



## MEDIA ADVISORY

March 4, 2008

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### Honoring Four Great American Scientists

- What:** The U.S. Postal Service will recognize some of the most impressive scientific achievements of the 20th century with the issuance of the American Scientists stamps. The 41-cent commemorative stamps will honor four scientists: theoretical physicist **John Bardeen**, biochemist **Gerty Cori**, astronomer **Edwin Hubble**, and structural chemist **Linus Pauling**.
- Who:** James C. Miller, Member, Board of Governors, U.S. Postal Service  
David E. Failor, Executive Director, Stamp Services, U.S. Postal Service  
Marie Therese Dominguez, Vice President, Government Relations, U.S. Postal Service  
Raschelle Parker, Marketing Manager, New York District, U.S. Postal Service  
Linda Pauling Kamb, daughter of Linus Pauling  
Charles Bardeen, grandson of John Bardeen  
David Bardeen, grandson of John Bardeen  
Karen Bardeen, granddaughter of John Bardeen  
William Bardeen, grandson of John Bardeen  
Eric Jackson, President, American Stamp Dealers Association
- When:** 12 p.m. ET  
Thursday, March 6, 2008
- Where:** Madison Square Garden  
WaMu Theatre  
New York, NY
- Background:** Theoretical physicist **John Bardeen** (1908-1991) co-invented the transistor, which was arguably the most important invention of the 20th century. Bardeen also collaborated on the first fundamental explanation of superconductivity at low temperatures, a theory that has had a profound impact on many fields of physics. He remains the only person ever awarded two Nobel Prizes in physics.
- Biochemist **Gerty Cori** (1896-1957), in collaboration with her husband, Carl, made important discoveries — including a new derivative of glucose — that elucidated the steps of carbohydrate metabolism and became the basis for our knowledge of how cells use food and convert it into energy. Their work also contributed to the

understanding and treatment of diabetes and other metabolic diseases.

Astronomer **Edwin Hubble** (1889-1953) played a pivotal role in deciphering the vast and complex nature of the universe. His meticulous studies of spiral nebulae proved the existence of galaxies other than our own Milky Way, paving the way for a revolutionary new understanding that the cosmos contains myriad separate galaxies, or "island universes."

Structural chemist **Linus Pauling** (1901-1994) determined the nature of the chemical bond linking atoms into molecules. He routinely crossed disciplinary boundaries throughout his career and made significant contributions in several diverse fields. His pioneering work on protein structure was critical in establishing the field of molecular biology and his studies of hemoglobin led to many findings, including the classification of sickle cell anemia as a molecular disease.

For each stamp, artist Victor Stabin of Jim Thorpe, PA, with the assistance of art director Carl Herrman of Carlsbad, CA, created a collage featuring a painted portrait of each scientist combined with diagrams or photographic representations associated with their major contributions.

An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that visits every address in the nation — 146 million homes and businesses. It has 37,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to pay for operating expenses, not tax dollars. The Postal Service has annual revenues of \$75 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.