

Founders Awardees - 1981-present

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- A large, semi-transparent watermark of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) logo is centered in the background. The logo features a stylized eye with a crosshair, surrounded by the text "AAO" and "American Academy of Optometry".
- 1981: Otto Wichterle
1984: Charles Bayshore & Irving Fatt
1985: Guaranteed Contact Lens, Co.: Anthony Leone, Leonard Bronstein, Joseph Seidner, Leonard Seidner, Edwin Gary, Norman Gaylord
1989: Robert W. Lester & Maurice G. Poster
1990: Newton K Wesley & George N. Jessen
1992: Solon M. "Bud" Braff
1993: Sheldon Wechsler
1994: Donald R. Korb
1995: Edward Goodlaw & Robert Koetting
1996: William E. Fleishman
1997: Robert Mandell
1998: Richard Hill
1999: Paul White
2000: Theodore Grosvenor
2001: Joseph Goldberg, Donald Bruckner, Robert Morrison, and Melvin Remba
2003: David Ewell
2004: Stanley Yamane
2005: Kyoichi Tanaka
2006: Neal J. Bailey & Irvin M. Borish
2007: Perry Rosenthal & Vistakon
2008: Morton K. Greenspoon
2009: John de Carle
2010: Nick Stoyan
2011: Center for Cornea & Contact Lens Research Unit / The Brien Holden Institute
2012: Lester E. Janoff
2013: Patrick J. Caroline, Craig Norman, and Mark P. Andre
2014: Jean-Louis Blanchard
2015: Phil Keefer
2016: Alan Tomlinson
2017: Lynette Johns
2018: Jerome Legerton
2019: Barry Eiden
2020: Michael G Harris
2021: Joseph T Barr
2022: William "Bill" Carter
2023: Ralph Stone