# **IgBILL**



# Ig<sup>®</sup> Nobel Prize Ceremony

2015

this year's theme: Life

Twitter: #IgNobel

## **About the Ig Nobel Prizes**

Ig Nobel Prizes are awarded for achievements that first make people LAUGH, and then make them THINK. The Igs are intended to spur public curiosity and interest in science and other fields of endeavor. Ten prizes are awarded each year. Winners travel to the ceremony at their own expense.

The Ig Nobel Prize winners are, despite possible appearances to the contrary, real. Their achievements are well documented.

**What to expect tonight**: Imagine every ceremony you have ever had to endure. Loop them all together, at high speed, upside down. Add ten Ig Nobel Prize winners. That's the Ig Nobel Prize ceremony.



Tonight's ceremony includes a brief tribute to Don Featherstone, who was awarded the 1996 Ig Nobel Prize for art, for creating the plastic pink flamingo. Don died recently. We miss him.

# The Twenty-Fifth 1st Annual

# Ig<sup>®</sup> Nobel Prize Ceremony

Thursday, September 17, 2015, 6:00 pm Sanders Theatre, Harvard University

Reluctantly inflicted on you by the international science humor magazine

Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)

and co-sponsored by

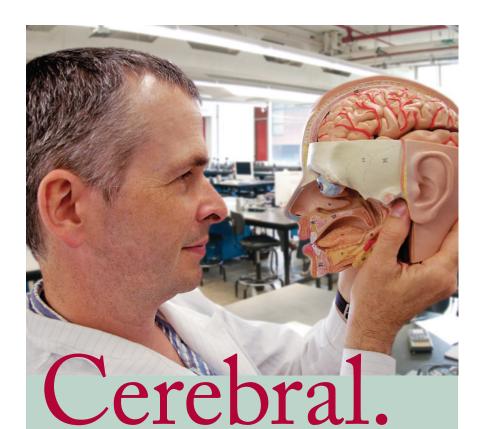
The Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association The Harvard-Radcliffe Society of Physics Students

The theme of this year's ceremony is



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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## **Pointless Preamble**

- Pre-ceremony Lobby AccordioConcert (5:00, in the lobby)
- Pre-ceremony concert (5:40, in the theatre)
- Ceremony begins (6:00, in the theatre)
- Paper Airplane Deluge #1
- The Traditional Ig Nobel "Welcome, Welcome" Speech
- Entrance of the New Winners
- Introduction of the Nobel Laureates and other Ignitaries

## **Everything Else\*\***

- Awarding of the 2015 Ig Nobel Prizes\* (weather permitting)
- The Best Life: A Mini-Opera in 3 Acts\*
- The 24/7 Lectures
- Introduction of Past Winners\*
- Paper Airplane Deluge #2
- The Win-a-Date-With-a-Nobel-laureate Contest
- Other Things\*
- The Traditional Ig Nobel "Goodbye, Goodbye" Speech
- Disappearance of the Audience

\* scattered throughout the evening

\*\* but maybe in some different order

## Paper Airplanes

In the interests of safety and recycling, there will be two (2) special paper-aeronautic moments tonight: one at the ceremony's beginning, the other at the midpoint.

Please hold your paper airplanes in readiness. Then fly them only – and profusely, to the point of deluge – during those two special moments. Please AIM FOR SAFETY!

An authority figure will make it very clear when each of those moments arrives.



Roy Glauber, Ig Nobel paper airplane sweeper and Nobel laureate (Physics, 2005).

## Pre-Ceremony: mini-Concerts

(One in the lobby, then another the theatre)

Before the ceremony, watch for two special mini-concerts. At 5:00, in the lobby, the **Boston Squeezebox Ensemble (BSE)** will play a Lifelike Concert, insinuating strangely familiar tunes into your consciousness.

At 5:40, in the theatre, Majordomo Gary Dryfoos will assemble on stage, there to delight you by singing songs from previous Ig Nobel mini-operas, whilst things happen around, above, and behind him.

