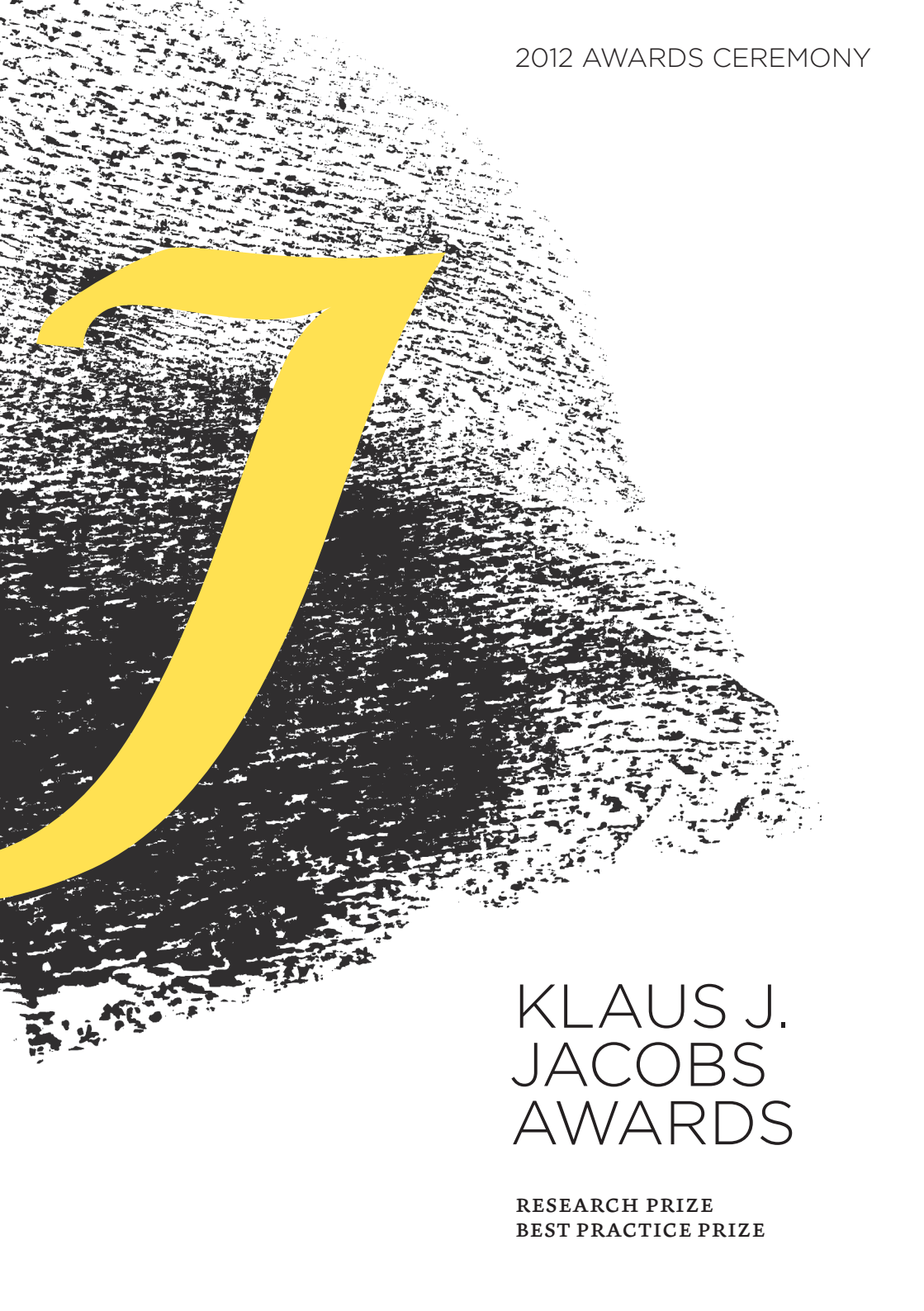


2012 AWARDS CEREMONY



KLAUS J.
JACOBS
AWARDS

RESEARCH PRIZE
BEST PRACTICE PRIZE



THE KLAUS J. JACOBS AWARDS

In honor of its founder, the entrepreneur Klaus J. Jacobs, who passed away in 2008, the Jacobs Foundation has awarded two annual prizes since 2009. Endowed with a total of 1.2 million Swiss francs, the awards recognize exceptional achievements in research and practice in the field of child and youth development.

The Research Prize acknowledges scientific work of high social relevance to the development of children and young people. The Jacobs Foundation attaches great importance to scientific findings from interdisciplinary research which can yield practical applications. The Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize is endowed with one million Swiss francs.

The Best Practice Prize recognizes the exceptional commitment of institutions or individuals who put innovative solutions in the field of child and youth development into practice. The Best Practice Prize is worth 200,000 Swiss francs.



DEVELOPING SKILLS AND THE ABILITY TO COPE WITH ADVERSITY

For nearly 25 years, the Jacobs Foundation has been active in promoting child and youth development. My father, Klaus J. Jacobs, established the foundation in an effort to benefit future generations by improving their living conditions. We believe in young people's individual potential and ability to shape their future and facilitate innovations to produce lasting social change for children and youth.

