



Founded in 1993 by Evelyn H. Lauder

February 14, 2011

Mina J. Bissell, PhD
Distinguished Scientist
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Rd., 977-227
Berkeley, CA 94720

Dear Dr. Bissell:

As Founder and Chairman of The Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF), I am delighted to inform you that you have been chosen to receive the Foundation's 2011 Jill Rose Award for distinguished biomedical research. Your selection was recommended by the Executive Board of Scientific Advisors, chaired by Larry Norton, MD of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The choice was enthusiastically seconded by his fellow Advisors, Drs. Nancy Davidson, Peter Greenwald, and Gabriel Hortobagyi, and by Clifford Hudis, MD, Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee. It would be our privilege to honor you for your pioneering work in the field of tumor microenvironment and your singular contributions to our understanding of the importance of the extracellular matrix and its impact on gene expression in cancer biology, particularly breast cancer.

The Jill Rose Award, named for the late New York philanthropist and founding BCRF Advisory Board Member, has gained a reputation of excellence in its 15-year history. It carries with it a gift of \$25,000. Our 2011 Award will be presented at the Foundation's Awards Luncheon on October 26, 2011, at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in New York. A list of our distinguished past awardees is attached. We would be honored to have you join this esteemed roster and to present you with the Award at the Foundation's Annual Symposium and Luncheon.

The program on October 26th will begin with a morning panel discussion on breast cancer research advances. We hope that you will be able to join our panel of experts for this symposium, which includes a Q&A session with our 700-plus attendees. Immediately following is the Awards Luncheon at which your award will be presented. Approximately 1,000 guests attend this special event in the Grand Ballroom.

In 2001 we began a tradition very popular with our researchers, of convening our grantees in New York the day prior to the Symposium and Luncheon for an afternoon-long mini-retreat where BCRF-supported scientists can exchange ideas and new findings. Once we finalize the planning for this year's retreat, to be held beginning at noon on October 25th at Memorial Sloan-Kettering, we will send details to you in hopes that you will be able to participate. Also, my husband,

Leonard, and I always host a private dinner in New York in honor of the Foundation's grant recipients and honorees the evening before the Symposium and Luncheon. I hope you will be able to join us for this special dinner on October 25th as well. It will give us an opportunity to spend some time together before the Awards Luncheon. Details on the dinner will follow during the summer.

Please contact Margaret (Peg) Mastrianni, the Foundation's Deputy Director, at (646) 497-2604, or via email at pegmast@bcrfcure.org, to confirm your participation in this wonderful celebration of knowledge, inspiration and friendship. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me or Peg.

Congratulations! Please do accept. Let us know your response at your earliest convenience. I look forward to meeting you in October.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Evelyn H. Lauder". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Evelyn H. Lauder
Founder and Chairman

cc: Larry Norton, MD, BCRF Scientific Director



Founded in 1993 by Evelyn H. Lauder

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation Jill Rose Award Recipients

- 2010 – **Angela Hartley Brodie, PhD**, of the University of Maryland, for her preclinical research studies leading to the discovery and development of aromatase inhibitors;
- 2009 – **Martine Piccart-Gebhart, MD, PhD**, of Institut Jules Bordet, for her translational research initiatives which have led to effective new treatments for breast cancer, and for fostering international scientific collaboration through the founding of the Breast International Group;
- 2008 – **Robert A. Weinberg, PhD**, of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, for his stellar laboratory investigations which have advanced the understanding of cell proliferation and breast cancer metastasis;
- 2007 – **George W. Sledge, MD**, of Indiana University, for his laboratory and clinical research which has advanced the understanding of anti-angiogenesis and hastened the development of effective new treatments for breast cancer;
- 2006 – **Larry Norton, MD**, of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, for his outstanding scientific direction of The Breast Cancer Research Foundation since its beginnings in 1993, and his leadership in the field of breast cancer research;
- 2005 – **Patricia A. Ganz, MD**, of the University of California, Los Angeles, for her research on the impact of breast cancer and its treatment on quality of life;
- 2004 – **J. Michael Bishop, MD**, of University of California, San Francisco, and **Harold Varmus, MD**, of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, for their research on the molecular basis of cancer;
- 2003 – **Bernard Fisher, MD**, of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, for his clinical research and influence in shaping modern breast cancer treatment;
- 2002 – **Harold Freeman, MD**, of the National Cancer Institute and North General Hospital, for his research on the relationship between race, poverty and cancer;
- 2001 – **Arnold J. Levine, PhD**, of The Rockefeller University, for his work in the discovery of the p53 tumor suppressor protein;

- 2000 – **Walter C. Willett, MD, Dr.PH**, of the Harvard School of Public Health, for his research on the relationship between nutrition and cancer;
- 1999 – **John Mendelsohn, MD**, of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, for his breakthrough studies on understanding how growth factors regulate the proliferation of cancer cells by activating receptors on the surface of cells;
- 1998 – **Benita Katzenellenbogen, PhD**, of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, for her contributions to the understanding of the role of female reproductive hormones and of hormone-dependent breast cancer over a 25-year period;
- 1997 – **Judah Folkman, MD**, of Harvard Medical School and Children’s Hospital (Boston), for his pioneering research on angiogenesis; and
- 1996 – The New York Breast Cancer Project – **Mary-Claire King, PhD**, University of Washington and **Joan Marks, MS**, Sarah Lawrence College, for their studies of the benefits of genetic testing while investigating the causes of breast cancer.

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mina Bissell Wins 2011 Jill Rose Award



Mina Bissell, a Distinguished Scientist with the Life Sciences Division and one of the world's foremost breast cancer researchers, has been named the recipient of the 2011 Jill Rose Award by the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF). The award, named for the late New York philanthropist and founding BCRF board member, comes with a gift of \$25,000. Bissell is being recognized for her "pioneering work in the field of tumor microenvironment and singular contributions to our understanding of the importance of the extracellular matrix and its impact on gene expression in cancer biology, particularly breast cancer." [More>](#)