#### This Year's Theme

The theme of this year's ceremony is **LIFE.** The theme applies to various goings-on, though not necessarily (and not necessarily not) to any of the particular achievements being honored with an Ig Nobel Prize.

#### Live Webcast

Tonight we will be joined from afar, in spirit and electromechanically, by teeming hordes watching via the Internet. The Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony has been webcast annually, beginning in 1995 — one of the very first events of any kind, ever, to be webcast. Very special thanks to **The Harvard Extension School** and to **CS-50** for helping make this year's webcast happen. Video highlights of many past ceremonies are online at **www.improbable.com**.

## Celebrity Bacteria

The theme of the 2010 ceremony was Bacteria. Several trillion celebrity bacteria were seated in or on the audience. Many of them are still here. See if you can spot them.

## The Ig Informal Lectures!

SATURDAY afternoon, Sept 19, 2015, 1:00 pm

MIT Building 10, Room 250 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

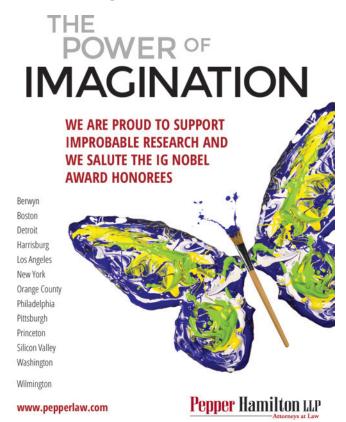
FREE!
(But seating is limited, so get there early)

#### A Saturday Treat...

At tonight's Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony, each winner is allowed just ONE MINUTE to deliver an acceptance speech. But of course you'll want to hear more juicy details, and ask them questions, and so....

You are invited to come enjoy a lazy, lively half-afternoon of brief (FIVE MINUTES each, plus questions & answers), high-spirited talks by **the 2015 Ig Nobel Prize winners**.

Produced by the *Annals of Improbable Research* in cooperation with **The MIT Press Bookstore** (mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore)



## "The Best Life"

World Premiere mini-opera in three (3) acts

The story: It's the day before the greatest competition ever held — a competition to choose which ONE of the millions of species of life is THE BEST LIFE. The competition will be televised live, everywhere, and the public is going nuts, eager to pay huge prices to watch. All the species of life — every single species, millions of them! — are going to be together, IN ONE ROOM, for the competition. By special arrangement with Sanders Theatre, all these species will assemble here, in the theater, during Act 2 of the opera. If you have an aisle seat, please mind your feet. Also by special arrangement with Sanders Theatre, all the lawyers who will deal with the consequences of Act 2 will assemble here in the theater during Act 3. If you have feet, please mind your feet. (Special thanks to Maria Ferrante, Thomas Michel, Jeff Hermes, and Howard Zaharoff, for musico-legalistic insights and suggestions.)



www.BovaBakeryBoston.net

*The Words:* Marc Abahams wrote the story and lyrics. This is his twentieth Ig Nobel opera libretto.

*The Music:* The tunes were composed, in advance, by **Giuseppe Verdi** and **Arthur Sullivan**, neither of whom is able to join us this evening.

#### Tonight's performance:

**Opera director: Maria Ferrante** 

**Assistant director: Robin Abrahams** 

**Costumer: Catherine Quick Spingler** 

The soloists: Maria Ferrante (soprano), Scott Taylor (baritone), and Daniel Rosenberg (chemist).

