Highlights from Kyoto

Dear friends,

As we all return home from Kyoto, after participating in the 5th World Parkinson Congress, it's hard to capture in one eNews the impact of the WPC experience and mention all the highlights. We'll be posting for a few months about the outcomes, but our immediate reflection starts with the beginning of the week at the Opening Ceremony.

Tuesday - Opening Ceremony
The Opening Ceremony was a moving evening with incredible highs and a few tears shed during emotional tributes. Opening the night with a performance by the WPC Choir, singing the two winning songs from the WPC Song Competition, they started the evening off with an incredible showcase of the power of music. We are so impressed with our Choir Director, Judi Spencer who used technology to allow 60 different people from around the globe to train together virtually to perform for the first time live at the WPC 2019.

WPC President, A. Jon Stoessl, welcomed two key note speakers during the evening, Lyndsey Isaacs of UK to speak on behalf of care partners globally and Dr. Linda Olson, who spoke as a person with PD about perseverance, positivity and overcoming challenges we face in life. Video clips of these talks will be shared in a future eNews.

The evening was wrapped up with two lively performances. The first by Pamela Quinn and her dancers who trained virtually for the past six months in order to perform, as a group, for the first time at the WPC. They were followed immediately by Japanese taiko drummers, who inspired the audience with a lively performance that then lead to the Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Halls.

The winners of the WPC 2019 Video Competition were announced:
Winner of the WPC 2019 Video Competition Grand Prize: Anders M. Leines from Norway
Click here to watch his video

Winner of the WPC 2019 Video Competition People's Choice Award: Fumiko Moriya from Japan
Click here to watch her video

Wednesday

WPC Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Parkinson Community was presented to Lorraine (Lori) Ramig, PhD, CCC-SLP & Susanna Lindvall, BS Chem by Marie-Françoise Chesselet, MD, PhD. Susanna Lindvall was unable to accept her award in person. Click HERE to read more about all of the award winners.

Networking evening
As at past WPCs, Wednesday evening hundreds of non MD clinicians joined up for a social gathering and networking evening. The WPC believes in interdisciplinary care and supports the clinicians who treat and care for people with PD and their families. We want to make sure this community connects to learn from and support each other.

THURSDAY

WPC Robin A. Elliott Award for Service to the Community Presented to Sara Lew Lai Heong & Nancy Tingey, OAM, CF, MA, BA by Eli Pollard
Music and Movement Lounge
For the second time, we hosted the WPC Music and Movement Lounge. This fun evening was sponsored by Adamas Pharmaceuticals and was filled with performances by musicians, dancers, comedians and more. A huge THANK YOU to Eros Bresolin and Gaynor Edwards for all of their work to make the evening a success! Artists from a dozen countries joined in for great fun, some raunchy jokes, (thanks, Emma Lawton), and a lot of laughter. We even had a special cross cultural performance of the song "Cups" sung by Omotola Thomas with back up from the Japan Cups Team.

Friday
WPC Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Parkinson Community was presented to Soania Mathur, BSC, MD, CCFP by A. Jon Stoessl, CM, MD, FRCPC, FCAHS

Stanley Fahn Young Investigator Award
Mattia Volta, PhD was awarded the Stanley Fahn Young Investigator
Award for his abstract "A novel target for neuroprotection: The small GTPase RIN inhibits LRRK2 to promote autophagy and reduce alpha-synuclein pathology." Named after WPC founder and world renowned Parkinsonologist, this award is presented to ONE outstanding abstract submitter whose work is deemed innovative and visionary. We were delighted to present this award to Dr. Volta and we look forward to seeing his future research.

Abstracts
We had an extraordinary showing of abstracts authored by abstract authors from around the world. We believe that knowledge should be shared and accessible to all, which is why we post the abstract book as a free, downloadable pdf book that will be up indefinitely. Download your own copy here and share the link.

Thank You!

If you had the chance to attend WPC 2019, you already know how amazing our volunteers were. They did everything from greeting people at the airport, to translating, to helping people navigate the convention center, to answering questions and so much more. Their hard work makes the congress possible and we thank each and everyone of you for the tremendous amount of effort you put into making the Congress a great experience for everyone.
Thank you to all of our sponsors, particularly our platinum sponsor, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, and our gold sponsors, Abbvie and Acorda Therapeutics. A complete list of our sponsors can be found [HERE](#).

There would be no program without the tireless work of our Program Committee. They are the ones with the extremely difficult task of creating a program that can reach, educate, and inspire everyone in the global Parkinson's community. You can view the full list of committee members [HERE](#).

Thank you to our Local Organizing Committee and to the Japanese Parkinson Disease Association for making the first WPC in Asia a success! They worked on everything from promotion, to fundraising, to our Parkinson's Ready Program. Thank you for being such wonderful hosts.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the WPC Travel Grant program by purchasing items through the WPC Store or donating through our website or Facebook page. By providing travel grants to junior researchers and people with Parkinson's from across the globe you have inspired and educated the next leaders in the Parkinson's community. You can make a donation for WPC 2022 [HERE](#).

We are so grateful to everyone who helped us spread the word about this amazing meeting. A special shout out goes to our Ambassadors and Blogger Partners who worked for years to help us build the WPC Community. We deeply appreciate that so many of you turned to your friends and colleagues and said this is worth your time, energy and money to be at this congress. It means more to us than we can express to have your support.

To each and every amazing artist who contributed to the Video Competition and the Song Competition, we are humbled that you shared your art with us. If you have not experienced all of the great submissions you can watch all of the entries to the Video Competition [HERE](#) and listen to all of the entries to the Song Competition [HERE](#).

In the coming months we will be sharing more of what happened at WPC 2019, but for now we thank all of you for being a part of our WPC family and we hope to see you in Barcelona!

Kind regards,

Elizabeth "Eli" Pollard
Executive Director

---

Useful Links

About This Email