

**Johnson & Johnson Innovation Launches
Champions of Science Storytelling Challenge – Latin America & Caribbean Edition**

Panama City, Panama – October 22, 2018 – Johnson & Johnson Innovation has launched the [Champions of Science Storytelling Challenge – Latin America & Caribbean Edition](#) to spotlight the achievements and personal journeys of scientists doing innovative work in the region. The Challenge was announced during the [CILAC 2018](#) Open Science Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean, and is the latest in the company’s Champions of Science Storytelling Challenge series.

“Scientists are uniquely positioned to change the trajectory of health for humanity and we believe that by telling their stories, we can inspire young women and men in Latin America and the Caribbean to pursue careers in STEM and engage future innovators,” said Seema Kumar, Vice President Innovation, Global Health, and Science Policy Communication, Johnson & Johnson. “We are calling on all scientists in the region to share their stories to help engage more people to see the unlimited opportunities that science brings.”

The Challenge runs until January 22, 2019 and is open to scientists and innovators doing research in any scientific field in Latin America and the Caribbean with the goal of making a positive impact on society.

“Fueling new ideas and increasing public understanding and trust in science is critical to create a sustainable future for communities in Latin America and around the globe,” said Lidia Brito, Director, UNESCO Regional Office for Sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean. “I am pleased to see this initiative launched in the frame of CILAC 2018. We look forward to hearing stories from the many scientists who are doing impactful work in the region.”

Winners will have their story published in the Johnson & Johnson Innovation “Champions of Science” compendium and receive a cash prize of \$5,000. To learn more about the Champions of Science Storytelling Challenge - Latin American & Caribbean Edition, and to submit your story, please visit <https://www.jnjinnovation.com/lac-storytelling-challenge>.

About Champions of Science

Science touches our lives in every imaginable way. From antibiotics and telecommunications, to genomics, precision medicine and 3D printing, science has improved the human condition, leading to longer, healthier, happier lives for people all over the world. To continue to advance, science needs champions!

As a global healthcare company, Johnson & Johnson Innovation is uniquely positioned to champion the role of science in society. We have launched Champions of Science – a multi-faceted public engagement initiative – to convene and catalyze champions of science and engage people of all generations and backgrounds to see the unlimited opportunities that science brings.

About Champions of Science Storytelling Challenges

The Champions of Science Storytelling Challenge series aim to spotlight the achievements and personal journeys of scientists and champions of science in all regions of the world. In addition to the Latin America & Caribbean edition, an Africa edition was held earlier this year, with winners to be honored in December 2018 at Science Forum South Africa. The company plans to hold additional editions of the Challenge to highlight stories across multiple generations and geographies.

About Johnson & Johnson Innovation LLC

Johnson & Johnson Innovation LLC focuses on accelerating all stages of innovation worldwide and forming collaborations between entrepreneurs and Johnson & Johnson's global healthcare businesses. Johnson & Johnson Innovation LLC provides scientists, entrepreneurs and emerging companies with one-stop access to science and technology experts who can facilitate collaborations across the pharmaceutical, medical devices and consumer companies of Johnson & Johnson. Under the Johnson & Johnson Innovation umbrella of businesses, we connect with innovators through our regional Innovation Centers, JLABS, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc. and our Business Development teams to create customized deals and novel collaborations that speed development of innovations to solve unmet needs for patients. For more information please visit: www.jnjinnovation.com.

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