**The All-Species Chorus:** Delphine Gabbay (chorus wrangler), Kelsey Calhoun, Erika Hutchinson, Clia Goodwin, Sylvia Rosenberg, Julia Lunetta, Vicki Bloom, Ros (Rosalind) Reid, Natasha Rosenberg,

Abby Schiff, Vijaya Sundaram, Kate Eppers, Liz Oppenheim, Warren Senders, Ted Sharpe, Daniel Rosenberg, Paul Goodwin, Rob Hart,

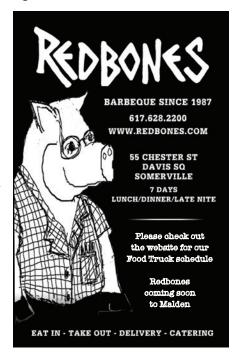
Nick Carstoiu, et al. The chorus ranks will be swelled, in Act 3 of the opera, by the **Nobel laureates.** 

**The orchestra:** The singers are backed by an all-star, two-person biomedical orchestra, "The Forces of Nature:

Piano: Patrick Yacono (Harvard Medical School [HMS] biomedical researcher)

Accordion: **Thomas Michel** (HMS Professor of Medicine)

Follow along on screen and in print. Libretto starts on page 16.



## **Authority-Like Figures**

As always, IgBill had incomplete information at press time. You may not be able to tell the players even with this scorecard.

(NOTE: \*\* indicates name is misspelled)

**Producer/Director:** Marc Abrahams

Co-Producer and Stage Manager: David Kessler

**Ig Nobel Facilitator:** Katherine Griffin

Opera Arranger/Orchestrator/Stage Director: Maria Ferrante

Opera Assistant Director: Robin Abrahams
Assistant Stage Manager: Linda Brennan

Master Stagehand: Rob Sanders

Stagehand: Arthur Kautz

Technical Assistant: Doug Faunt

**Production Assistants:** Roger Kautz, Karen Kautz

External brain: Melissa Franklin

**Opera Costumer:** Catherine Quick Spingler

Opera Rehearsal Pianist: Yulia Yun

**Director of Improbable Engineering:** Quentin Smith

Writers: Marc Abrahams, Alice Shirrell Kaswell, and friends

Ig House Band: Nicholas Carstoiu and the Ig Leaves
Boston Squeezebox Ensemble: Dr. Thomas Michel
Lurking Presences: Robin Abrahams, Stanley Eigen

**Lighting & Technology:** Holly Gettings, Hunter Heinlen

Props and Scenery: Eric Workman

House Sound: David Nickerson, Bay State Sound

Sound Recording: Miles Smith, Frank "Barefoot" Cunningham

Slide Show: Jack Dietz, Geri Sullivan Prize & Props Creation: Eric Workman Sponsorships Coordinator: Heidi Clark

Provisionary Logisticians: Gus Rancatore and Corky White

HRSFA Coordinator: Nameless Person HRSPS Coordinators: Person Unnamed

Grand Panjandrum of the Delegations: Louise Sacco

Videography: Seven Generations Video, Bruce Petschek, Brian Galford,

Don Schechter, Jon Shedler, Trevor Chamberlain, Cody Signore

Lead Diplomats: Susan Kany, Dany Adams

Corps d'Esprit Diplomatique: Gus Rancatore, Corky White,

Judith Fagin, Persis Thorndike, et al.

Liaison to the Ig Glorious Persons: Georgia Lyman Green Room Oracles: Maria Eliseeva, Heidi Clark

Press Wranglers: Carol Morton, Tom Ulrich, Neil Gussman,

Jen Kelly, et al.

Photographers: Alexey Eliseev, David Holzman, Mike Benveniste

Ig Informal Lectures (Saturday) Coordinator: John Jenkins

**Ig Nobel Webmaster:** Julia Lunetta

Artwork & Logos: Geri Sullivan, Lois Malone

**IgBill Design and Layout**: Geri Sullivan **Master of E-Bookery:** Lauren Mauer Trew



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## People

#### **Master of Ceremonies**

Marc Abrahams, editor, Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)

#### **Nobel Laureates**

most of the following:

Dudley Herschbach (Chemistry 1986)

Carol Greider (Physiology or Medicine, 2009)

Frank Wilczek (Physics, 2004)

Jack Szostak (Physiology or Medicine, 2009)

Eric Maskin (Economics, 2007)

Rich Roberts (Physiology or Medicine, 1993)

