

# MEN *of* DISTINCTION



Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.

*and*

The Men of Distinction Steering Committee

*welcome you to the*

MEN *of*  
DISTINCTION

13th ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

*Honoring*

David Ott, M.D.  
Stewart Morris, Sr.  
Bobby Tudor  
Welcome Wilson, Sr.

Presented by

**HCA**  **Houston Healthcare**<sup>SM</sup>

May 1, 2019  
River Oaks Country Club



**Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.**

*2018 Men of Distinction Awards  
Luncheon Chair*

Dear Friends of Men of Distinction:

It is a pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the 2019 Men of Distinction. We are most grateful for the support you have demonstrated for this year's honorees and for the pediatric research, education, and patient programs in the Texas Medical Center that benefit from this luncheon. We are blest to live in a city that has the best medical center in the entire world. I am honored to be the first physician to chair this wonderful event! To date, this event has raised in excess of \$ 4.5 million thanks to your generosity.

Houston has had a tremendous year of both triumph and tragedy. Today, we honor four, true Men of Distinction who have served as leaders on both fronts and who uniquely represent the Houston spirit of compassion, hard work, integrity and service. Thank you for joining us here to recognize their efforts and thank them for their contributions to our great city.

Sincerely,

Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.  
2019 Luncheon Chair

**LUNCHEON CHAIR**  
Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.



**STEERING COMMITTEE**

*Front Row left to right: John Eads, Bret Aldridge, Michael Mithoff, Devinder Bhatia, Jesse Tutor, Scott Evans*  
*Back Row left to right: Billy McCartney, Butch Mach, Scott Schwinger, David Wuthrich, Ed McMahon, Steve Mach, Tony Bradfield*

*Not pictured: Philip Bahr, Joe Cleary, Danny Klaes, David Solomon, Tony Gracely,  
Ric Campo, Oliver Badgio, Harry Mach, Clarice Schlinger*

WHAT IS THE MEN OF DISTINCTION?

*The luncheon was created thirteen years ago by a small group of volunteers, who wanted to pay tribute to those MEN in the Houston community who have distinguished themselves through their leadership as businessmen, volunteers and philanthropists ... And to simultaneously raise funds to support pediatric biomedical research, education and patient care in the Texas Medical Center.*

*In keeping with the spirit of philanthropy shown by these distinguished gentlemen, ALL of the proceeds from the luncheon stays right here in Houston for the direct benefit of children's causes at the Texas Medical Center.*

*Honorees and beneficiaries for each year are chosen by a unanimous vote of the Men of Distinction Steering Committee. The Steering Committee consists of men and women in the community who desire to help promote our charitable endeavors.*

*If you would like to know more about our organization, please contact our Steering Committee chairman, David Wuthrich at 713-204-0216.*

[www.menofdistinction.org](http://www.menofdistinction.org)

# ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON PROGRAM

## WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Tom Koch

## STAR SPANGLED BANNER

## INVOCATION

Rev. Juan M. Torres, O.P.

## PRESENTATION OF 2019 BENEFICIARIES

## LUNCH

## PRESENTATION OF 2019 HONOREES

## CLOSING REMARKS

Devinder Bhatia, M.D.

## MENU

### WEDGE SALAD

CRISP ICEBERG, ROMA TOMATO, PICKLED RED ONION, BRIE CHEESE AND CHOICE OF DRESSING

### PETITE FILET OF PRIME BEEF TENDERLOIN

CARAMELIZED CIPOLLINI ONION, MUSHROOM MADEIRA SAUCE AND HORSERADISH WHIPPED POTATOES

### CHOCOLATE PECAN BALL



GITTINGS

## David Ott, M.D.

David A. Ott M.D. enjoyed a fifty year career in the Texas Medical Center where he had an international reputation as one of the world's most experienced heart surgeons known for his technical expertise in handling the most difficult operations and for his empathetic approach to patient care.

Dr. Ott is a graduate of Paschal high school in Ft Worth and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Texas where he was a member of Silver Spurs service organization. He received his medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine where he was a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. Ott completed general surgery residency training under Michael DeBakey at Baylor College of Medicine and heart surgery training under Denton A. Cooley at the Texas Heart Institute.

