



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

Sponsored by the John Ruan Foundation Trust
DECEMBER 2000

report

**Mexican and Indian
Scientists Honored as
Millennium Laureates**

**International Dialogue
on Genetically
Modified Crops**

**Holbrooke and
Glickman Address
U.N. Luncheon**



Millennium Laureates

Mexican biochemist and Indian plant breeder receive \$250,000 Prize for perfecting miracle maize, which is saving the lives of millions of young children in Africa, Asia and South America.

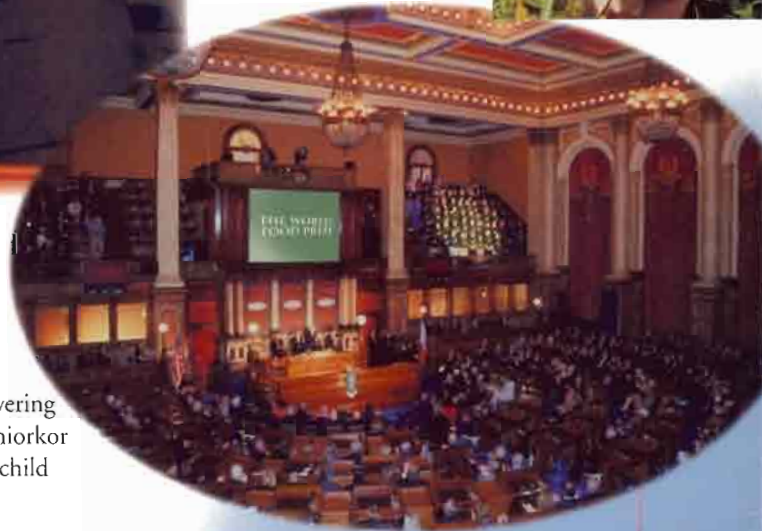


Dr. Surinder K. Vasal and Dr. Evangelina Villegas



The ceremony in the chandeliered House Chamber featured a vocalist, children's choir, trumpet fanfares, and a multimedia story of the Laureates' achievement

Iowa Governor Thomas J. Vilsack (center) looks on as Dr. Villegas and Dr. Vasal receive the Millennium World Food Prize sculptures from Ambassador Kenneth Quinn and Dr. Norman Borlaug (left) and Messrs. John Ruan and John Ruan III (right)



More than 800 people attended The World Food Prize Millennium Laureate Award Ceremony and Dinner October 12 in the magnificent Iowa Capitol.

The formal presentation of the \$250,000 Prize to Dr. Evangelina Villegas of Mexico and Dr. Surinder Vasal of India was made in recognition of their achievement in developing highly nutritious Quality Protein Maize. Their breakthrough

accomplishment is countering malnutrition—significantly lowering the risk for disorders like Kwashiorkor and Marasmus—and reducing child mortality around the world.

With substantial support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Drs. Vasal and Villegas conducted collaborative research spanning three decades at the International Center for Wheat and Maize Improvement in Mexico on the process to add essential amino acids to corn. Successful testing of their new discovery in Ghana was made possible through the support of former President and World Food Prize Council of Advisors member Jimmy Carter and the Sasakawa-Global 2000 Fund.

Dr. Villegas is the first woman to ever receive The World Food Prize.

“New variety of maize raises fundamental issues about how to help the hungry and malnourished.”

Financial Times, September 8, 2000



The Iowa State Capitol

Creates Honored



“By holding the Award presentation in the Iowa State Capitol – one of the most beautiful buildings in North America – we took an important step in the direction of emulating the Nobel Prize, which is presented in the grandeur of one of Europe’s most elegant buildings.”

*Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn,
President, The World Food Prize
Foundation*



A giant glowing globe in the Capitol rotunda provided a dramatic centerpiece for dinner, which featured “Vinaigrette Villegas” and “Sauce Vasal” on the menu

John Chrystal Award Presented

The John Chystal Award – established to honor an Iowan who pioneered U.S.-Russian exchanges – recognizes students who have written exemplary papers about their experience while participating in eight-week World Food Prize Youth Institute internships abroad.



Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Gartner presents the Chrystal Award to Youth Institute International Interns Amanda James and Matthew Feldmann at the Award Ceremony



(Inset) Grand staircase in the Capitol

International Dialog

Symposium Confronts Role of Genetically Modified Crops

Des Moines, Iowa

Attended by experts from 33 countries and 30 states



Canada — Ms. Hope Shand
Rural Advancement
Foundation International



China — Dr. Zhangliang Chen
Director, National Laboratory
on Genetic Engineering



U.S.A. — Amb. Alan P. Larson
Under Secretary of State
for Economic, Business, and
Agricultural Affairs



Kenya — Dr. Florence Wambugu
International Service for
the Acquisition of
Agri-biotech Applications



India — Dr. M. S. Swaminathan,
1987 World Food Prize Laureate



More than 700 attended the keynote session luncheon at the Symposium

“There is increasing pressure on politicians to involve consumers in decision making, taking greater account of fears expressed by the public than of sound scientific arguments in the process.”

German Minister of Agriculture Karl-Heinz Funke

An unprecedented assemblage of 11 World Food Prize Laureates and distinguished governmental leaders, scientists, policy advocates and business representatives confronted the issues surrounding genetically modified crops at The World Food Prize International Symposium October 12-13, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Speakers from Kenya, Egypt, China, India, Denmark, Germany, Mexico, Thailand, Australia, the Cayman Islands, Switzerland, Canada, The World Bank and the United States discussed one of the defining issues of our new century: The role of biotechnology in ensuring an adequate, yet safe, food supply for the world's burgeoning population.

Conference proceedings will be distributed in a Symposium *Highlights* booklet in early 2001.



Iowa Governor Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture Patty Judge, and North Dakota Governor Edward T. Schafer discussed “Biotechnology — A View from the States”



Dr. Ingo Potrykus of the Swiss Institute of Technology addressed the Symposium on the benefits of “Golden Rice”

Focus on World Hunger

Holbrooke and Glickman Headline Presentation to U.N. Diplomatic Corps

New York, New York

On October 16, World Food Day, Rockefeller Center was the setting for the presentation of the Millennium World Food Prize Laureates to His Excellency Harri Holkeri, President of the U.N. General Assembly, senior U.S. officials, the ambassadors and representatives of more than 150 United Nations members and other distinguished guests.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman addressed the gathering on the crucial issues in international assistance related to alleviating world hunger.



(from left) Secretary Glickman, Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, H.E. Harri Holkeri, Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug, Ambassador Holbrooke, Mr. John Ruan, Dr. Villegas and Dr. Vasal



Ambassador Holbrooke praised UNDP funding of research by the Millennium Laureates

"The World Food Prize is an important recognition of those who have dedicated their professional lives to narrowing the gap between the world's nutritional haves and have nots."

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman



(from left) New York luncheon guests Le Son Quinn, Shandon Quinn, Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, and Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Gartner

AT INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM PRESS BRIEFING

Twelve Laureates Urge *Increased Public Funding for Research*



(from left) Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug — and WFP Laureates Dr. Evangelina Villegas, Dr. Surinder Vasal, Dr. B.R. Barwale, Dr. Perry Adkisson, Dr. Henry Beachell, Dr. Gurdev Khush, Dr. Hans Herren, H.E. He Kang, Dr. Nevin Scrimshaw, Dr. John Niederhauser and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

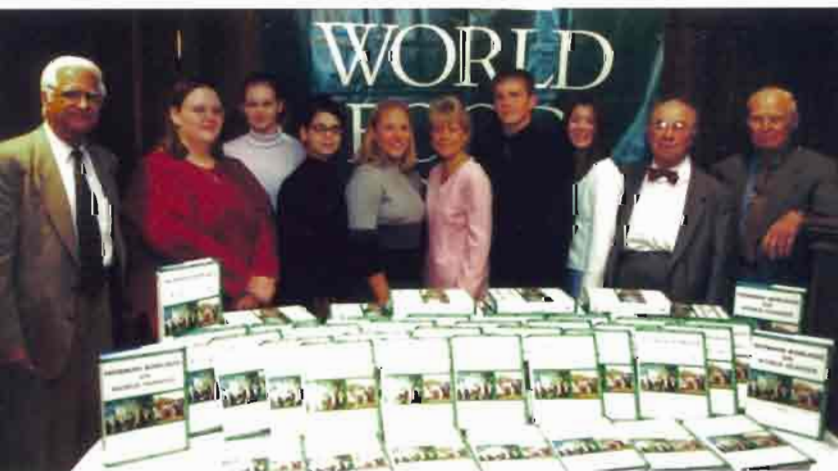
The 11 World Food Prize Laureates attending the International Symposium, together with Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug, urged increased support for academic research and publicly