Roy Glauber (Physics, 2005)

Jerome Friedman (Physics, 1990)

and perhaps some others

Welcome Welcome Speakers: Jean Berko Gleason, Bill Hoston

24/7 Lecturers: Sara Lewis, Frank Wilczek, Deborah Anderson, Jack

Szostak, Jessica Gall Myrick

Opera Soloists: Maria Ferrante, Scott Taylor, Daniel Rosenberg

Opera Orchestra: Patrick Yacono, Dr. Thomas Michel

Opera Narrator: Karen Hopkin

Opera Non-Soloists: The All-Species Chorus, abetted in Act 3 by

the Nobel laureates

Pre-Ceremony Life-Like Concert: Boston Squeezebox Ensemble

(Dr. Thomas Michel, Colin Ferguson, Patrick Yacono, Ted Sharpe, Betty

Widersky, Marié Abe, et al.)

Mic Monkey: Edgar B. Herwick III NSA Courtesy Cam: Richard Baguley

Parade and Opera Announcer: Karen Hopkin Human Spotlights: Jim Bredt, Katrina Rosenberg

Human Curtain Rods: Emily Coombs, Roderick Draper

Human Aerodrome: Eric Workman

Referee: Mr. John Barrett

**Luxuriant Flowing Hair Club for Scientists (LFHCfS)** 

Woman-of-the-Year: Anne Madden

V-Chip Monitor: Noted New York Attorney William J. Maloney

New York Attorney William J. Maloney: Himself

Majordomo: Gary Dryfoos

Minordomos: Julia Lunetta, Peaco Todd, Ben Biggs, Sylvia Rosenberg,

Eliza Kosoy, Chris Deter, Natasha Rosenberg, Pooja Usgaonkar **Performing Chemists:** Joost Bonsen, Daniel Rosenberg, et al.

Performing Props Master: Eric Workman

Stage Presence: Tabatha Bohmbach, Sharada Sundaram-Senders

Miss Sweetie Poo: Jasper Milstein Official Sweeper: Julia Kautz Hecklers: You, the audience

Goodbye Goodbye Speakers: Jean Berko Gleason, Bill Hoston



Dr. Nakamats is one of several past Ig Nobel Prize winners here tonight. Dr. Nakamats has photographed every meal he has consumed during the past 44 years (and counting). This is a bittersweet moment — his doctors say Dr. Nakamats has a fatal form of cancer. Dr. Nakamats being Dr. Nakamats, he has written a special song. He will sing it for you, tonight.

## Special Thanks to...

Sid and Selma Abrahams, Jackie Baum, Bob Bartosch, Tina Bowen, The British Science Association, Brown/Rudnick, Thad Choelemtiarana, Mark Dionne, Tatiana Divens, Eric Engel, Jesse Eppers, Melissa Franklin and the Harvard Physics Department, Martin Gardner, Holly Gettings, Jason Govostes, Jeff Hermes, Holleb & Coff, Tom Lehrer, Maggie Lettvin, Ilya Luvish, Lois Malone, Milo, Kees Moeliker, Regular Noetzli,\*\* The Flying Petscheks, Ruth Polleys, Harriet Provine, Gus and Mimi Rancatore and Toscanini's Ice Cream, The Flying Rosenbergs, Jonathan Salz, Sanders Theatre, Jim Stoll, Geri Sullivan, Al Teich, Ray Traietti, Joe Wrinn and Howard Zaharoff.

**Very special thanks** also to the late Alan Symonds, who for more than a decade helped us solve our technical problems, and the late Bob Dushman, who gallantly defended the Ig against a marauder.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Name misspelled.

## The 24/7 Lectures

Each 24/7 Lecture will be delivered by one of the world's great thinkers. Each lecture has two parts:

# A complete technical description in 24 SECONDS

## A clear, accurate summary that anyone can understand in SEVEN WORDS

The time limit and word limit will be **strictly enforced** by **Mr. John Barrett**, the Ig Nobel Referee.