Dr. Ott is the coauthor of 160 scientific publications and has lectured in 15 countries. He was the American Heart Association Heart Ball Medical Honoree in 1994 and was appointed Surgeon in Chief of the Texas Heart Institute in 2014. He received the Ray C. Fish Award for Scientific Achievement in 2017 and is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the American Association of Thoracic Surgery. Dr. Ott has received many other honors including being listed among the Best Heart Doctors in America by a survey of department chiefs at 260 medical centers in 1995 [the only surgeon listed in both the adult and pediatric fields] and being named Best Doctor in Houston by a survey of area nurses. Dr. Ott was named a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Texas in 2017.

Dr. Ott is a board member of the John M. O'Quinn Foundation and he and Pam have been involved in the Houston philanthropic community through the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, The Ott Center for Connective Tissue Disorders at Baylor College of Medicine, the Rebuild Texas Hurricane Harvey relief effort, and other charities. They have endowed scholarships at the University of Texas in the Colleges of Natural Science, Education and Athletics and are the proud parents of two children and seven grandchildren.



## Stewart Morris, Sr.

Stewart Information Services Corporation NYSE (STC) Past President and Co-Chief Executive Officer. Chairman Stewart Information International, Chairman Executive Committee Stewart Title Company. Stewart Morris received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from University of Texas and his L. L.B. Degree from Southern Methodist University. In 1980, the Houston, Texas, native earned his honorary Ph.D. from Houston Baptist University. Morris graduated from Midshipman's School at Columbia University and served in the Navy as a Lieutenant JG on LST 38 in the South Pacific during World War II, participating in 7 invasions.

Morris has devoted his entire business career to the management, growth and expansion of companies known as Stewart Title. Morris was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in October 1995.

In an attempt to improve lives of inmates upon release, Morris became interested in the Inner Change Freedom Initiative program and led the effort to have several companies donate computers. Inmates of Jester II Unit in Richmond, Texas, use computers for job training.

Involved in his community, Morris is a Trustee of Oldham Little Church Foundation that financially assists an average of 300 small churches a year. He is past Honoree of the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine Trustees Dinner of Houston and is a past National Trustee of the National Jewish Center, headquartered in Denver. Past Honoree of FT Bend County War on Drugs, Past Advisory Trustee of National Trust for Historic Preservation, Past director of Harris County Heritage Society and the Galveston Historical Foundation, Present Chairman of the Carriage Museum of America and Honorary Life Trustee of the Carriage Association of America, twice Chairman of Trustees of Houston Baptist University and Trustee Emeritus, Deacon of Second Baptist Church, Senior Chairman of Board of Southern National Bank. Past Honoree of the Memorial Herman Healthcare Foundation and recognized as distinguished alumni of the SMU Law School.

2002 Honoree of the Greater Houston Chamber of Commerce "Legend in Time" Gala. Stewart Morris sponsored terrestrial photogrammetry of Mt. Vernon the home of George Washington, providing precise film of interior and exterior from which detail plans can be generated, should physical disaster occur. Morris and two other sponsors provided financing for complete disassembly and restoration of the George Washington North Palladian windows. Morris spoke at the 200th anniversary of the Reenactment of George Washington's funeral as broadcasted on CNN.

Member of the Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5. Morris received the 2004 Sons of the American Revolution, "The George Washington Service Award" February 21, 2004. The George Washington Service Award is the most prestigious award given by the Paul Carrington Chapter. It is conferred at the celebration of the birthday of our country's first president to a person who was manifested at the highest quality of public and private life as exemplified by the Father of the Country.

Morris is a member of the Thomas Jefferson Monticello Memorial Cabinet.

Morris restored the 1842 house on the front campus of Washington & Lee University which contains the Washington and Lee suites for visiting dignitaries. The 1842 house is known as the Morris House. Morris has also endowed its maintenance.

The Joella & Stewart Morris Foundation continues its mission of annually giving to five charities.



## Bobby Tudor

Bobby Tudor, a native of Pineville, Louisiana, attended Rice University on an Athletic Scholarship, where he was twice a team captain, an Honorable Mention Academic All-American, and was the winner of the coveted Bob Quin award, given to the University's most outstanding all-around senior male scholar-athlete. After graduating from Rice with a B.A. in English and Legal Studies, he played basketball professionally in Europe, where he also earned a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship grant. Following his time in Europe, Bobby earned a J.D. from Tulane Law School, and embarked on a career in Investment Banking at Goldman Sachs.