The work of the recipients of the 2012 Klaus J. Jacobs Awards reflects this approach, which emphasizes young people's strengths and the belief that successful development is possible for every child and adolescent. Dante Cicchetti, the Research Prize laureate, and the Off Road Kids Foundation, recipient of the Best Practice Prize, both focus on the potential of children and young people—even, and perhaps especially, in difficult life circumstances. A central concern in their work is overcoming risk factors. Rather than focusing on deficits, however, they highlight the skills, resilience, resources and strengths of each individual, without underestimating or ignoring difficulties and risks.

Both prize recipients are interested in how we can help young people develop skills and the ability to cope with adversity, recognizing that they are not the passive product of external forces, but active agents in shaping their own lives. At the same time, their work shows that children and adolescents cannot develop resilience all by themselves, but only if they receive our encouragement and support.

My congratulations go to Dante Cicchetti and to the Off Road Kids Foundation for their impressive and important work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christian Jacobs', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Christian Jacobs
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Jacobs Foundation



AGAINST ALL ODDS? HOW CHILDREN DEVELOP RESILIENCE

Research Prize laureate Dante Cicchetti studies the developmental processes behind children's resilience in the face of adversity. The Off Road Kids Foundation, recipient of the Best Practice Prize, offers help for street children and new hope for young people in difficult life situations.

Some children who grow up surrounded by poverty or violence still manage to do well in life. What are the factors that make them strong and keep them healthy? These are questions addressed by resilience research. Resilience is not an innate, static personality trait that can be adapted to any difficult situation; rather, it is a process that takes place as individuals interact with their environments. Resilience may vary across time and under different circumstances. Children may be resilient during certain phases of their lives and in certain domains, while they may be much more vulnerable later on, under different conditions and in other domains—or the reverse.

Dante Cicchetti studies the effects of maltreatment and neglect on child development. His work has helped to dispel the notion that child maltreatment and poverty are directly linked and that they have the same effect on development. In addition to studying such psychosocial factors as a child's sense of self-worth and family cohesion, which may play a role in the development of resilience, he also examines the neurobiological and genetic underpinnings of these processes. With this multidimensional approach, he seeks to unravel the highly complex construct of human resilience and to identify methods of prevention.

Up to 2,500 children and young people end up on Germany's streets each year, most of them coming from difficult backgrounds. This is the group that the Off Road Kids Foundation seeks to help. With locations in Berlin, Hamburg, Dortmund and Cologne, Off Road Kids is committed to working with young runaways and street children. Through its nationwide efforts, Off Road Kids helps young people find alternatives to living on the streets. The work of both of our prize recipients is focused on creating new opportunities and overcoming difficult life circumstances. It ultimately reaffirms the hope that is inherent in human resilience—a quality that is not static, but can be influenced for the better. It is in this spirit that this year's Klaus J. Jacobs Awards are being bestowed upon these two worthy laureates.

NEW RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES SHED LIGHT ON A COMPLEX PHENOMENON

★ RESEARCH PRIZE 2012

Dante Cicchetti is a leader and pioneer in the field of developmental psychopathology, a discipline that addresses the origins, causes and course of abnormal human behavior and examines the commonalities and differences between normal development and the emergence of mental disorders. His research seeks to formulate an integrative theory of both normal and abnormal development. Resilience research, which is one area of developmental psychopathology, studies protective as well as harmful aspects of human development.

Dante Cicchetti's interest in the developmental implications of child maltreatment, depression, and other high-risk conditions dates back to his PhD studies at the University of Minnesota. He continued to study these issues after joining the faculty of Harvard University and then the University of Rochester. In Rochester he founded the Mt. Hope Family Center in the mid-1980s, where he continues to sustain a significant commitment to research initiatives. The work of the center combines research with therapeutic activities and programs for families. He moved to the University of Minnesota, Institute of Child Development in 2005, where his research interests include the neurobiological and genetic components of resilience. In his research, he looks at the role of biological processes in resilience in an effort to find new avenues for prevention—a novel approach, since empirical studies of resilience



In his multilevel investigations of resilience, Professor Dante Cicchetti is gaining new insights that can be useful in prevention.

have focused only on behavioral and psychosocial factors until recent years. It is important to note that studying biological factors should not be confused with biological determinism, in which psychological variables are viewed merely as transient behavioral markers. Rather, according to Dante Cicchetti, the goal is to identify the interactions between biological and environmental influences and to investigate whether and how it is possible to affect those interactions in a positive way.

Human resilience cannot simply be reduced to a series of risk and protective factors. However, a better understanding of its complex interactions tells us more about the conditions that ultimately lead to mental disorders—or, on the other hand, that promote positive development. In recognition of his multidimensional research on resilience as a dynamic developmental process, the Jacobs Foundation is pleased to present the Research Prize 2012 to Dante Cicchetti.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ADVERSE LIFE SITUATIONS

★ **BEST PRACTICE PRIZE 2012**

Each year, as many as 2,500 children and young people in Germany end up on the streets, and some 300 find themselves living as street children — minors who have run away from home and are, in effect, homeless. The factors that drive children and young people to the streets include neglect, a lack of connections to other people, maltreatment and abuse. While a substantial number of street children come from disadvantaged backgrounds, financial need is not the reason they give for leaving home.

