

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Four Legends of American Science Now on U.S. Postage Stamps



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NEW YORK — The U.S. Postal Service acknowledges the contributions of some of the most impressive scientific achievements of the 20th century with the issuance of its second series of American Scientists stamps.

The stamps will be dedicated during a ceremony today at noon at Madison Square Garden's WaMu Theater.

The four scientists appearing on the stamps are:

Theoretical physicist **John Bardeen** (1908-1991) co-invented the transistor, which was arguably the most important invention of the 20th century. Bardeen also collaborated on the first fundamental explanation of superconductivity at low temperatures, a theory that has had a profound impact on many fields of physics. He remains the only person ever awarded two Nobel Prizes in physics.

Biochemist **Gerty Cori** (1896-1957), in collaboration with her husband, Carl, made important discoveries — including a new derivative of glucose — that elucidated the steps of carbohydrate metabolism and became the basis for our knowledge of how cells use food and convert it into energy. Their work also contributed to the understanding and treatment of diabetes and other metabolic diseases.

Astronomer **Edwin Hubble** (1889-1953) played a pivotal role in deciphering the vast and complex nature of the universe. His meticulous studies of spiral nebulae proved the existence of galaxies other than our own Milky Way, paving the way for a revolutionary new understanding that the cosmos contains myriad separate galaxies, or "island universes."

Structural chemist **Linus Pauling** (1901-1994) determined the nature of the chemical bond linking atoms into molecules. He routinely crossed disciplinary boundaries throughout his career and made significant contributions in several diverse fields. His pioneering work on protein structure was critical in establishing the field of molecular biology and his studies of hemoglobin led to many findings, including the classification of sickle cell anemia as a molecular disease.

"We are here to honor four extraordinary individuals who pushed back the frontiers of knowledge on behalf of all of mankind," said James Miller III, member, Board of Governors, U.S. Postal Service. Miller will officially dedicate the stamp at the ceremony, which will be attended by family members of the honored scientists.

Joining Miller will be Eric Jackson, president, American Stamp Dealers Association; and for the Postal Service Marie Therese Dominguez, vice president, Government Relations, and David Failor, executive director, Stamp Services.

William Bardeen, son of physicist John Bardeen, one of the stamp's honorees, said, "This is a high honor for my father and my family. We appreciate the Postal Service's recognition of my father and the important role science has played in making America great."

"If my mother were alive today, she would think this recognition was wonderful and one of the best things that could have happened to her," said Tom Cori, son of biochemist Gerty Cori.

"The whole family is delighted with this honor," said Linda Pauling Kamb, daughter of structural chemist Linus Pauling. "It is especially significant that he is being recognized for his work in molecular biology and his discovery that the sickle cell anemia disease is a molecular disease."

For each stamp, artist Victor Stabin of Jim Thorpe, PA, with the assistance of art director Carl Herrman of Carlsbad, CA, created a collage featuring a painted portrait of each scientist combined with diagrams or photographic representations associated with their major contributions.

The first series of American Scientists stamps was issued in 2005 and featured geneticist Barbara McClintock, thermodynamicist Josiah Willard Gibbs, mathematician John von Neumann and physicist Richard Feynman.

The American Scientists stamps will be available for purchase in Post Offices, on usps.com and by calling 800-STAMP-24 starting Thursday, March 6.

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An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that visits every address in the nation – 146 million homes and businesses. It has 37,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to pay for operating expenses, not tax dollars. The Postal Service has annual revenues of \$75 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.

American Scientists Philatelic Fact Sheet

Philatelic Products

There are three philatelic products available for this stamp issue:

- 462263*- First-Day Cover Set/4, \$3.16
- 462291*- Ceremony Program with 4 stamps, \$6.95
- 462293*- First-Day Cover Keepsake with 4 First-Day Covers, \$11.36

Items with an asterisk (*) will use the 128 barcode from Stamp Fulfillment Services. All other philatelic products will continue to use barcode series A, with the exception of the *Yearbook* and the *Guide Book*.

How to Order First-Day Covers

Stamp Fulfillment Services also offers first-day covers for new stamp issues and Postal Service stationery items postmarked with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation. Each item has an individual catalog number and is offered in the quarterly *USA Philatelic* catalog. Customers may request a free catalog by calling 800-STAMP-24 or by writing to:

Information Fulfillment
Dept. 6270
U.S. Postal Service
PO Box 219014
Kansas City, MO 64121-9014

How to Order the First-Day-of-Issue Postmark

Customers have 60 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office, by telephone at 800-STAMP-24, or at the Postal Store website at www.usps.com/shop. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in a larger envelope addressed to:

American Scientists Stamps
Postmaster
421 Eighth Avenue, Room 2029B
New York, NY 10199-9998

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark. All orders must be postmarked by May 5, 2008.