This year's 24/7 lecturers:

• **Sara Lewis** (Professor of Evolutionary and Behavioral Ecology, Tufts University)

TOPIC: FIREFLY SEX

• Frank Wilczek (Nobel Laureate, Physics, 2004)

Topic: BEAUTY

Deborah Anderson (Ig Nobel Prize Winner, Chemistry, 2008)
 TOPIC: REPRODUCTION

• Jack Szostak (Nobel Laureate, Physiology or Medicine, 2009)

TOPIC: LIFE

• Jessica Gall Myrick (Assistant Professor, Indiana University Media School)

TOPIC: INTERNET CAT VIDEOS

... and perhaps one or two others.



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## NPR Broadcast

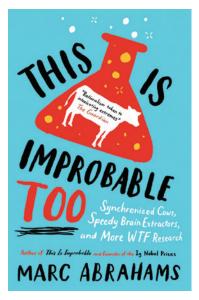
On the day after Thanksgiving, listen to the traditional Ig Nobel Broadcast on National Public Radio (NPR)'s *Science Friday* with Ira Flatow. Many of the previous year's Ig broadcasts are at **www.ScienceFriday.com**. You can see video highlights of several past ceremonies at **www.improbable.com**.

#### Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association

Narratively Proud Intergalactic Co-Sponsors of the Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony Since 1996

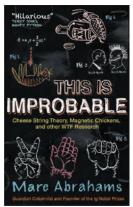
## Harvard-Radcliffe Society of Physics Students

Theoretically Proud Experimental Co-Sponsors of the Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony Since 2000



# This is Improbable AND This is Improbable Too

by Marc Abrahams



Built to be read aloud!

"Marc Abrahams is a perfectly calibrated filtration system into which all of science is poured and out of which comes pure, giddy goofball delight. This book is a delicious, addictive treat."

—Mary Roach, author of Stiff and Packing for Mars

## Lyrics to the mini-opera "The Best Life"

#### CHARACTERS:

Narrator

Chorus of the PUBLIC (in Act 1)

The two main ORGANIZERS of the competition

Chorus of the LAWYERS (in Act 3)

The JUDGE

#### ACT1

[MUSIC: Triumphal march from Aida.]

#### THE PUBLIC:

Much bigger than the Super Bowl! Bigger than The World Cup!

Not even porn comes close!

Demand for this, from ev'ry country, is giddily grandiose!

ORGANIZERS: Ev'ry species will compete!

PUBLIC: SHOW US!

ORGS: Ev'ry species made of meat!

PUBLIC: SHOW US!

ORGS: Ev'ry plant — including wheat!

PUBLIC: SHOW US!

#### ORGS:

Even ev'ry polychete!

Ev'ry little worm...

Ev'ry little germ...

Ev'ry giant tree...

Ev'ry chimpanzee...

Ev'ry thing with toes...

Ev'ry thing that grows or metamorphoses,

then decomposes or mitoses —

that reproduces, slinks or oozes,

eats or photosynthesizes...

All of life!

What will be the qual-ity / distinguishing the species that's the best?

A swollen shape — tumesced?

Protruding limbs — or completely compressed?

The smoothest — or the hairiest?

Well camouflaged? Maybe fluoresced?

Reindeer or rabbit? Maybe rhododendron?

Or robin, or maybe rinderpest?

Yes, life Has such variety And such contr'iety...

That we must take care — Must take care, Special care To be fa-ir.

Be fair To the planaria! and the malaria!

Let us not be mirch any perch, any birch, or any bear!

Let us use oversight, so ev'ry area —such as Bulgaria—

will not be made to feel the slightest slight.

Prepare! Partisans will declare: foreign bacteria are inferi-a.

They will moan /that their own / shouldn't compare!

And some people get snarkier with SOME monarchia — plants and archea! Archea? Archea! Don't forget them.

Be kind also to viruses. We are desirous, es—pecially to give them a good — ANY good — reason to live.

