Citations for the K-Theory Prizes - 2026

May 18, 2026

Tom Bachmann (University of Mainz) receives one of the 2026 prizes of the K-Theory Foundation for fundamental contributions to motivic homotopy theory and algebraic K-theory. His work has profoundly advanced the understanding of the relationship between motives and stable homotopy theory through the development of powerful new motivic and equivariant techniques. Bachmann established foundational results on conservativity, rigidity, and Picard structures in motivic homotopy categories, and introduced decisive advances in the study of norm functors, slice filtrations, and the interaction between motivic cohomology and algebraic K-theory. His work has reshaped major parts of modern motivic homotopy theory.

Robert Burklund (University of Copenhagen) receives one of the 2026 prizes of the K-Theory Foundation for groundbreaking contributions to algebraic K-theory, chromatic homotopy theory, and higher algebra. His work has transformed the understanding of localization and periodicity in stable homotopy theory through the development of powerful new methods linking algebraic K-theory, structured ring spectra, filtrations, and chromatic geometry. In joint work, Burklund constructed striking counterexamples to Ravenel's Telescope Conjecture, resolving a central problem that had shaped the field for decades. He has also made foundational contributions to chromatic fracture and descent methods, Adams and chromatic filtrations, synthetic techniques, and the asymptotic structure of stable homotopy groups.

Elden Elmanto (University of Toronto) receives one of the 2026 prizes of the K-Theory Foundation for fundamental contributions to motivic homotopy theory, algebraic K-theory, and arithmetic geometry. His work has introduced powerful new methods connecting motivic cohomology, trace and norm constructions, and equivariant techniques, leading to major advances in the understanding of motivic filtrations, descent phenomena, and cohomological operations. Elmanto has made foundational contributions to the interaction between algebraic cycles, étale and motivic invariants, and stable homotopy-theoretic structures, helping to clarify deep relationships between arithmetic geometry and higher homotopy theory. Through influential work on rigidity, transfers, motivic localization, and the structure of motivic categories, he has significantly expanded the conceptual and technical foundations of modern motivic and K-theoretic research.

Jeremy Hahn (MIT) receives one of the 2026 prizes of the K-Theory Foundation for deep and influential contributions to algebraic K-theory, chromatic homotopy theory, and structured ring spectra. His work has clarified the

behavior of algebraic K-theory under chromatic localization and periodicity, developed new computational and conceptual tools for filtered and equivariant spectra, and led to major advances in understanding the relationship between K-theory, topological cyclic homology, and higher chromatic phenomena. In joint work, Hahn constructed striking counterexamples to Ravenel's Telescope Conjecture, resolving long-standing questions about localization in stable homotopy theory. Hahn has also made foundational contributions to even filtrations, synthetic and motivic methods, and the structure of generalized cohomology theories, reshaping central aspects of modern algebraic topology and K-theory.