funded institutions such as the affiliates of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. A high level of public funding, they said, will promote scientific breakthroughs benefiting the poorest people on earth.

Interviews with The World Food Prize Laureates, International Symposium speakers, and Ambassador Kenneth Quinn are available on the Web at TechCentralStation.com.

“Norman Borlaug on World Hunger”

**Recognized
on NBC’s
THE WEST WING**



Iowa’s First Lady Christie Vilsack (center) expresses appreciation for The World Food Prize Foundation’s donation of the book “Norman Borlaug on World Hunger” to Iowa schools. (far right) Mr. John Ruan and Dr. Borlaug, (far left) Dr. Anwar Dil of Pakistan and students representing Iowa high schools share in the celebration

To underscore the importance of educating students about critical food security issues facing humanity today, The World Food Prize Foundation has provided every Iowa high school with a copy of the book, “Norman Borlaug on World Hunger,” compiled and edited by Dr. Anwar Dil.

“We need biotech to feed the World.”

*Dr. Norman Borlaug
Wall Street Journal, December 6, 2000*

Along with the accolades he receives regularly from his peers in the arena of science and policy, Dr. Borlaug is revered in other cultural contexts as well. Recently, his accomplishments as “Father of The Green Revolution” — resulting in a fourfold increase in grains production in Africa and Asia — received prominent mention in an episode of the NBC-TV drama *The West Wing*, which emphasized the need for a new Borlaug-type revolution in Africa.

YOUTH INSTITUTE *Going Global*

Interns report on assignments in Africa, Asia and the Americas

The Youth Institute, held on October 14 at Pioneer Hi-Bred International's Carver Center, attracted close to 45 Iowa students for a three-day program on genetically modified crops. Nine World Food Prize International Interns also reported on their summer assignments in Kenya, India, Peru, Mexico, Indonesia, the Philippines and at Iowa State University.

The interns' experiences at their respective international research centers will be featured in a "Student Voices" documentary on Iowa Public Television (IPTV) at 1:00 p.m., on March 26, 2001.