Also: competitors, even the predators, will want to socialize — to eat, to flirt — but not get hurt!

And NOW!!!!!! Gather them ALL right here — all IN A SINGLE ROOM.

Let the friendships bloom! They can schmooze, make some news!

Nothing to fear! Ah, LIFE!

#### ACT 2

[MUSIC: "Parigi o Cara" from La Traviata]

#### ORGS:

Blowfish and buffalo, and crakes and citronella,

asps and aspergillus, sheep and salmonella,

funnel spiders, water striders, ticks and toxoplasma,

nudibranch and nightshade, hippopotomi.

Fire ants and foxglove, daffodils and dogfish,

bats and botulinum, eels and e. coli.

Nematodes and nautilus, asparagus and aardarks,

tickleweed and tapeworms, hollyhocks and hogs.

Platypus and peanut worms, and redwoods and rubella,

artichokes and anthrax, fireflies and frogs.

Barracuda, beeches, legionella, leeches,

Midges, mites and mongeese, Palms and pubic lice.

I see some octopi eating some orioles.

Are they STILL hun-ger-y?

Are they STILL hun-ger-y! Those octopi are hungry all the time.

I see some ocelots eating those octopi!

I see some mallard ducks. I see some kitty cats. I see those mallard ducks assault the cats.

I see mosquitoes biting bonitoes—

Oh, so many things are eating other things,

and other other things are eating them!

Carpe diem...

I see some eels try to swallow some cockatiels.

I see gnus and grizzly bears do things that no one really dares to try to put in words.

I saw some nightingales swallowed by minke whales!

How is that possible? Can that be possible? Oh, yes, it's possible. They grab the tails.

You saw the orchids? Scarfed by THAT STORK!

ALL the orchids! Eaten by THAT stork!

That stork then tried to eat an entire tree.

A tree of cork. Cork killed that stork. That stork was hungry.

It's only natural, it's only natural.

It's only natural, it's only natural.

It's just a way of ... it's just THE way of LIFE!

#### ACT 3 [finale]

[MUSIC: "Someday it May Happen" from The Mikado]

#### JUDGE:

Disaster on this scale gives birth to lawsuits of all sorts.

And eager to assist — yes, eager to assist —

Many lawyers bring contumelious clutter to our courts.

They know how to persist. They know how to persist!

Great disaster that grew straight from roundly stupid, stupid acts attains tremendous traction, gripped by grossly glaring facts.

The number and variety of lawsuits will ensure

though plaintiffs all are perishing, the lawsuits will endure.

(Yes, even lawsuits that come with a double helix twist!) will never be dismissed — they'll never be dismissed.

#### LAWYERS:

They'll never be dismissed! They'll never be dismissed! That's because we do insist! Because we do insist!

#### IUDGE:

There is wrongful death — most obvious, as many have bemoaned. That's the first one on the list. It's such a LENGTHY list!!!

Then there's infringing patents on the lifeforms someone owned.

That's also on the list. It's such a LENGTHY list.

We've got wanton reckless conduct leading to the death of plants of rarity and value, owned by wealthy dilettantes.

And then there's inciting riots, and there's mayhem, and — I say!,

And there's copyright infringement on all sorts of DNA,

And the overcrowded public space — ten millions in one room, And butchering of meat illegal to consume.

#### LAWYERS:

They'll never be dismissed! They'll never be dismissed! That's because we do insist! Because we do insist!

[MUSIC: The Lord High Executioner song, from The Mikado]

#### LAWYERS:

Proclaim the blame of these two miscreants — this pair of plotters — sticky, smelly ROTTERS!

Proclaim the blame of these two miscreants — superlatively slimy species-SLAUGHTER-ers!

Demand! Demand! We demand you hand down sentences!

Demand! Demand! We demand you hand down sentences to these viscous miscreants!

