#### FURTHER READING

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Andrew Hodges maintains a Turing website at:

http://www.turing.org.uk/turing/

-Andrew Hodges

# **Turing Award**

The A. M. Turing Award is the most prestigious technical recognition in the computer science field; it is sometimes referred to as the "Nobel Prize" of computer science. The Association for Computing Machinery started bestowing this honor in 1966 to persons selected for their contributions to computing. The prize was named for Alan M. Turing (1912–54), who first described a universal computing device in 1936.

Some early pioneers of computing have received the award, as is the case of Maurice V. Wilkes (1913–), who was the chief designer of the first stored program computer, the EDSAC, built at Cambridge University in 1949. Others have made contributions to the development of programming languages; examples include John McCarthy (1927–) for LISP, John Backus (1924–) for Fortran, Kenneth E. Iverson (1920–) for APL, Dennis Ritchie (1941–) and Ken Thompson (1943–) for C, and Niklaus Wirth (1934–) for Pascal and Modula. Richard Karp (1944–), Stephen A. Cook (1939–), Michael O. Rabin (1931–), and Manuel Blum (1938–) were honored by their contributions to theoretical computer science, while Marvin Minsky (1927–), Allen Newell (1927–92) and Herbert Simon (1916–),

### TURING AWARD RECIPIENTS

1966 A.J. Perlis 1967 Maurice V. Wilkes 1968 Richard Hamming 1969 Marvin Minsky 1970 J.H. Wilkinson 1971 John McCarthy 1972 Edsger W. Dijkstra 1973 Charles W. Bachman 1974 Donald E. Knuth 1975 Allen Newell 1975 Herbert A. Simon 1976 Michael O. Rabin 1976 Dana S. Scott 1977 John Backus 1978 Robert W. Floyd 1979 Kenneth E. Iverson 1980 C. Antony R. Hoare 1981 Edgar F. Codd 1982 Stephen A. Cook 1983 Ken Thompson 1983 Dennis M. Ritchie

1984 Niklaus Wirth 1985 Richard M. Karp 1986 John Hopcroft 1986 Robert Tarjan 1987 John Cocke 1988 Ivan Sutherland 1989 William Kahan 1990 Fernando Corbató 1991 Robin Milner 1992 Butler W. Lampson 1993 Juris Hartmanis 1993 Richard E. Stearns 1994 Edward Feigenbaum 1994 Raj Reddy 1995 Manuel Blum 1996 Amir Pnueli 1997 Douglas Engelbart 1998 James Gray 1999 Frederick Brooks 2000 Andrew Chi-Chih Yao

and Edward Feigenbaum (1936–) received the prize for their work in the area of artificial intelligence.

The accompanying table shows the recipients of the Turing Award by year. Altough the award is an international prize, only Wilkes, J. H. Wilkinson, Edsger Dijkstra, C. Antony R. Hoare, Wirth, Robin Milner, and Amir Pnueli did most of their work outside the United States or Canada.

### FURTHER READING

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—Raúl Rojas

## **Turing Machine**

The Turing machine is a mathematical construct, devised by the British mathematician Alan M. Turing (1912-54) to specify precisely what should be understood by a *mechanical process*, what would nowadays generally be called an algorithm. The