

7:20 Van Oort: Ladies and gentlemen, the host for the 20th and last time at the Laureate Award Ceremony please welcome, the president of the World Food Prize Foundation, **Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn**

{walk-up music}

1) IMAG Ken Quinn at Upper Podium

Quinn: To everyone here this evening, to all watching on Iowa Public Television, and to the thousands following via webcast around the globe, welcome!, welcome! to the 2019 World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony.

President Felix Tshisekidi of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, thank you Your Excellency for the great honor of having you with us.

2) IMAG Governor, First Gentleman Kevin Reynolds, Le Son Quinn

Welcome to Simon Groot
and family

Governor Reynolds, on behalf of our Chairma John Ruan III and Janis Ruan and my wife Le and all of us at the World Food Prize, I want to say how grateful we are to you and First Gentleman Kevin Reynolds for presiding at tonight's ceremony. House Speaker Linda Upmeyer, like me you are retiring soon, I am so glad you could be here so we could thank you for your encouragement and support. I also want to acknowledge Senators Mark Lofgren and William Dotzler and Representative Jo Oldsen. thank you. Thank you for the incomparable privilege of holding our ceremony here in the magnificent Iowa State Capitol over the last 20 years.

I want to say a special word of welcome to Secretary Tom Vilsack, who was Governor of Iowa when I visited him in his office to ask if we could hold our ceremony here in the Capitol. He didn't know me, and I think he thought I was some deranged person; I saw him reaching under his desk for the button that summons the state troopers to remove a dangerous person, so I quickly said, it's for Dr. Borlaug. Why didn't you say so, and immediately approved it. Then I came up and met the Republican leaders of the legislature and when they heard Norm's name they agreed.

Yesterday, October 16th was World Food Day, we are so honored to have an array of distinguished international guests, including 17 World Food Prize Laureates. There is more life saving achievement assembled here at the Iowa State Capitol than at any other World Food Day event anywhere around the globe.

It was John Ruan III who convinced me to return to Iowa in 1999 to carry forward the vision that his father and Norman Borlaug had laid out. It has only been with John's support and guidance that we have been able to build The World Food Prize for these past two decades to fulfill his Dad's and Norm's dreams.

John Ruan III please stand up so that we all can thank you and the Ruan family for all that you have done for the World Food Prize.

Janis Ruan and the entire Ruan Family, thank you for all you have done to support the World Food Prize. As Norman Borlaug often said, there would not be a World Food Prize except for the generosity of the Ruan Family.

6) IMAG Ruan family SR

7) IMAG Empty Borlaug Chair Behind Upper Podium

It was 10 years ago that Norm left us. At the 2009 ceremony, I left open the chair that Norm always occupied and have continued to do since then, to commemorate Dr. Norman Borlaug's achievements and reflect his ongoing inspiration.

One other person who was at the
World Food Prize in 2009 has
sent a special message about
Norm - please watch:

7:25 (*Play Bill Gates Video*) 4 mins

8) IMAG Jeanie, Bill, and Julie Borlaug, Stage Left (Lower thirds; "The Borlaug Family")

7:29 But while Norm is no longer with us, we are very fortunate that we have members of the Borlaug family with us tonight. To his children, Jeanie and Bill, and his granddaughter, Julie, thank you for your presence and for all you are doing to carry forward your Father and grandfather's legacy to eliminate hunger in the world.

Quinn: Norman Borlaug and John Ruan shared passion. In 1994 they added an element to the World Food Prize - a Youth Institute with 14 Iowa high school students and 3 Nobel Peace Prize recipients.

Today, as we celebrate its 25th anniversary, the World Food Prize has grown significantly. But, to tell you about what happens at a World Food Prize Youth Institute I invited back one of our most remarkable alums of our Global Youth Institute.

You may have seen her on TV as the youngest-ever female CNN Heroes ~~recognized~~ recognized for being the founder and executive director of the MEANS Database, an anti-hunger non-profit tech company operating in 49 U.S. states, D.C. and Canada.

Not bad for someone who just graduated from American University. Please welcome from Pella, Iowa Maria Rose Belding.

