



**Inspired Leadership
Award recipient 2014
Melinda Gates**

AMERICAN BUSINESSWOMAN AND PHILANTHROPIST
CO-FOUNDER AND CO-CHAIR OF THE
BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

Inspired Leadership Award recipient 2014

Melinda Gates



Inspired Leadership Award committee chairman Geoff Colvin, senior-editor-at-large, Fortune magazine, on why Melinda Gates was chosen as this year's recipient...

"Melinda Gates is co-founder and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. It is active in more than 100 countries around the world, and its grant payments to date total more than \$28 billion – more than any philanthropic foundation in the world has ever disbursed. Just as important, the foundation is applying business principles to develop innovative, results-based models for achieving highly ambitious goals, such as eradicating polio and ensuring that 120 million more women and girls have information about, and access to, voluntary contraceptives by 2020 so they can plan their future. These goals are truly within our reach.

"Melinda and the foundation continually seek more ways to reduce disease, hunger and poverty worldwide. She has recently championed a global initiative that aims to decrease neonatal mortality and, with the commitment and collaboration of many governments and partners, has the potential to save hundreds of thousands of newborns who die each year within their first day or first month of life.

"Melinda's work with the Gates Foundation began when she was still a top Microsoft executive, and she has become more devoted to the foundation with every passing year. In all her work, Melinda is guided by the foundation's bedrock principle: that every life has equal value.

"For her role in leading a global enterprise that has already improved and saved countless lives and promises to achieve far more – and that is finding new ways for organisations everywhere to solve the world's largest problems – Melinda Gates is the recipient of the 2014 Inspired Leadership Award."

Read more about the Inspired Leadership Award in your programme or visit theperformancetheatre.com/about/inspired-leadership-award