

For Immediate Release:

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**Fernanda Ricci of Italy
Wins 2016 JALA & JBS Art of Science Contest**

CHICAGO – SLAS (Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening) announces that Fernanda Ricci of IIT@SEMM in Italy is the grand prize winner of the 2016 JALA & JBS Art of Science Contest.

Ricci's winning entry was a "mosaic representation of cell colonies (two outermost columns on each side) and the resulting automated segmentation (four color-coded columns) obtained with Colony Assay Toolbox (CaT, F. Ricci et al. JBS 2014). The illustrations are representative of colony formation in 384 multi-well format; the single wells are entirely acquired by using a 4x objective combined with a large camera in wide-field microscopy (Nikon Ti-Eclipse)."

SLAS members and nonmembers voted at SLAS.org for their favorite of 10 finalists from Australia, China, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Visualization plays an important role in the analysis and presentation of scientific work. In journal articles, images often communicate ideas and information in ways that text, tables, charts, graphs or equations cannot. Sometimes scientific images surpass this purpose and create shapes, patterns and designs that capture attention and imagination. Those are the 10 images represented by the 2016 JALA & JBS Art of Science Contest finalists:

Xianting Ding, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China)

Yun Ding, ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Tomasz Koprowski, ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

James Loomis, University of Auckland (New Zealand)

Carrie Lovitt, Griffith University (Australia)

Sarah Morejohn (USA)

Fernanda Ricci, IIT@SEMM (Italy)

Jing Yan, Princeton (USA)

Constantinos D. Zeinalipour-Yazdi, University College London (UK)

Haijiang Zhang, EMPA (Switzerland)

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As the top vote-getter and grand prize winner, Ricci received a \$500 Amazon gift card. All finalists received 60 days free online access to more than 100,000 peer-reviewed articles in the SAGE Pharmacology & Biomedical Collection.

For more information and to view the grand prize winner and finalists, visit www.slas.org/publications/scientific-journals/2016-slas-journal-achievement-awards. For more information about SLAS and its journals, the *Journal of Biomolecular Screening* (JBS) and the *Journal of Laboratory Automation* (JALA), visit www.slas.org/jala-jbs.

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SLAS (Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening) is an international community of more than 20,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the practice of life sciences discovery and technology. For more information, visit www.SLAS.org.

SLAS publishes two internationally recognized, MEDLINE-indexed journals, now in their 21st year of publication. Together, **the Journal of Laboratory Automation (JALA)** and **Journal of Biomolecular Screening (JBS)** address the full spectrum of issues that are mission-critical to this important audience, enabling scientific research teams to gain scientific insights, increase productivity, elevate data quality, reduce lab process cycle times and enable experimentation that otherwise would be impossible.

Specifically, **JALA** explores ways in which scientists adapt advancements in technology for scientific exploration and experimentation. In direct relation to this, **JBS** reports how scientists develop and utilize novel technologies and/or approaches to provide and characterize chemical and biological tools to understand and treat human disease.

Journal of Biomolecular Screening (JBS): 2014 Impact Factor 2.423. Editor-in-Chief Robert M. Campbell, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN (USA).

Journal of Laboratory Automation (JALA): 2014 Impact Factor 1.879. Editor-in-Chief Edward Kai-Hua Chow, Ph.D., National University of Singapore (Singapore).