#### ORGS:

Contemplating what we've done: Gathering together species. It was meant to be just... fun! Like collecting Reeses' Pieces. Crocodiles(!) could chew the fat, -Even THEY had friendly habits!-One time with a pussycat, Later with some sleepy rabbits. There was lots of making love, With exotic partner pairings. Turtle mounting turtle dove, Hippopotami with herrings. There was such... INFECTIOUS charm! Gosh, this was a great idea! No one could have foreseen harm, 'cept maybe the gonorrhea.

#### JUDGE:

There is nothing to admire. All of this is simply stark. It was like you set a fire In a crowded Noah's ark.

#### JUDGE:

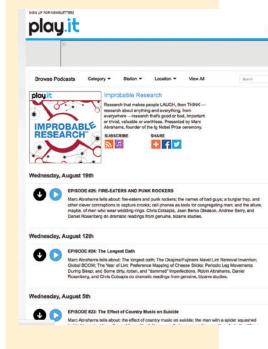
Listen! Listen!
Listen up! I'm going to sentence you!
Listen! Listen!
Now I sentence you,
—Sentence YOU!—And YOU! —
Now I sentence you to LIFE!

Li-ife! Li-ife!
It's your deadly dose of destiny!
Li-ife! Li-ife!
You must not pretend
this would ever end
with anything but LIFE!

#### **EVERYBODY:**

Li-ife! Li-ife! It's your deadly dose of destiny! Li-ife! Li-ife! You must not pretend this would ever end with anything but LIFE!

# Say What? Improbable Research Weekly Podcasts!



CBS is distributing the Improbable Research podcasts, both on the new CBS Play.it web site, and on iTunes and Spotify.
And, of course at Improbable.com.



Very Iggy Special Thanks to

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for
generously supporting
the 25th First Annual
Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony

# A list of the new Ig Nobel Prize winners will be posted at **WWW.IMPROBABLE.COM**

## Last Year's (2014) Ig Nobel Prize Winners

**PHYSICS PRIZE** [JAPAN]: Kiyoshi Mabuchi, Kensei Tanaka, Daichi Uchijima and Rina Sakai, for measuring the amount of friction between a shoe and a banana skin, and between a banana skin and the floor, when a person steps on a banana skin that's on the floor.

**NEUROSCIENCE PRIZE** [CHINA, CANADA]: Jiangang Liu, Jun Li, Lu Feng, Ling Li, Jie Tian, and Kang Lee, for trying to understand what happens in the brains of people who see the face of Jesus in a piece of toast.

**PSYCHOLOGY PRIZE** [UK, FINLAND, AUSTRALIA, USA]: Peter K. Jonason, Amy Jones, and Minna Lyons, for amassing evidence that people who habitually stay up late are, on average, more self-admiring, more manipulative, and more psychopathic than people who habitually arise early in the morning.

**PUBLIC HEALTH PRIZE** [CZECH REPUBLIC, JAPAN, USA, INDIA]: Jaroslav Flegr, Jan Havlíček and Jitka Hanušova-Lindova, and to David Hanauer, Naren Ramakrishnan, Lisa Seyfried, for investigating whether it is mentally hazardous for a human being to own a cat.

**BIOLOGY PRIZE** [CZECH REPUBLIC, GERMANY, ZAMBIA]: Vlastimil Hart, Petra Nováková, Erich Pascal Malkemper, Sabine Begall, Vladimír Hanzal, Miloš Ježek, Tomáš Kušta, Veronika Němcová, Jana Adámková, Kateřina Benediktová, Jaroslav Červený and Hynek Burda, for carefully documenting that when dogs defecate and urinate, they prefer to align their body axis with Earth's north-south geomagnetic field lines.

**ART PRIZE** [ITALY]: Marina de Tommaso, Michele Sardaro, and Paolo Livrea, for measuring the relative pain people suffer while looking at an ugly painting, rather than a pretty painting, while being shot [in the hand] by a powerful laser beam.

