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The Radio Club of America Announces 2024 Award Recipients and Fellows

The Radio Club of America (RCA) proudly announces its 2024 annual award recipients and its incoming class of 2024 Fellows. Since 1935, RCA has recognized through its awards program major contributors to wireless communications. This year, thirteen awards are being bestowed, and eight RCA members are being elevated to Fellow status.

The 2024 Awards and Fellows ceremonies will be held at the RCA Awards Banquet in New York City at the Westin Times Square on November 23, 2024. For details, please see RCA's website.

RCA's Awards Program

Award recipients are announced each year. Nominations are accepted from anyone in the wireless industry. Two broad categories of awards include: (i) public awards for anyone involved in wireless, and (ii) member awards that are restricted to RCA members. RCA elevates members to Fellow status at the same event by invitation based on the individual's contributions to RCA and to the art and sciences of wireless or broadcast communications.

Past award recipients include dozens of legends who created the wireless industry, including Edwin Armstrong, Martin Cooper, Jay Kitchen, Fred Link, Ted Rappaport, Henry Richter, Ulrich Rohde, and Joseph Taylor.

2024 Award Recipients

RCA's 2024 award recipients join a proud tradition of wireless legends. Each practitioner has dedicated significant time and talent toward the advancement or preservation of skills that advance the wireless industry. The 2024 awards are listed in award name alphabetic order.

Dr. Goutam Chattopadhyay, Armstrong Medal
RCA's first award was presented to Major Edward H. Armstrong for his invention of circuits that made AM and FM radio possible and for Major Armstrong's lifetime of championing work that established the foundation for modern radio technology. The award, now known as the Armstrong Medal, is only bestowed when an individual has demonstrated excellence and made lasting contributions to the arts and sciences of radio.

Rene Albert Stiegler III (posthumously), Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award
Established in 1994, the Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award is given in recognition of unique contributions to the field of amateur radio.

Tucker Dunham, Carole Perry Young Professional Award
A new award in 2023, the Carole Perry Young Professional Award was established to honor a Young Professional who was part of the RCA Youth Activities Program in their formative years and who has gone on to a career in wireless science.

Dr. Nathan "Chip" Cohen, Dr. Arno Penzias Award for Contributions to Basic Research in the Radio Sciences
Established in 2023, this award recognizes significant contributions to basic research involving RF and related subjects to inspire future generations of scientific professionals.

Dr. James Breakall, Dr. Ulrich Rohde Award for Innovation in Applied Radio Science and Engineering
Established in 2023, this award recognizes significant contributions to innovation in applied radio science and engineering in the wireless industry to inspire future generations of wireless professionals.

Stanley Reubenstein, Edgar F. Johnson Pioneer Citation
Established in 1975, this award recognizes long-time RCA members who have either made noteworthy contributions to the success of RCA or to the radio industry.

Ross Merlin, Jay Kitchen Leadership Award
Established in 2019, this award recognizes an individual whose leadership embodies energetic advocacy, cooperation, avid interest and respect for all, and humor, and who has achieved a high level of success leading a wireless association, government agency, or commercial enterprise.

Professor Dr. Morimi Iwama, Lee de Forest Award
The Lee de Forest Award, originated in 1983, is presented to an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of radio communications.

Dr. Robert Wilson, Lifetime Achievement Award
Established in 2015, RCA's Board of Directors recognizes very significant achievements, and a major body of work accomplished over a lifetime, that has advanced the art and science of wireless technology.

Mike Molnar, Ralph Batcher Award
Established in 1976, this award is presented to an RCA member for their significant work in preserving the history of radio and electronic communications.

Charles Kirmuss, RCA President's Award
In 1974, the Board of Directors directed the president to select an individual who has, in the opinion of the President, demonstrated unselfish dedication to the work of the Radio Club of America.

Alan Spindel, RCA Special Services Award
The Special Services Award was established in 1975 to recognize those RCA members who have performed significant work to advance the goals and objectives of the Radio Club of America.

Evelyn Toees Gomez, Wireless Innovation Award
Established in 2022, this award recognizes individuals creating a new concept or product that is currently in used in the wireless industry.

Mario A. Vulcano, USN Captain George P McGinnis Memorial Award
This award recognizes service and dedication to the advancement and preservation of U.S. Naval Cryptology, as nominated by the U.S. Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association (NCVA).

2024 RCA Fellows
Elevation to Fellow is made by invitation only to RCA members who are in good standing for at least five years, in recognition of their contributions to the art and science of radio communications, broadcast, or to RCA are deemed outstanding by RCA's Board of Directors. The following RCA members are elevated to Fellow status in 2024:

Michael Kalter, Becky Neugent, Stephen Nichols, Howard Rosen, Julio Urbina

Further Information

A complete listing of RCA Awards and previous recipients can be found at this link.

Founded in 1909, the Radio Club of America is the oldest, most prestigious group of wireless communications professionals in the world. Members are dedicated to the wireless arts and sciences for the betterment of society. The Radio Club of America is a 501(c)(3) organization. For more information, visit www.radioclubofamerica.org.