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Introduction

Every year, people all over the world make outstanding contributions to art and literature, conduct groundbreaking research, and do remarkable and inspiring **humanitarian** work.

These achievements can help shape the way we see and understand our world – or even save lives. A journalist may report a story that uncovers illegal government activities. A doctor may

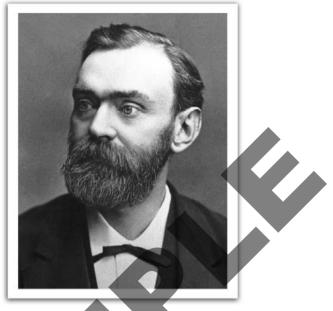


develop a new kind of treatment for a devastating disease. A novelist may write a book that changes people's lives.



Sometimes, these gifted and dedicated artists, writers, and researchers receive special recognition for their work. Some win awards that have been created to celebrate their accomplishments.

Some of the most well-known awards today include the Nobel Prize, the Caldecott Medal, and the Pulitzer Prize. Each of these awards is named for a man who did exceptional and innovative work during his lifetime. Each of these men has a remarkable story.



CHAPTER

Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prize

The day was bleak, and seven-year-old Alfred Nobel was at his home near Stockholm, Sweden. He was stuck in bed – again – while his older brothers were at school.