**The St. Baldrick’s Foundation’s**

**Robert J. Arceci Innovation Award**

**Overview:**

* Awards to be granted and administered by the St. Baldrick’s Foundation
* One award to a U.S. or Canadian researcher, to be presented at an ASPHO or COG meeting
* One award to an international researcher, to be presented at a SIOP meeting
* Awards are $250,000/year for 3 years to support innovative childhood cancer research
* Donations in memory of Dr. Arceci will support the awards

**This award reflects Dr. Robert J. Arceci’s values, which include:**

* Thinking outside the box – risk-taking – true innovation
* Collaboration – including international participation
* Development of early- to mid-career scientists

**Nominee Criteria:** *Each nominee must…*

* Hold an M.D., a Ph.D. or equivalent advanced degree(s)
* Be within 10 years of their first academic appointment as of Oct. 15, 2015\*
* Be nominated by a member of ASPHO, COG or SIOP (no self-nominees)
* Be available to present their work at the annual ASPHO or SIOP meeting
* Work in a research environment with mentoring and support conducive of continued academic success and innovation
* Have presented, published, or received funding for highly innovative research with the potential to lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate important advances in our understanding of childhood cancer
* Have demonstrated participation in team science, in addition to success in innovative discovery

[\*Up to one additional year will be allowed for time off for medical reasons or the birth or adoption of a child.]

**Judging Criteria:**

* Innovation
* Quality of the science
* Potential for clinical impact

**Nomination Process:**

**Submit the following by email** to [Becky@StBaldricks.org](mailto:Becky@StBaldricks.org), subject line: “Arceci Award Nomination”

1. *Nomination:*

ASPHO, COG or SIOP members making nominations will submit:

* + a 2-page nomination letter, to include information about the candidate’s research environment
  + the nominee’s NIH or similar format biosketch

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1. *Nominee Requirements:*

The Selection Committee will request *from candidates selected for further consideration:*

* + A complete curriculum vitae, including prior/current grant funding
  + A 3-page research description of the focus of the research the nominee would pursue, if funded, describing the potential impact of their work. (A detailed description of the approach will *not* be requested.)
  + One letter of support from the chief academic officer of the investigator’s institution
  + Three letters of support from scientists familiar with the nominee’s work
  + A commitment to be available to present their work at the annual ASPHO or SIOP meeting

**Background and General Information:**

* Research is an international endeavor that must remain true to a mission of scientific progress, placing a premium on collegial collaboration across time zones and oceans
* It is difficult to fund truly high-risk, high-reward research
* By empowering innovation in established early career investigators, we have the potential to amplify the impact over the career of a promising scientist
* While the selection process will include information from the nominee about the work proposed, the award is unrestricted, providing freedom to pursue true innovation.
* Brief applications are by invitation only and based solely on results of the nomination process.
* Nominees work must reflect the values of the Robert J. Arceci Innovation Award

**Deadlines:**

* **U.S./Canadian Award:** 
  + Nominations open:  October 15, 2015
  + Nominations due by February 5, 2016
  + Candidates for consideration chosen and notified by February 26, 2016
  + Nominee requirements due by March 25, 2016
  + Selection Committee recommendations to Board of Directors by April 15, 2016
  + Board of Directors approves award recipients by April 18, 2016
  + Award recipient notified by April 20, 2016
  + Award announced at ASPHO spring meeting, May 11-14, 2016, Minneapolis

**International Award:**

* + Nominations open:  October 15, 2015
  + Nominations due by June 15, 2016
  + Candidates for consideration chosen and notified by July 13, 2016
  + Nominee requirements due by August 10, 2016
  + Selection Committee recommendations to Board of Directors by September 14, 2016
  + Board of Directors approves award recipients by September 16, 2016
  + Award recipient notified by September 21, 2016
  + Award announced at SIOP meeting, Oct. 19-22, 2016, Dublin, Ireland

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**Post Award:**

* Each recipient must be a member of ASPHO, COG or SIOP at the time of the award.
* Award recipients will present their work at a scientific meeting (ASPHO, COG or SIOP).
* The Selection Committee or its designees will review awardees’ work every six months.
* 2nd and 3rd year funding is dependent upon review approval.
* Award recipients will agree to terms from the St. Baldrick’s Foundation regarding publicity, communications, how the award and work are referenced and more.