Bobby Tudor is currently a Partner at Perella Weinberg Partners, a global investment banking firm, where he co-heads the firm's Investment Banking Business and serves on the Board of Directors. He also serves as the Chairman of Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. which combined with Perella Weinberg Partners in November 2016. TPH is a leading Energy Investment and Merchant bank formed in 2007 with over 180 employees in five offices in the US, Canada and UK. It is widely recognized for its industry leading position in Energy securities research, Energy investment banking advisory transactions, and Energy asset management. Prior to forming TPH, Mr. Tudor was a Partner at Goldman Sachs and a leader of its worldwide Energy practice. Over his 30-plus year career in Investment Banking, he has worked on many of the defining transactions of the period, across most energy subsectors and geographies.

Bobby serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Rice University, and on the Board of Advisors for Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy. He is Vice Chair and Chair-Elect of the Greater Houston Partnership, a Trustee of the Committee for Economic Development, and on the Board of Advisors for Collaborative for Children. Mr. Tudor also serves on the Board of Directors of the National Petroleum Council, the Houston Symphony, the MD Anderson Board of Visitors, and the New York Philharmonic, and has previously served on the boards of the Society for the Performing Arts, the Houston Public Library Foundation, and the United Way of Greater Houston.

Bobby and his wife Phoebe Tudor, high school sweet hearts from Louisiana, have three adult children, Caroline, Margaret and Harry.



GITTINGS

## Welcome Wilson, Sr.

Houston Real Estate Developer for 61 years. Chairman of Welcome Group, owning 4,000,000 square feet of Manufacturing and Industrial Facilities in 87 locations in Texas.

First projects in the 1950s and 1960s were Master Planned Communities Jamaica Beach and Tiki Island in Galveston County, both of which are now separate cities. He later developed apartments, retail centers, hotels and three downtown office buildings.

Honors include: Inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame, Receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Houston Business Journal and Awarded an Honorary Doctors degree from the University of Houston, where he was a BBA grad in 1949.

Of note, he received the UH Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1970, the UH Bauer College of Business Distinguished Alumni Award in 1996, the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2005 from Texas Southmost College and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley in 2018.

In the past, he was Chairman of the Board of two Houston banks, was Chairman of an American Stock Exchange company and was on the Board of Directors and owned 10% of the Houston Astros baseball team. In March 2018, he celebrated his 90th birthday.

He was a long-time Chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Houston, Chairman of its Drive to Tier One and is now Chairman of its Political Action Committee. He is a Director Emeritus of the Greater Houston Partnership, having served a long time as its Higher Education Chairman.

In the 50s and 60s he served in the Executive Office of the President under Presidents Dwight Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. He witnessed the Atom bomb test in Nevada and the Hydrogen Bomb test at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.

In 1958, he was awarded the Arthur Fleming Award as One of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in Federal Service. Out of 600 who received this award since 1948, Wikipedia lists him one of the top twenty along with Astronaut Neil Armstrong (moon landing), Defense Secretary Robert Gates, Senator Elizabeth Dole, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Fed Chairman Paul Volcker and TV network's John Chancellor.

He was invited and spoke to a joint session of the New Mexico Legislature. He was appointed Special Ambassador to Nicaragua by President Lyndon Johnson. After World War II, he served for two years as a Naval Officer in Japan, having graduated first in his class in officer's school.

He married his college sweetheart on the day he graduated from UH, 69 years ago. They have 5 kids, 16 grandkids and 16 great-grandkids, one of whom is in college.

PAST HONOREES

D. Kent Anderson, 2007\*  
James A. Baker III, 2012  
Thomas D. Barrow, Ph.D., 2010\*  
Craig Biggio, 2018  
Fred C. Burns, 2011  
George H.W. Bush, 2012\*  
Ernest Cockrell, 2014  
Denton A. Cooley, M.D., 2009\*  
Rufus Cormier, 2018  
James W. Crownover, 2013  
O. Holcombe Crosswell, 2011  
Harry Cullen, 2016  
Michael DeBakey, M.D., 2008\*  
James H. "Red" Duke, Jr., M.D., 2011\*  
Dan Duncan, 2007\*  
Ralph Feigin, M.D., 2008\*  
Charles Fraser, M.D., 2014  
O.H. "Bud" Frazier, M.D., 2015  
Harry Mach, 2015  
Gerald Hines, 2016  
Ned Holmes, 2014  
Walter Johnson, 2008  
Don D. Jordan, 2008  
Mark Kline, M.D., 2016

