The Peter Karches Mentorship Prize at MIT’s Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research

THE PRIZE

The Peter Karches Mentorship Prize recognizes the critical role mentorship plays in engaging the up and coming generations of cancer researchers, and celebrates Mr. Karches’s extraordinary legacy. The prize will be awarded annually to up to four trainees serving as mentors to high school and undergraduate students, and/or technicians working in KI laboratories. Winners will receive $6,000 for personal use and be recognized at a celebratory lunch or dinner (when possible) with members of the Karches family.

IN MEMORY: PETER KARCHES

Peter Karches spent his career at Morgan Stanley, rising to become the president and chief operating officer of Morgan Stanley’s institutional securities and investment banking group. A passionate horse racing fan, Mr. Karches bred and raced thoroughbreds, and co-chaired the New York Racing Association. After a long battle with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, Mr. Karches passed away in April 2006. In honor of Mr. Karches’s generosity, intellect, and steadfast commitment to family and friends, James Goodwin, a close friend of the Karches family, has established the Peter Karches Mentorship Prize at MIT’s Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research.

NOMINATIONS

Who is eligible: Post-doctoral associates, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students who have served as mentors to either high school students, undergraduate students, or technicians with undergraduate degrees attained within the past 5 years. Candidates who have worked in Koch Institute laboratories (in person or virtually) between September 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020 are eligible to be nominated for the 2020 Karches Prize.

Who can nominate: Mentees (high school students, undergraduate students, and technicians with undergraduate degrees attained within the past 5 years) can submit a nomination letter to their PI. The full nomination package must come from the PI, who may submit up to two nominations per year.

Nomination Period: PIs must submit nominations to ki-fellowships@mit.edu by Thursday, December 10, 2020. Please use the subject line: Karches Prize Nomination.

Nomination Materials: The nomination package should consist of:

- The name, laboratory, and position of the nominee
- The name of the mentee and their status as a high school student, undergraduate student, or technician
- A paragraph describing the work conducted by mentor and mentee, in the context of the larger cancer research project
- Two letters of recommendation not to exceed two pages—one from the PI and one from the mentee. Tell us what makes the nominee an effective and exemplary mentor

AWARD NOTIFICATION

Winners will be announced in early 2021.