BOSTON GLOBAL FORUM
IDEAS THAT MATTER.

WORLD LEADER IN AIWS 2026

Citation Honoring

Professor Cynthia Dwork

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Professor Cynthia Dwork,
World Leaders in AIWS, AI Pioneers,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear friends,

In the history of science, some achievements expand what human beings can do. Others protect human beings as that power expands.

Rare is the work that does both. The work of Professor Cynthia Dwork does both.

Today, at Loeb House, on behalf of the Boston Global Forum and AIWS, I am honored to recognize Professor Cynthia Dwork as **World Leader in AIWS 2026**.

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Professor Dwork,

In every dataset on health, education and work, there are human beings. There are things they wish to share to contribute to their communities. There are things they must keep to themselves in order to live in freedom and dignity.

For decades, the world protected them with a promise: "We will keep your secret." And that promise broke, again and again. Right here in Cambridge, Latanya Sweeney re-identified the "anonymized" medical record of Massachusetts Governor William Weld by linking it to public voter records.

You did not answer with a better promise. You answered with mathematics.

With your collaborators, you invented differential privacy: mathematical bounds on the additional privacy risk a person incurs by contributing their data.

You turned privacy from a promise into a proof.

And that proof left the page and entered life: into the 2020 United States Census, protecting more than three hundred and thirty million people. They did not need to understand the mathematics to be protected by it.

It is a rare form of love for humanity: **love expressed through precision.**

In the AI Age, no person should have to become an AI expert to remain free, to be treated fairly, or to seek a remedy.

Your pioneering contributions to algorithmic fairness also remind us that a model can be accurate in aggregate and still be unjust to a particular life. A beautiful number cannot answer for us the question of justice.

The National Medal of Science, awarded by the President of the United States, and the 2026 Japan Prize have recognized your scientific stature. Today, World Leader in AIWS recognizes what that stature means for the future of civilization. And I thank you for walking with us on the AIWS Trust Order Board.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

There is something in Professor Dwork's work that I have thought about for a long time.

In data, each person must be protected from exposure. But in civilization, the presence of each person must make a difference.

These are two halves of one commitment to human dignity:

In data, no one should be exposed. In civilization, no one should be erased.

No human being is an average. And no culture is.

AIWS Civilization, the civilization of Human–AI Co-Creation, carries that commitment into an architecture for human life: so that every person comes to understand more deeply, judge more soundly, create more, and love people and nature more.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

This award comes at a moment when the world can no longer afford to be slow.

AI is entering research, production and the decisions of society. Our ability to understand, verify and answer for its use must keep pace. The distance between the power of technology and the guarantees for human beings is the trust gap we must close.

We have had enough warnings. Enough principles left on paper. On September 29, six leading AI companies made further important commitments to the President of the United States.

The world does not lack promises. The world lacks the speed of proof.

When capability grows by the month, trust cannot be built by the decade.

So, from Loeb House today, I propose a standard:

All power over human beings must move from promise to proof. From Promise to Proof.

That is why the AIWS Trust Observatory was established on September 27: to set each public promise beside the actual deeds, and to warn clearly what has been seen, what is not yet known, who must answer, and what must be done. Its first report will be released at the end of January 2027.

Proof must be independent, must state its limits, and must be open to correction. And an institution that watches power must itself limit its own power, protect personal information, and remain open to independent scrutiny.

We must build an institution worthy of the trust it seeks to protect.

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World Leaders in AIWS, AI Pioneers,

Each of you has opened new possibilities for the world.

An honor does not end at the podium. It begins there.

Lead the AIWS Trust Observatory with us: bring your scientific standing to the verification of AI power, and open the institutions you lead to independent verification.

Bring your wisdom and experience to the completion of the Constitution for Humanity in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, and carry it to the nations and institutions that listen to you.

Lead the AIWS Human–AI Co-Creation Movement in your schools, laboratories, companies and communities. And mentor the young people who will carry this work forward.

We need to see the work done after the applause has ended.

Nearly nine years ago, on November 22, 2017, at the home of Governor Michael Dukakis in Brookline, the Governor and I initiated AIWS with one conviction: humanity must prepare early so that technology serves human beings.

On April 27, 2027, in the tenth-anniversary year of AIWS, we will return to Loeb House to proclaim the Constitution for Humanity.

Today I propose a pledge: **the Loeb House Pledge.**

Let each person choose one concrete task, for the Observatory, for the Constitution, or for the Movement: one person responsible, one date of completion. We will record every one of those promises.

And on April 27, 2027, we will return here **bringing not promises, but proof.**

We cannot ask power to move from promise to proof unless we go first ourselves.

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Professor Dwork,

You have brought a value of human dignity into the precise language of mathematics. The task of our generation is to bring that spirit into the foundations of the AI Age.

You inspire by the path you have walked: from a mathematical question to the protection of hundreds of millions of people. That is the noble meaning of **Science in Service**.

Let us act with the precision of the scientist, the responsibility of the leader, and love for human beings.

Because behind every system there are human beings. Behind every dataset there is a life. And behind every proof we build today is a person who will live more freely, more safely and with greater dignity tomorrow.

Congratulations to Professor Cynthia Dwork, World Leader in AIWS 2026.

Thank you.