Berdon Lawrence, 2017  
Paul Loyd, 2014  
John P. McGovern, M.D., 2007\*  
Jim McIngvale, 2018  
Alexander K. "Mike" McLanahan, 2017  
Drayton McLane, Jr., 2009  
Robert C. McNair, 2013\*  
John Mendelsohn, M.D., 2010\*  
George P. Mitchell, 2011\*  
Richard Mithoff, 2017  
James Pool, M.D., 2017  
David Poplack, M.D. 2018  
H. John Riley, 2015  
Corbin J. Robertson, Jr., 2008  
Marc J. Shapiro, 2011  
Lester Smith, 2007\*  
Mike Stude, 2010  
Charlie Thomas, 2013  
J. Virgil Waggoner, 2009\*  
David Weekley, 2015  
James T. Willerson, M.D., 2013

*\*deceased*

## PAST BENEFICIARIES

2018

Sanjiv Harpavat, M.D., Ph.D. and Mary Elizabeth M. Tessier, M.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital  
Ennio Tasciotti, Ph.D.  
Houston Methodist  
Manish N. Shah, M.D.  
Children's Memorial Hermann and University of Texas McGovern  
Medical School at Houston (UT Health)

2017

Michael A. Belfort, M.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital  
Penelope E. Bonnen, Ph.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Matthew R. Greives, M.D.  
Children's Memorial Hermann and University of Texas McGovern  
Medical School at Houston (UT Health)

2016

Carolyn L. Cannon, M.D., Ph.D.  
Texas A&M University and Texas Children's Hospital  
Joseph L. Alcorn, Ph.D.  
University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences  
and Pediatric Research Center and Children's Memorial  
Hermann Hospital  
Jared Howell, M.S., B.S.  
Baylor College of Medicine

2015

David I. Sandberg, M.D., FANNS, FACS, FAAP  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
(UTHealth) Medical School and MD Anderson Children's  
Cancer Hospital  
Jon E. Tyson, M.D.  
UT Health  
Jared Howell, M.S., B.S.  
Baylor College of Medicine

2014

Sundararajah Thevananther, Ph.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Liver Center  
Richard Kellermayer, M.D., Ph.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital

2013

Joseph F. Petrosino, Ph.D.  
DBaylor College of Medicine  
Charles S. Cox, Jr., M.D.  
University of Texas -Houston/ Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

2012

Brendan Lee, M.D., Ph.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Laurence J.N. Cooper, MD., Ph.D.  
The University of Texas M.D.Anderson Cancer Center

2011

Brendan Lee, M.D., PH.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Donald L. Yee, M.D.  
Texas Children's Hospital

2010

ZoAnn E. Dreyer, M.D.  
Texas Children's Cancer Center  
Cynthia E. Herzog, M.D.  
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

2009

Huda Y. Zoghbi, M.D.  
Texas Children's Hospital  
Judith Z. Feigin, Ed.D.  
Texas Children's Hospital

2008

C. Kent Osborne, M.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine  
David G. Poplack, M.D.  
Baylor College of Medicine

2007

George D. Ferry, M.D.  
Texas Children's Hospital  
James Versalovic, M.D., Ph.D.  
Texas Children's Hospital

## 2019 MEN OF DISTINCTION PROGRAM BENEFICIARY

### Matthew T. Harting, M.D.

*McGovern Medical School and Children's Memorial Hermann*



Dr. Matthew T. Harting is an Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Medical Director of the Pediatric Extracorporeal Life Support Program at McGovern Medical School and Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. He is an academic pediatric surgeon-scientist with aligned research and clinical interests focused on pediatric pulmonary disease and thoracic surgery. More specifically, his team is focused on the role of the pulmonary vasculature in congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) associated pulmonary hypertension (PH). In his Comprehensive Center for CDH Care, his team is investigating this disease through basic, translational, and clinical avenues. The overarching goal of the basic and translational research arm of The Center is to advance the current state of knowledge of and develop cell-based therapeutic strategies for the pathophysiologic pulmonary vascular consequences of CDH. His team uses cellular and animal models to replicate the clinical disease and continually seek novel, innovative (often stem cell-based) approaches to mitigating CDH-PH. The overarching goal of the clinical research arm is to enable clinical investigators to answer clinically relevant questions, optimizing care today, and to lead adoption and identification of best practices. Through the CDH Study Group, we lead a multi-center, international collaborative, focused on solving clinical challenges via prospective data collection. A Texas native, Dr. Harting grew up in the Austin area and received his undergraduate degree from the