**ECONOMICS PRIZE** [ITALY]: ISTAT — the Italian government's National Institute of Statistics, for proudly taking the lead in fulfilling the European Union mandate for each country to increase the official size of its national economy by including revenues from prostitution, illegal drug sales, smuggling, and all other unlawful financial transactions between willing participants.

**MEDICINE PRIZE** [USA, INDIA]: Ian Humphreys, Sonal Saraiya, Walter Belenky and James Dworkin, for treating "uncontrollable" nosebleeds, using the method of nasal-packing-with-strips-of-cured-pork.

**ARCTIC SCIENCE PRIZE** [NORWAY, GERMANY, USA, CANADA]: Eigil Reimers and Sindre Eftestøl, for testing how reindeer react to seeing humans who are disguised as polar bears.

NUTRITION PRIZE [SPAIN]: Raquel Rubio, Anna Jofré, Belén Martín, Teresa Aymerich, and Margarita Garriga, for their study titled "Characterization of Lactic Acid Bacteria Isolated from Infant Faeces as Potential Probiotic Starter Cultures for Fermented Sausages."

For a complete list of all Ig Nobel Prize winners (1991-now) see the Improbable Research web site

WWW.IMPROBABLE.COM

#### SANDERS THEATRE INFORMATION

Sanders Theatre is managed by Memorial Hall/Lowell Hall Complex at Harvard University 45 Quincy Street, Room 027, Cambridge, MA 02138 T 617.496.4595 | F 617.495.2420 | memhall@fas.harvard.edu

For history of the building, visit www.fas.harvard.edu/memhall

**RESTROOMS** are located on the lower level.

LATECOMERS will be seated at the discretion of management.

**PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING** of any kind is not permitted in Sanders Theatre. Equipment may be confiscated.

**Lost and Found** Call 617.496.4595 or visit Memorial Hall 027. Harvard University is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

#### PARKING

There is no parking at Sanders Theatre.

Free parking for most events is available at Broadway Garage, corner of Broadway and Felton Street, from one hour pre-performance to one hour post. Parking for some student events will be at 52 Oxford Street Garage.

#### **Access for Patrons with Disabilities**

Accessible seating can be arranged through the Box Office. Sanders Theatre is equipped with Assistive Listening Devices, available 30 minutes prior to events.

Accessible parking for events: There is no parking at Sanders Theatre itself. Patrons may be dropped off in the circle on the Kirkland Street side of Sanders Theatre near the accessible entrance. We encourage patrons to park at either the Broadway Garage or 52 Oxford Street Lot. The Broadway Garage is fully accessible and there are curb cuts at all crosswalks between the garage and the Sanders Theatre.

If necessary, a limited number of accessible parking spaces may be available in nearby location by advance arrangement. It is extremely difficult to honor requests received less than 5 business days prior to an event. Please plan ahead.

To arrange for an Accessible Parking Space in a nearby parking lot, contact:

- 1. Harvard University Parking Office at 495-3772 AND/OR
- 2. University Disability Services at 495-1859, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm or email: disabilityservices@harvard.edu

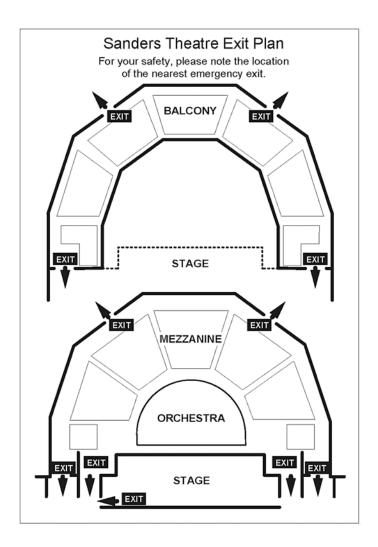
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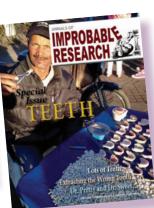
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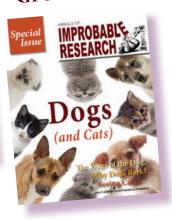
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