

**For Immediate Release**

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**The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) to honor  
Science Advocate, Actor, and Author **ALAN ALDA**, and  
Global Geroscience Philanthropist **HOWARD P. MILSTEIN****

*With emcee Meredith Vieira, leaders in science and philanthropy to celebrate innovations in healthy aging*

NEW YORK, NY— The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) will host its Annual Awards Dinner on **Thursday, November 7, 2019 from 6-9pm at Lotte New York Palace, 455 Madison Avenue in New York City**. From 7-9pm, the awards dinner will be held in rooms Holmes I & II, preceded by a cocktail hour in rooms Kennedy I & II from 6-7pm.

At its annual Awards Dinner, AFAR recognizes leaders from across the public, private, and philanthropic sectors for their dedication to science and advancing discoveries and therapeutics poised to help us all live healthier for longer.

This year, AFAR will honor actor, author, and science advocate **Alan Alda** and global geroscience philanthropist **Howard P. Milstein**. Award-winning producer **Meredith Vieira** will emcee.

Alan Alda will be presented with AFAR's Honorary Leadership Award for his career-long dedication to raising awareness of scientific innovation and most recently strengthening scientists' ability to communicate clearly and compellingly through the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science, which he founded in 2009.

"I'm deeply honored to receive this award," Mr. Alda says. "In the fields of science and medicine, aging is one of the most fascinating arenas, and the innovative research that AFAR supports holds enormous promise for this and for future generations to lead longer, healthier lives."

Howard P. Milstein will receive George E. and Marie J. Doty Award for his dedication to health care and aging research, most recently supporting the first-ever International Perspectives on Geroscience Meeting in Shenzhen, China. Mr. Milstein is the Founder and Chairman of Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation, and Chairman of the Milstein Program of Geriatrics.

"AFAR-supported research has shown us how by targeting the biology of aging, we can delay major diseases and extend health," Mr. Milstein says. "George E. and Marie J. Doty were pioneers in championing aging research, and I am humbled to reflect their legacy by receiving this award."

Meredith Vieira, Emmy Award-winning producer and TV journalist, will serve as master of ceremonies. Ms. Vieira hosted the PBS documentary *Incredible Aging: Adding Life to Your Years* in 2018, featuring 14 AFAR experts.

The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is a national non-profit organization that supports and advances pioneering biomedical research that is revolutionizing how we live healthier and longer. For nearly four decades, AFAR has served as the field's talent incubator, providing more than \$181 million to nearly 4,200 investigators at premier research institutions nationwide. A trusted leader and strategist, AFAR also works with public and private funders to steer high quality grant programs and interdisciplinary research networks. AFAR-funded researchers are finding that modifying basic cellular processes can delay—or even prevent—many chronic diseases, often at the same time. They are discovering that it is never too late—or too early—to improve health. This groundbreaking science is paving the way for innovative new therapies that promise to improve and extend our quality of life—at any age.



#### About Alan Alda

Actor, author, and science advocate Alan Alda's deep interest in science led to his hosting of the award-winning PBS series "Scientific American Frontiers" for 11 years, on which he interviewed hundreds of scientists. Also on PBS, he hosted "The Human Spark," winning the 2010 Kavli Science Journalism Award, and "Brains on Trial" in 2013.

Mr. Alda is the author of the play, "Radiance: The Passion of Marie Curie" and "Dear Albert," a reading for the stage of Einstein's letters. He has won numerous awards for his work in promoting the sciences. He was awarded the National Academy of Sciences Public Welfare Medal, the National Science Board's Public Service Award, the Scientific American Lifetime Achievement Award, and the American Chemical Society Award for Public Service, among others.

Mr. Alda was named a fellow of the American Physical Society for his work in helping scientists improve their communication skills. He is a member of the Board of the World Science Festival and is a Visiting Professor at Stony Brook University's Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science, which has trained 15,000 scientists and healthcare professionals around the world.

His latest book is, "If I Understood You Would I Have This Look on My Face? My Adventures in the Art and Science of Relating and Communicating."



#### About Howard P. Milstsein

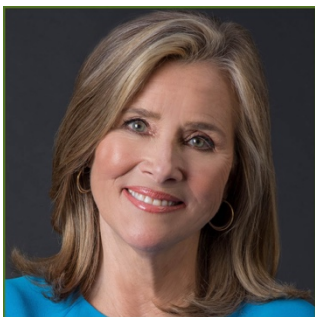
In the field of medical research and healthcare, Howard serves as Chairman of American Skin Association, and is a Member of the Board of the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation. He is former Chairman of New York Blood Center and provided decades of visionary leadership, including the founding of the National Cord Blood Program, which was the first and largest public cord blood bank in the world. As former Chairman of the Howard and Georgeanna Jones Foundation for Reproductive Medicine, Howard provided leadership and channeled important resources to reproductive health research.

In 2011, Milstsein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation was created to contribute to world health by developing mutually beneficial partnerships between the United States, China, and greater Asia. The Foundation funds fellowship and research project awards that bring together top medical talent from leading Chinese medical institutions with leading American medical research institutions to make progress in several fields, including geriatrics, dermatology, translational medicine, and stem cell research and regenerative medicine.

In October 2016, the Chinese government presented Howard with the prestigious Marco Polo Award, the highest honor given to a non-Chinese citizen.

Howard's philanthropy has funded groundbreaking research in skin diseases, infectious diseases, and cancer at Weill Cornell Medical College, Rockefeller University, and the National Institutes of Health.

Howard earned a B.A. in Economics from Cornell University *summa cum laude* and JD and MBA degrees from Harvard University.



#### About Meredith Vieira

Ms. Vieira, host of the awards ceremony, is a 15-time Emmy Award-winning host, executive producer and anchor. In 2018 she hosted the PBS special, Incredible Aging, featuring more than one dozen AFAR experts. Currently Ms. Vieira hosts the FOX-syndicated game show *25 Words or Less*. In 2018 she served as co-host of PBS and BBC's *Royal Wedding Watch* and as host of the PBS series *The Great American Read*. She served as executive producer on the award-winning documentary *TOWER*, released in October 2016. Ms. Vieira hosted and served as executive producer on her own nationally syndicated daytime talk show, titled *The Meredith Vieira Show*, which premiered in September 2014 and ran for two seasons. Previously, she received critical acclaim for her hosting of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*, *The Today Show*, and *The View*. As host of *Millionaire*, Ms. Vieira became the longest-standing female game show host in history. She is also a member of an elite group to have anchored or hosted programs on five broadcast networks.

Early in her career, Ms. Vieira spent more than a decade at CBS News, garnering five Emmy Awards for her work as an editor on the news magazines *60 Minutes* and *West 57<sup>th</sup>*. She founded and is CEO of Meredith Vieira Productions, which develops and produces film, television, and theatre. A native of Providence, R.I., Ms. Vieira received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tufts University in Medford, Mass. She has three children, Ben, Gabe, and Lily, with her husband, best-selling author and journalist Richard Cohen.