University of Texas at Austin in the Dean's Scholars Honors program in the College of Natural Science. He was inspired by a biochemistry mentor who, quoting Albert Szent-Györgyi, impressed upon him that "Inventiveness consists in seeing what everybody else has seen and thinking what no one else has thought..." he added "... and having the courage to express it, the persistence to thoroughly explore it, and the integrity to truthfully reveal it." He spent 30 months in his mentor's biochemistry lab exploring the challenges of basic science research. He then received his medical degree, as well as a master of science in clinical research, from the McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. During this time, his affinity for the pediatric patient and his love of the technical demands of surgery crossed paths, and he decided to pursue further training in surgery and, ultimately, pediatric surgery. He then moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he completed his general surgery residency at the University of Michigan in 2011. During his surgical training, he completed an NIH T32 and T15 sponsored clinical, translational, and basic science research fellowship in adult stem cell therapies and trauma. He also had his first opportunity to see and care for CDH patients and learn about extracorporeal life support (ECLS or ECMO). He then moved across the country to Seattle, Washington, where he completed a clinical fellowship in Pediatric Surgery at the University of Washington Seattle Children's Hospital. He returned to Texas to complete a Surgical Critical Care fellowship at the University of Texas McGovern Medical School at Houston's Memorial Hermann Hospital and the Texas Trauma Institute. His research expertise in basic, translational, and clinical research and stem cell therapy, along with his clinical experience in ECMO and CDH are all directly related to the goals of the research in these proposals. Dr. Harting has authored 58 original, published articles and 27 reviews or book chapters. He is completing a Clinical and Translational Science Award that has supported his work on CDH-PH over the last 3 years. He has been listed in Houstonia's Top Doctors for the last 3 years and has been named a Texas Super Doctor Rising Star the past 2 years. He has won the Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for the last 3 consecutive years. While he has been the recipient of several grants in his young career, this award from the Men of Distinction would bridge a critical gap in the transition from junior to more seasoned investigator. In summary, Dr. Harting's research and clinical experience, along with the optimal environment at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center, leave him perfectly positioned to complete the investigation outlined herein, which stands to change the lives of innumerable children diagnosed with CDH.

2019 MEN OF DISTINCTION PROGRAM BENEFICIARY

## Ava Brozovich, M.D., Ph.D. student

*Houston Methodist and Texas A&M College of Medicine*

Ava Brozovich is an MD/PhD student at Texas A&M and is interested in developing novel treatments to repair bone defects following osteosarcoma resection in pediatric patients. Ava graduated from UC-Berkeley with a BA in molecular and cell biology with an emphasis in immunology and infectious diseases. She then went on to receive her MPH (Masters in Public Health) with a focus in epidemiology from Columbia University. Prior to starting her MD/PhD program, Ava worked at Duke University as the lead coordinator for the International Pediatric Fungal Network, a network of over 50 sites throughout the world. Ava's career goals are to become a physician scientist in pediatric surgery and become a leader in musculoskeletal and bone diseases. Ava is an active volunteer in the Junior League of Houston, as well as through her sorority.

2019 MEN OF DISTINCTION PROGRAM BENEFICIARY

## Ennio Tasciotti, Ph.D.

*Houston Methodist*

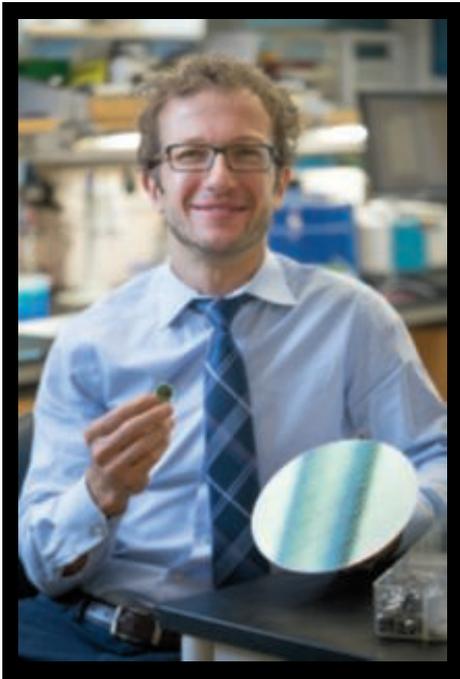
Dr. Ennio Tasciotti graduated in Molecular Biology at Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa in 2000, and earned a PhD in Molecular Medicine in 2005 at the International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. In 2006 he accepted a Postdoctoral position at the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas' Health Science Center. In 2008 he published his first research on 'multistage nanodelivery system', which becomes a cover story on Nature Nanotechnology and was selected by Nature Medicine as one of the "Top 5 breakthroughs in Nanomedicine". In 2009 he became an Assistant Professor at the first Department of Nanomedicine in an American Medical School and in 2010 he was recruited by Houston Methodist Research Institute as Chair of the Department of Nanomedicine. Dr. Tasciotti is an Associate Professor of Nanomedicine at the Institute of Academic Medicine, serves as Director of the Center for Biomimetic Medicine at the Department of Regenerative Medicine, and Director of the Center for Musculoskeletal Regeneration at the Department of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine of Houston Methodist Hospital. Dr. Tasciotti holds affiliated and honorary positions in 6 universities in USA, Europe and Asia. His research interests are in the field of biomimetic nanomaterials for drug delivery and tissue engineering.

