Nobel Women of Science

Next month, the Nobel Prizes for 2021 will be announced. Here we look at women who have received the Nobel Prize in physics, chemistry and physiology or medicine. For a closer look at recent advances in optics based on the 2020 Chemistry Nobel winners’ research, see this month’s cover story (p. 24).

### Nobel Prize in Physics

**2020:** Andrea Ghez
Discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy

**2018:** Donna Strickland
Practical implementation of chirped-pulse amplification

**1963:** Maria Goeppert Mayer
Discoveries concerning nuclear shell structure

**1903:** Marie Curie (née Sklodowska)
Research on radiation phenomena discovered by Henri Becquerel

First woman to win a Nobel Prize and only person to win in two scientific fields

### Nobel Prize in Chemistry

**2020:** Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna
Development of a method for genome editing

**1964:** Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin
Determination of the structure of vitamin B12 and penicillin

**1935:** Irène Joliot-Curie
Recognition of the synthesis of new radioactive elements

**1911:** Marie Curie (née Sklodowska)
Discovery of the elements radium and polonium

### Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

**2015:** Tu Youyou
Discoveries concerning a novel therapy against malaria

**2014:** May-Britt Moser
Discoveries of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain

**2009:** Elizabeth H. Blackburn and Carol W. Greider
Discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telomeres and the enzyme telomerase

**2008:** Françoise Barré-Sinoussi
Discovery of human immunodeficiency virus

**2004:** Linda B. Buck
Discoveries of odorant receptors and the organization of the olfactory system

**1995:** Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard
Discoveries concerning the genetic control of early embryonic development

**1988:** Gertrude B. Elion
Discoveries of important principles for drug treatment

**1986:** Rita Levi-Montalcini
Discoveries of growth factors

**1983:** Barbara McClintock
Discovery of mobile genetic elements

**1977:** Rosalyn Yalow
Development of radioimmunoassays of peptide hormones

**1947:** Gerty Theresa Cori (née Radnitz)
Discovery of the course of the catalytic conversion of glycogen

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