(from left) Interns Emily Westergaard, Bian Li, and Anthony Todd

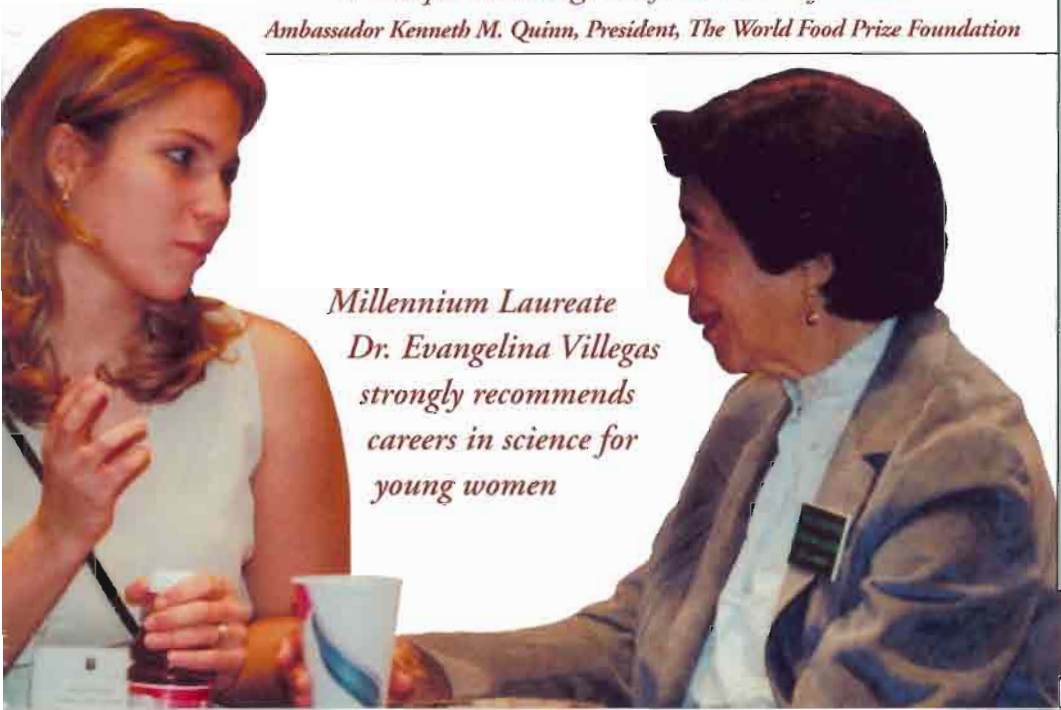


The Youth Institute Class of 2000, with Mr. John Ruan, Dr. Norman Borlaug, World Food Prize Laureates and members of the Council of Advisors

For information on 2001 Internships or the Youth Institute, call or e-mail Lisa Fleming at 515-282-8269 ext. 10, or lisaiciu@aol.com.

"Our goal over the next several years is to develop our current program into a Global Youth Institute, with students from around the world coming to Iowa for a unique exchange on food security issues."

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quim, President, The World Food Prize Foundation



Millennium Laureate Dr. Evangelina Villegas strongly recommends careers in science for young women

Special Tribute

The World Food Prize Foundation wishes to formally acknowledge the generous support of The World Food Prize and the Youth Institute provided by:

- Governor, State Legislature and people of Iowa
- Pioneer Hi-Bred International
- Iowa State University

The Foundation also expresses its great appreciation to Roberta and Howard Ahmanson and Fieldstead and Company for their extremely generous donation of \$80,000 in 1999 and 2000 to support The World Food Prize Youth Institute and their pledge, announced at the Millennium Laureate celebration, to provide an additional \$80,000 in 2001 and 2002.

THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

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Ambassador (Ret.)
President

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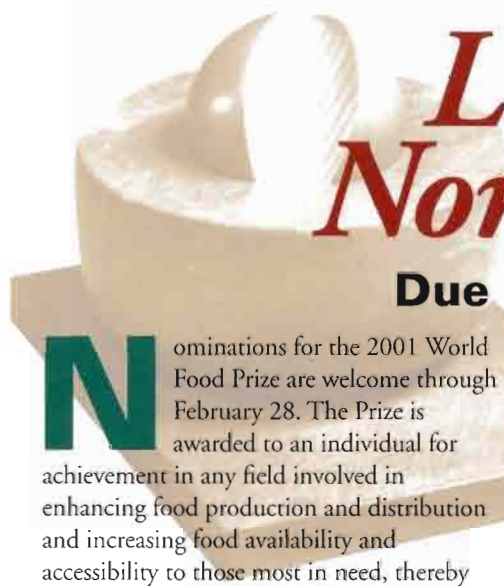
For more information call:

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- E-mail: wfp@worldfoodprize.org

Mark Your Calendar World Food Prize 15th Anniversary

October 18 - 20, 2001
Des Moines, Iowa USA

Award Ceremony
International Symposium
Youth Institute



Laureate Nominations

Due February 28, 2001

Nominations for the 2001 World Food Prize are welcome through February 28. The Prize is awarded to an individual for achievement in any field involved in enhancing food production and distribution and increasing food availability and accessibility to those most in need, thereby

reducing hunger, poverty, and human suffering and improving health, nutrition, and well being.

Information on the nominating process is available on our Web site, or by contacting Judith Pim at 515-245-3796, or jpim@worldfoodprize.org

www.worldfoodprize.org



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE FOUNDATION

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