In his career he received over \$15M by DoD and DARPA to create bioactive nanomaterials to regenerate musculoskeletal tissues, and over \$10M from NIH, NSF, CPRIT and private foundations to develop nanoparticles for drug delivery. He coordinates a multidisciplinary research group of 20 people, has published more than 130 research articles, filed 15 patent applications, contributed to 12 technical books and presented at over 200 international conferences. The main focus of his laboratory is translational research for the development of new surgical and clinical approaches using nanotherapeutics. In particular: 1- Biomimetic materials to improve musculoskeletal tissue regeneration; 2- Artificial biomimetic extracellular matrices to modulate immune response; 3- Bioinspired delivery platforms for the active targeting of inflammation; 4- Nanostructured hydrogels for the localized release of clinically approved drugs.

2019 MEN OF DISTINCTION PROGRAM BENEFICIARY

## Alessandro Grattoni, Ph.D.

*Houston Methodist*



Alessandro Grattoni, Ph.D, is the Chairman and Professor of the Department of Nanomedicine at The Houston Methodist Research Institute, HMRI, and Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Radiation Oncology at the Houston Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas, USA. His research activities are dedicated to the development and clinical translation of implantable nanofluidic platforms for controlled, long-term drug delivery and cell transplantation. He has also engaged in the analysis of electrokinetic transport in nanochannels for modulating the release of therapeutics from reservoirs. The objective is to achieve a remotely controlled drug delivery implant, which will enable telemedicine approaches and personalized treatment of patients. Additionally, his team has created a novel 3D printed encapsulation device, the NICHE, for the transplantation of cells. Dr. Grattoni established the Center for Space Nanomedicine at HMRI, focused on leveraging microgravity on the International Space Station for the investigation of nanomedicine for applications on-Earth and in Space. Dr. Grattoni's research has received support from, NIH, CASIS, NASA, DOD, JDRF, Gilead Sciences, Automobili Lamborghini numerous foundations and the industry.

Dear 2019 Men of Distinction:



Susan Distefano

On behalf of Memorial Hermann Health System, congratulations to this year's honorees: Stewart Morris, Sr., David Ott, M.D., Bobby Tudor and Welcome Wilson, Sr. Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and our academic partner, McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth), are proud to join the Men of Distinction in recognizing these remarkable individuals who have made a significant impact on the Houston community through their inspiring vision, leadership and service.

Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital is the primary teaching hospital for the pediatric and obstetrics/gynecology programs at McGovern Medical School. We offer care in more than 40 pediatric and women's related specialties including the latest advances in maternal-fetal medicine and neonatal critical care services, and renowned programs in pediatric trauma, neurosciences, pulmonology and cardiac care. As one of only four Level IV Neonatal Intensive Care Units in Texas, the highest level of care designated by the Texas Department of State Health Services, we treat babies born as early as 23 weeks. Children's is also home to the first Level I Pediatric Trauma Center in the region and busiest Level I Trauma Center in the country - designated for both children and adults - with the capacity to care for an entire family in the same facility.

We are very grateful for the selection of Dr. Matthew Harting, Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Medical Director of the Pediatric Extracorporeal Life Support Program at McGovern Medical School and Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. It is an honor to partner with the Men of Distinction in their incredible commitment to improve the lives of children in our community through the advancement of medical research, education and patient care.

