Call for Nomination of Individuals to be Considered for Major Awards by the Microscopy Society Of America

Awards:

Distinguished Scientist Awards:

These Awards recognize preeminent senior scientists from both the Biological and Physical disciplines who have a long-standing record of achievement during their career in the field of microscopy or microanalysis.

Burton Medal:

The Burton Medal was initiated to honor the distinguished contributions to the field of microscopy and microanalysis of a scientist who is less than 40 years of age on January 1st of the award year.

Optical Imaging Association-MSA Outstanding Young Investigator Award:

This Award, initiated in 1999, recognizes the distinguished contributions in the field of optical microscopy made by a scientist who is less than 40 years of age on January 1st of the award year.

Outstanding Technologist Awards:

These Awards honor technologists from both the Biological and Physical Sciences who have made significant contributions such as the development of new techniques which have contributed to the advancement of microscopy and microanalysis.

Morton D. Maser Distinguished Service Award:

This Award was initiated to recognize outstanding volunteer service to the Society as exemplified by Mort Maser, who served the Society for many years with great dedication. This award is made to honor an MSA member who has provided significant volunteer service to the Society over a period of years.

Nomination Requirements:

The Distinguished Scientist, Burton Medal, OIA-MSA Outstanding Young Investigator and Outstanding Technologist Awards Nominations should include:

1) a letter from the primary MSA nominator describing the research accomplishments of the candidate with particular emphasis on the unique technical achievements in the Physical or Biological Sciences; and

2) supplemental letters of support from other members of the scientific community. The Morton D. Maser Distinguished Service Award Nomination should include:

1) a letter from the MSA nominator describing the basis for the nomination; and

2) supplemental letters of support from other members of MSA. The Deadline for receipt of Awards Nomination Packages is December 15, 2003.

Please contact the MSA Business Office for additional information. Judy Janes, Administrative Manager, Bostrom Corporation, 230 E. Ohio Street, Suite 400, Chicago, IL 60611-3265, (800) 538-3672; Fax (312) 644-8557, jjanes@MSA.microscopy.org

Microscopes as Gifts

Caroline Schooley
Project MICRO Coordinator, MSA

I still remember the pocket-flashlight-style microscope that I had when I was young; I cherished it and took it everywhere. If there's a child in your life, you may be thinking about giving them that kind of experience this holiday season. DO IT! But please think carefully about what you buy. The youngest child will enjoy a magnifying glass (I also remember starting a fire with one of those). You're reading Microscopy Today, so you use some sort of microscope professionally; you may be tempted to give the youngster a lab-quality hand-me-down. DON'T! The complexities that you take for granted will only intimidate them. The best "first" microscope is a monocular 20x dissecting scope; you can consider a very basic compound microscope in the middle school years.

What will this cost? A 30x "flashlight" scope, $10; the 20x monocular dissecting scope, $80; a 3-objective compound with a nice LED illuminator, $150. If you find higher prices, keep shopping. You'll find a detailed explanation of these recommendations in "Buying a microscope", plus a list of mail-order dealers, on MSA's Project MICRO web page at Project MICRO: http://www.msa.microscopy.com/ProjectMicro/

Microscopy Society of America Position on Ethical Digital Imaging

RESOLUTION carried as follows: Be it resolved that the MSA position on digital image processing be approved as follows:

"Ethical digital imaging requires that the original uncompressed image file be stored on archival media (*e.g.*, CD-R) without any image manipulation or processing operation. All parameters of the production and acquisition of this file, as well as any subsequent processing steps, must be documented and reported to ensure reproducibility.

Generally, acceptable (non-reportable) imaging operations include gamma correction, histogram stretching, and brightness and contrast adjustments. All other operations (such as Unsharp-Masking, Gaussian Blur, *etc.*) must be directly identified by the author as part of the experimental methodology. However, for diffraction data or any other image data that is used for subsequent quantification, all imaging operations must be reported."

MSA 2003 Summer Council Meeting Minutes