

[September 17, 2009]

Adobe co-founders to receive national science award

Sep 17, 2009 (San Jose Mercury News - McClatchy-Tribune Information Services via COMTEX) -- President Obama Thursday picked Adobe Systems co-founders Charles Geschke and John Warnock to receive one of the nation's highest honors bestowed on scientists, engineers and inventors -- the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

Geschke and Warnock were chosen "for their pioneering contributions that spurred the desktop publishing revolution and for changing the way people create and engage with information and entertainment across multiple mediums including print, Web and video," according to a White House press release.

The pair, who will receive the award at an Oct. 7 White House ceremony, founded Adobe in 1982 and serve as co-chairman of the San Jose software company known for its editing, graphic design and Web development tools, which include its widely used Acrobat and Photoshop products.

Others named to receive the award are Forrest Bird of the Idaho-based company Percussionaire, who did pioneering work in respiratory and cardiopulmonary care; Esther Sans Takeuchi of the University at Buffalo, who developed a battery technology used in implantable cardiac defibrillators; and International Business Machines for its Blue Gene supercomputer.

Created by law in 1980, the National Medal of Technology and Innovation recognizes individuals or companies whose technological contributions have contributed to the nation's economic, environmental or social improvement. Nominees are selected by an independent committee representing the private and public sectors.

Obama also named nine researchers to receive the National Medal of Science, which honors contributions to science and engineering. Among them was Berni Alder of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, who did ground-breaking work in computer simulations.

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