Sincerely,

Susan Distefano  
Senior Vice President & CEO  
Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

Dear 2019 Men of Distinction:



Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, MD

On behalf of UTHealth, I am pleased to congratulate the distinguished 2019 Men of Distinction Award recipients: David Ott, M.D., Stewart Morris, Sr., Bobby Tudor, and Welcome Wilson, Sr. Our city and the Houston healthcare community owe tremendous gratitude to these men of distinction-and, indeed, to all of Houston's remarkable philanthropic partners-whose dedication to the people of Houston have helped us grow and prosper during good times and bad.

We are also proud and honored that you have chosen, once again, an outstanding member of our UTHealth faculty as one of your medical beneficiaries. Matthew Harting, M.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric Surgery at McGovern Medical School, is redefining how we diagnose and treat children. Dr. Harting and all of our outstanding faculty and researchers continually expand the frontiers of knowledge to solve the greatest health challenges of our time.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of the people of Houston and for honoring these exceptional members of our community.

Sincerely,

Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, MD  
President and Alkek-Williams Distinguished Chair  
UTHealth



Marc L. Boom, M.D.

To the 2019 Men of Distinction:

On behalf of Houston Methodist, I am privileged to extend my sincerest congratulations to the four men who have been chosen as this year's Men of Distinction: Bobby Tudor, Welcome Wilson, Stewart Morris and David Ott, MD. These extraordinary men are trailblazers in their respective fields. They have consistently demonstrated their love and support for our community, and their dedication, leadership and hard work has made it a better place for all of us. Each one of them is highly deserving of this great honor.

We are deeply honored that our own Ennio Tasciotti, PhD, and Alessandro Grattoni, PhD, were chosen by the Men of Distinction organization as two of this year's three beneficiaries.

As Associate Professor of Nanomedicine at Houston Methodist Research Institute ("HMRI,") and director of our Center for Biomimetic Medicine, Dr. Tasciotti has been investigating the use of nano and biomaterials for drug delivery and regenerative medicine for the past decade. Dr. Grattoni, Professor of Nanomedicine at HMRI and chair of Department of Nanomedicine, has been instrumental in the development and clinical translation of implantable nanofluidic technologies for drug delivery, molecular sieving and cell transplantation.

Funding from Men of Distinction will help support Dr. Tasciotti's research in developing a bone regeneration technique using biomimetic scaffolds. This enhanced ability to repair bone defects after tumors are excised will lead to improved recoveries and fewer complications for children affected by osteosarcoma. Since this new approach will rely solely on the scaffolds as implants, and does not require bioreactors or other complex handling of cells, its use in children will greatly enhance their recoveries. Funding from Men of Distinction will also support Dr. Grattoni's efforts, which will address the epidemic of pediatric obesity and prediabetes by utilizing nanofluidic technology. His goal is to provide new levels of therapeutic support and promote healthy lifestyle changes that can help eradicate the disease and improve outcomes for these children.

We are grateful once again to be among the many Houston institutions that the Men of Distinction organization has chosen to support for improving health care for our citizens through medical research. We thank everyone involved in these efforts, and we celebrate the accomplishments of this year's distinguished honorees as well as the accomplishment of our colleague and fellow beneficiary, Dr. Matthew T. Harting from UTHealth.

With my warmest regards and sincere appreciation,

Marc L. Boom, M.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer

Ella Fondren and Josie Roberts Presidential Distinguished Centennial Chair



# Our Future Has A New Name

Recently, HCA Houston Healthcare has branded our Houston market with a new name. As a patient, you can expect high-quality care and a clinical team committed to your health, for all your needs.

**In addition, the hospitals within the HCA Houston Healthcare network will continue to accept the same insurance plans.**

## Care. Above All Else.

Our goal is to provide exceptional care to every patient at every hospital. 'Care. Above all else.' represents our commitment to patient-centered care through our communities, convenient and comprehensive care access points, industry-shaping advances and best practices, and collaboration with physicians and nursing.

## The HCA Houston Healthcare family includes:

The Woman's Hospital of Texas  
Texas Orthopedic Hospital  
HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake  
HCA Houston Healthcare Conroe  
HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood  
HCA Houston Healthcare Mainland  
HCA Houston Healthcare Medical Center  
HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress  
HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest  
HCA Houston Healthcare Pearland  
HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast  
HCA Houston Healthcare  
Specialty Hospital | Medical Center  
HCA Houston Healthcare Tomball  
HCA Houston Healthcare West

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