In 1993, journalist and book author Markus Seidel founded Off Road Kids, Germany's first nationwide aid organization for street children. Off Road Kids is located in Berlin, Hamburg, Dortmund and Cologne, and its services include an emergency telephone number, an advice hotline for parents and two children's homes. It also co-founded an institute for educational management, an initiative that allows youth workers and educators who lack an academic secondary school degree to acquire university-level entrepreneurial training while also employed—a first for Germany. The main purpose of Off Road Kids is to keep young runaways from becoming street children in the first place. The foundation works with these young people to identify more favorable opportunities as quickly as possible. Since Off Road Kids is present throughout the country, it is possible for staff members to

accompany young people to the appropriate youth welfare office, to a therapeutic facility or home to their families, however far from home they may be. If long-term assistance is not available from the local youth welfare office or the family, they have the option of living in one of the children's homes, supervised residential facilities maintained by the Off Road Kids Foundation, where they can complete their schooling and undergo training.

Off Road Kids is dedicated to finding the best possible opportunities and alternatives to life on the streets for every young runaway or street child. Since 1994, Off Road Kids has helped more than 2,500 young people get off the streets, 321 in 2011 alone. This requires considerable time and effort; moving just one young person from the streets to a more hopeful situation involves an investment of approximately 90 staff hours. For the work it does on Germany's streets and for providing opportunities for young runaways and street children, the Jacobs Foundation is pleased to award the Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prize 2012 to the Off Road Kids Foundation.

The Off Road Kids Foundation helps street children and young runaways find alternatives to living on the streets.



LAUREATES TO DATE

2011

The *Research Prize 2011* was awarded to Michael Tomasello (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology) for his research on the identification of uniquely human forms of collaboration, communication and cultural learning.

The *Best Practice Prize 2011* was presented to Christiane Daepp for developing Ideenbüro, a program for helping schoolchildren to accept responsibility, to learn the benefits of cooperation and to consider everyday's problems as challenges.

2010

The *Research Prize 2010* was awarded to Terrie Moffitt and Avshalom Caspi (Duke University and King's College London) for their research into the interplay between genetic disposition and environmental influences in the development of children and youth.

The *Best Practice Prize 2010* was given to two organizations, Opstapje Deutschland e. V. and a:primo, for their sustained commitment to providing early support for socially disadvantaged children by successfully implementing a play and development program in Germany and Switzerland.

2009

The *Research Prize 2009* was awarded to Laurence Steinberg (Temple University) for his work in the psychopathology, risk-taking and decision-making behavior of young people.

The *Best Practice Prize 2009* was presented to Father Johann Casutt for successfully adapting the Swiss model for the vocational training to the needs of young people in Indonesia.

JURY FOR THE RESEARCH PRIZE 2012

Professor Albert Bandura

Stanford University; Stanford (CA), USA

Professor Monique Boekaerts

*University of Leiden; Leiden, the Netherlands;
President of the International Academy of Education*

Professor W. Thomas Boyce

University of British Columbia; Vancouver (BC), Canada

Professor Kathleen Kiernan

*University of York; Heslington (YO), England;
Vice President of the European Association of Population Studies*

Professor Meinrad Paul Perrez

University of Fribourg; Fribourg, Switzerland

Professor Anne C. Petersen

University of Michigan; Ann Arbor (MI), USA

Professor Rainer K. Silbereisen

*Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena; Jena, Germany;
President of the International Union of Psychological Science*

Professor William Julius Wilson

Harvard University; Cambridge (MA), USA

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Professor Ulman Lindenberg

Director, Max Planck Institute for Educational Research; Berlin, Germany

Dr. Auma Obama

Global Technical Advisor, CARE International; Nairobi, Kenya

Professor Marta Tienda

Professor at Princeton University; Princeton (NJ), USA

Professor Laura Tyson

Professor at University of California; Berkeley (CA), USA

THE JACOBS FOUNDATION

The Jacobs Foundation is active worldwide in the area of child and youth development. The Zurich-based private foundation was established in 1989 by entrepreneur Klaus J. Jacobs. It is operated according to the vision of its founder, who believed that a society can only experience long-term success when as many of its members as possible are given the chance to receive quality education.

The Jacobs Foundation supports research projects, scientific institutions and intervention programs with an annual budget of approximately 35 million Swiss francs. It promotes activities that provide answers to how the living and learning conditions of young people can be designed and supported so that they will become successful members of society.

As far as its methods and approaches are concerned, the Jacobs Foundation is particularly committed to scientific excellence and evidence-based findings, and subscribes to an approach in child and youth development that emphasizes positive development opportunities for young people. This approach covers a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and approaches that include the psychological, cognitive, emotional, intellectual, social, vocational, academic, economic and physical development of children and youth.



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The logo features a stylized yellow 'J' followed by the word 'ACOBS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, the word 'FOUNDATION' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.