

FALLING WALLS FOUNDATION

OPEN CALL FOR GROUNDBREAKING SCIENCE: FALLING WALLS IS LOOKING FOR THE SCIENCE BREAKTHROUGHS OF THE YEAR 2023

- On 01 March 2023 the non-profit Falling Walls Foundation opens the Global Call for the Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2023.
- Until 01 May scientists and academics, research institutions, universities and NGOs can submit their projects in categories Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities, Art and Science, Science and Innovation Management, Emerging Talents, Science Start-Ups, and Science Engagement.
- The Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year laureates will present their groundbreaking research at the Falling Walls Science Summit on 9 November 2023 in Berlin.
- For more information on the submission process and selection criteria visit falling-walls.com/global-call/

Berlin, 1 March 2023. Breakthrough research was and is the key to understanding and solving the greatest challenges of our time. To honor this important work Falling Walls encourages scientists to participate in the Falling Walls Global Call and submit their outstanding projects or nominate the work of their colleagues. After the submission deadline all submissions and applications will be evaluated by the juries and advisory boards of respective categories. The names of the projects shortlisted for the main title will be published on the homepage of the Falling Walls Foundation on **16 August**.

The Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2023 laureates in the categories Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities, Art and Science and Science and Innovation Management will be announced on **13 September 2023**.

The shortlisted participants in the categories Emerging Talents, Science Start-Ups and Science Engagement will be invited to pitch their projects live at the **Falling Walls Science Summit** in Berlin on **7 November 2023**. The winners in these categories will receive the last three Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year 2023 titles.

The 14th **Falling Walls Science Summit** will take place in Berlin between **7-9 November 2023**. The Summit programme will include pitches from upcoming scientists, science communicators and science start-ups during the Pitch Day on 7 November, debates between experts from politics, science, business, and media during the Circle Day on 8 November and keynotes of all Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year 2023 laureates on the Breakthrough Day on 9 November.

Among the previous awardees were **Marcus Mall** (Charité Berlin; Breaking the Wall to Cystic Fibrosis Treatment), **Francesca Santoro** (Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia; Breaking the Wall to Biohybrid Synapses), **José-Alain Sahel** (University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; Breaking the Wall to Restoring Vision for Retinal Degeneration), sustainability start-ups **Made of Air** and **Traceless Materials** and others.

Learn more about the past laureates, participants, and speakers [online](#).

This year's Falling Walls Science Summit programme will be available online in the **end of September 2023**.

Press contact: For any press or interview inquiries please contact Olena Taran, Press Officer Falling Walls Foundation, at press@falling-walls.com

About the Falling Walls Science Summit

Since its inception in 2009, Falling Walls Science Summit (former Falling Walls Conference) has become a leading international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral forum for scientific breakthroughs and dialogue between science and society. The event takes place every year from 7–9 November in Berlin, commemorating the fall of the Berlin Wall. With formats Falling Walls Pitches (7 November), Falling Walls Circle (8 November) and Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year (9 November), the Falling Walls Science Summit brings together global leaders from academia, business, politics, the media, and civil society to debate

the potential of scientific breakthroughs to solve grand challenges and shape a sustainable future. The Falling Walls Science Summit is organised by the non-profit Falling Walls Foundation. More: www.falling-walls.com

About Falling Walls Foundation

The Falling Walls Foundation gGmbH is a non-profit organization based in Berlin, Germany, with the goal to communicate outstanding science and research to society. Through numerous projects, the organization brings together an international network of science, society, and policy to promote breakthrough thinking and find solutions to the greatest challenges of our time.

Every year in November around the day of the peaceful fall of the Berlin Wall the Falling Walls Foundation hosts international scientific events Berlin Science Week and Falling Walls Science Summit. Other projects include Falling Walls Lab for emerging science talents, Falling Walls Engage for innovative science communication, Falling Walls Venture for science start-ups, Young Entrepreneurs in Science for PhD students and postdocs, and Female Science Talents, which promotes inclusive excellence and leadership in science and business. Since 2020, the Foundation has organized the Creative Bureaucracy Festival, an international event for innovative public administration and public service. The Foundation is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Berlin Senate, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, the Berlin Museum of Natural History (Museum für Naturkunde) and PD – public sector advisory, as well as numerous recognized academic institutions, foundations, companies, and NGOs. More: falling-walls.com/foundation