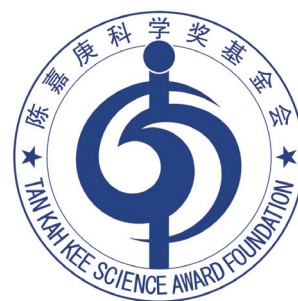


The 2026 Tan Kah Kee Science & Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards Bestowed upon Laureates



On July 9th, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) holds a ceremony in Beijing to confer the 2026 Tan Kah Kee Science Awards and the 2026 Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards on the winners.

Every other year, the Awards honor scientific excellence in six fields: mathematics and physics, chemistry, life sciences, earth sciences, information technical sciences and technological sciences. Awardees are selected in strict accordance with the Regulations on the Tan Kah Kee Science Awards, the Regulations on the Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards, and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation. Nominees are first shortlisted following rounds of peer review and panel evaluation by the Tan Kah Kee Award Committees of respective disciplines, and have to pass the final evaluation by the Tan Kah Kee Science Award General Jury to win the awards.

Resulting from the strict selection procedure, six projects won the 2026 Tan Kah Kee Science Awards, and 12 scientists were honored with the Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards. (A detailed list of all the awardees is attached at the end of the report.)

Named after Mr. Tan Kah Kee (CHEN Jiageng), a renowned overseas Chinese entrepreneur who made remarkable contributions to China's science and education. The Tan Kah Kee Science Awards and the Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards aim to recognize individuals living in China who have made outstanding S&T achievements in recent years.

The Award's predecessor was the Tan Kah Kee Award established in 1988. In 2003, with the approval of the State Council of China, the CAS and the Bank of China jointly established the Tan Kah Kee Science Award Foundation to fund the Awards. Later in 2010, the Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award was inaugurated to honor outstanding young scientists of China.

Winners of the 2026 Tan Kah Kee Science Awards

Award	Awarded Project	Major Contributor(s)	Affiliation
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Mathematics and Physics	Discovering chemical imprints from the first supermassive stars and relics of early mergers of the Milky Way	ZHAO Gang	National Astronomical Observatories, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Chemistry	Single-atom catalysis	ZHANG Tao	Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Life Sciences	Genome design of hybrid potato	HUANG Sanwen	Agricultural Genomics Institute at Shenzhen, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Earth Sciences	The evolution of the Jehol Biota and its geological background	ZHOU Zhonghe	Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Award	Awarded Project	Major Contributor(s)	Affiliation
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Information Technical Sciences	V-defect based three dimensional PN junction and its applications	JIANG Fengyi ZHANG Jianli WU Xiaoming	Nanchang University
Tan Kah Kee Science Award in Technological Sciences	Principle, technology, and applications of light- weight and heat-resistant TiAl single crystal for aerospace power	CHEN Guang QI Zhixiang CHEN Yang	Nanjing University of Science and Technology

Winners of the 2026 Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Awards

Award	Awardee	Related Project	Affiliation
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Mathematics and Physics	DU Lingjie	Graviton mode first observed in fractional quantum Hall effect	Nanjing University
	WANG Guozhen	Calculation of spherical stable homotopy groups and classification of differential structures	Fudan University
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Chemistry	LIU Zhibo	Radiation-driven medicinal chemistry	Peking University
	HUANG Xiaoqiang	Creation of a novel thiamine-dependent photoenzyme catalytic system	Nanjing University
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Life Sciences	LI Hanjie	Discovery and identification of novel immune cells (peripheral tissue “microglia lineage”)	Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences
	LIU Xing	Revealing novel key mechanisms of the host’s anti-infection immune response and developing targeted molecules for the prevention and treatment of infectious and inflammatory diseases	Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Earth Sciences	CAI Shuhui	Evolution of the lunar magnetic field and its dynamic mechanism	Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences
	GE Rongfeng	Origin and tectonic evolution of the Earth’s early continents	Nanjing University
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Information Technical Sciences	WANG Jianwei	Integrated photonic quantum information chips	Peking University
	WANG Zhen	Game intelligence theory and applications	Northwestern Polytechnical University
Tan Kah Kee Young Scientist Award in Technological Sciences	PAN Qingsong	Research on strengthening and toughening of hierarchically structured metallic materials	Institute of Metal Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences
	LI Tiefeng	Soft robots adaptable to 10,000-meter deep-sea pressure	Zhejiang University