

**For Immediate Release**

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**Berkeley Rotary Club Honors Dr. Anthony Fauci**

**and Frontline Healthcare Workers Worldwide**

The Berkeley Rotary Club has selected Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, and Frontline Healthcare Workers around the world to receive its 2020 Peace Award. A redwood tree at the Rotary Peace Grove in Tilden Park will be dedicated in their honor, acknowledged by a plaque placed at the site.

In past years, the award was presented at an annual Peace Ceremony at Tilden Park. The honoree, or a representative, generally attends, and the community is invited to share a lunch and enjoy the dedication ceremony. This year the ceremony was presented online via Zoom on Wednesday, September 23, attended by over 100 Rotarians and guests. Dr. Fauci sent a video expressing his gratitude for the honor and commending those who work on the frontline of the pandemic throughout the world:

“I am in awe of the selflessness they have demonstrated during this historic and arduous global pandemic of Covid-19. To every day risk their lives to save the lives of others is not only a testimony to their resiliency and commitment to patient care, it is an embodiment of the best of humanity. To my mind, their courage and integrity during this public health crisis identify them as true heroes.”

Lauren Monary, RN, accepted the honor on behalf of Frontline Healthcare Workers. Monary is a nurse who traveled with a medical team from UCSF to the Navajo Nation in Arizona this summer to assist the medical personnel on the reservation during the height of the crisis there. Her account of the sacrifices made and challenges faced by the Navajo nurses moved many in the audience to tears.

The Rotary International Peace Grove was established in 1955 when Berkeley Rotary Club planted the first of 100 redwood trees in the park, near the site of a former Nike missile base. Since then, one tree is dedicated each year to honor an individual or an organization that has made a significant contribution to international peace and understanding. Contributions to global health, education, and feeding the hungry have also been recognized as providing the broader foundations of peace. Past honorees include the Dalai Lama, Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Doctors Without Borders, Malala Yousafzai, Ed Roberts and Judy Heumann.

For more information, see [the International Peace Grove](https://www.berkeleyrotary.org/berkeley-rotary-peace-grove-home.php) and [Dr. Fauci’s acceptance video](https://youtu.be/Nlff5hmI3Aw).

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