integrity and character, and how their peers regard them. Previous recipients of the award are Sir Paul Nurse, Craig Mello, Ph.D., Robert A. Weinberg, Ph.D., and James E. Darnell, Jr., M.D., for Basic Science; Antonio J. Grillo-Lopez, M.D., Malcolm A. S. Moore, D.Phil., Brian Druker, M.D., and George D. Demetri, M.D., for Clinical Development; M. Judah Folkman, M.D., John Cameron, M.D., and Murray Brennan, M.D., for Medicine; Paula Kim, Robert Bazell, Amy Dockser Marcus, and Harold Freeman, M.D., for Advocacy; and Corporate Angel Network, Gilda's Club Worldwide, and the Virginia and D. K. Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research, for Philanthropy.

#### About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research

The Hope Funds for Cancer Research was formed in 2006 to establish a funding vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to making grants for the most interesting and promising research efforts to address the most difficult-to-treat cancers, including pancreatic, lung, liver, sarcomas, esophageal, brain, gastric, and ovarian cancers, as well as rare leukemias, lymphomas and MDS. These cancers are insidiously aggressive illnesses that kill most of their victims within months, even with aggressive chemotherapy. The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research believe that funding young, innovative researchers will lead to breakthroughs in these areas and increase life expectancy for those with these types of cancers. The Hope Funds for Cancer Research is a 509 (a)(1) charity under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service's code.

For additional information about the organization, please visit [www.hope-funds.org](http://www.hope-funds.org) or call 401-847-3286.

*Advancing innovative research in understudied cancers*

Find us on Facebook 

06/13/11 - 5

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to info@hope-funds.org by [events@hope-funds.org](mailto:events@hope-funds.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Hope Funds for Cancer Research | 226 Bellevue Avenue, Suite 6 | Newport | RI | 02840