



2021 SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR

Erica Ollmann Sapphire, PhD

VIRTUAL EVENT

April 25, 2021 | 6:00 - 7:15 PM

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Your sponsorship dollars will go towards the ARCS Scholar Award Fund in support of our 2021-2022 Scholars. ARCS Scholar Awards are unrestricted funds, providing flexibility for our Scholars to use at their discretion, whether it be attending scientific meetings to explore ideas with colleagues, purchasing equipment for research, or traveling to areas across the globe to conduct research in the field. Thank you for supporting our Scholars, the next generation of scientists, engineers, and medical researchers!

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To discuss your interest in specific sponsorship opportunities or to answer any questions, please contact Paulette Roberts, Chair, 2021 Scientist of the Year Event, at paulejroberts@gmail.com or (858) 203-3260.

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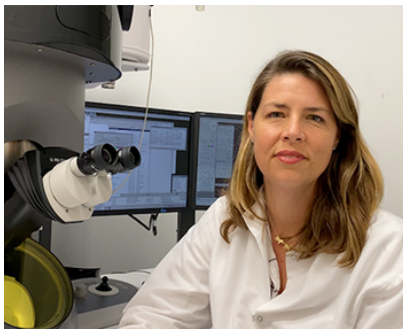
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2021 SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR HONOREE

ERICA OLLMANN SAPHIRE, PhD



Dr. Erica Ollmann Saphire is a Professor of the La Jolla Institute for Immunology. Her research explains, at the molecular level, how and why viruses are pathogenic and provides the roadmap for medical defense. Her team has shed light on global killers such as HIV, Ebola, Lassa, Marburg and SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Dr. Saphire moved from Texas to San Diego to pursue her graduate studies in 1994. She went on to start her own lab at Scripps Research in 2003. In 2019, Dr. Saphire joined the LJI faculty as professor and led the Institute's effort to establish a molecular imaging facility, which gives scientists cutting-edge tools to examine key proteins involved in disease.

Throughout her career, Dr. Saphire has been a leader in global efforts against viral diseases. As the director of the Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Immunotherapeutic Consortium (VIC), she united 43 previously competing groups worldwide to uncover human antibodies that fight diseases such as Ebola virus and Lassa fever. In 2020, the Gates Foundation asked her to spearhead the Coronavirus Immunotherapy Consortium (CoVIC), a similar effort for SARS-CoV-2. Under Dr. Saphire's leadership, the CoVIC has brought together more than 50 competing research labs from four continents to compare and choose antibody therapies against COVID-19.

Dr. Saphire's work has been recognized at the White House with the Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering, with young investigator awards from the International Congress of Antiviral Research, the American Society for Microbiology, and the MRC Centre for Virus Research in the United Kingdom. She has been awarded a Fulbright Global Scholar fellowship from the United States Department of State and a Mercator Fellowship from Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, to develop international collaborations using cryoelectron microscopy to further global health.

ABOUT ARCS

ARCS Foundation (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) is a nationally recognized nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, founded and managed entirely by women volunteers, who promote U.S. competitiveness by providing financial awards to academically outstanding U.S. citizens studying to complete degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and health disciplines at 49 of the nation's leading research universities. The San Diego chapter of ARCS was established in 1985 and has grown from the original four founders to 113 members today. As we enter our 36th year in 2021, ARCS San Diego has made more than 1,400 awards totaling over \$10.9 million in funding to students in STEM and medical research at four local academic institutions: San Diego State University, Scripps Research, University of California San Diego, and University of San Diego. ARCS Scholars are selected by these institutions in recognition of their achievements and their exceptional promise to contribute significantly to their fields. Scholars must be U.S. citizens and have at least a 3.5 GPA, while pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in STEM and medical research. For the 2020-2021 academic year, the San Diego ARCS chapter has awarded \$420,000 to 46 Scholars. To learn more about ARCS visit our website: san-diego.arcsfoundation.org.