7:31 Maria Speaks:

7:34 Van Oort: Please welcome the granddaughters of Norman Borlaug and John Ruan Sr., Julie Borlaug (Ju-lie Bor-lagh) and Rachel Ruan McLean (RAY - chull Roo On Mick Lane)

9) IMAG Borlaug and McLean enter from Stage Left

7:38 Van Oort: The Borlaug-Ruan Intern awards are named for Iowa Agricultural Ambassador John Chrystal, and the late Iowa State Senator Elaine Szymoniak (Eh-leyn Si-mon-iack).

[[SLIDE]] Elaine Szymoniak (3)

This year there are two recipients of the John Chrystal Intern Award. *(Pause and starts to walk)*
(NOTE: Student winner will be seated in the House Chamber.)

10) IMAG student walking up - stage right

Van Oort:

[[SLIDE]] Chrystal Winner Slide #1 (4)

The first recipient is Hannah Jo (HA-nuh JOH), a student from Bear, Delaware, now studying plant sciences at Cornell University.

[[SLIDE]] Chrystal Winner Slide #2 (5)

Hannah participated as a Borlaug-Ruan intern at the China National Hybrid Rice Research and Development Center.

[[SLIDE]] Chrystal Winner Slide #3 (6)

The second recipient, from Marion, Iowa, is Chase Krug (Chase Kroog).

[[SLIDE]] Chrystal Winner Slide #4 (7)

He was a Borlaug-Ruan intern at the World Vegetable Center in Hyderabad, India. Chase is now a sophomore at Iowa State University, majoring in Agronomy.

[[SLIDE]] Szymoniak Winner Slide #1 (8)

Van Oort: The recipient of the 2019 Szymoniak Award is Natalie Napolitano (Na-ta-lie Na-po-lee-ta-no) from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

11) IMAG student walking up - stage left

[[SLIDE]] Szymoniak Winner Slide #2 (9)

Natalie was a Borlaug-Ruan Intern at the M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation in India. She is now a student at the University of Pennsylvania, studying Nursing and Business.

Pause until student reaches the center

Photo of recipients taken here with students in the middle. After that, students, Julie and Rachel leave Stage Right.

7:42 Quinn: Thank you Julie and Rachel, I am sure that your grandfathers are looking down from Green Revolution Heaven with big smiles on their faces.

Aren't those three interns doing some incredible work?

(Begin setup for music performance)

Quinn: There is one other group participating in our World Food Prize Youth Programs that are just as critical to the success of all of our youth education programs, and that is the teachers.

Last year, we created the World Food Prize Inspiring the Next Generation Award. Tonight, we will recognize two teachers from our Global Youth Institute programs who have demonstrated exceptional dedication.

Here to present the award,
please welcome Norman
Borlaug's daughter, a former
teacher herself, Jeanie Borlaug
Laube.

Van Oort- The 2019 World Food Prize Jessie Field Schambaugh and Norman Borlaug Inspiring the Next Generation Award will be presented to two Iowa teachers. Ms. Kacia Cain (Kee-suh Kuh-ain) a teacher at Des Moines Public School's Central Campus. *(pause while she walks up)*

[[SLIDE]] Kacia Cain Slide (10)

Our second award winner, Ms. Tricia A. Reichert (TRISH-uh AN Ri-kurk), is a teacher at Emmetsburg High School. *(pause while she walks up)*

[[SLIDE]] Tricia Reichert Slide (11)

Ms. Cain and Ms. Reichert were chosen for their years of dedicated service in inspiring students to participate in the Iowa Youth Institute and Global Youth Institute.

Laube - My father always considered himself a teacher. I know he is deeply grateful for all that you have done to inspire the several thousand students who participate in our programs each year.

Quinn: We have three other groups here tonight who are also inspired by Dr. Borlaug. The USDA-Borlaug Fellows program, and the Borlaug-Adesina Fellows,

from Africa who were just
launched today and supported by
our own 2017 Laureate Dr.
Akinwumi Adesina and his World
Hunger Fighters Foundation, and
the Fraley-Borlaug Scholar from
the University of Illinois. They are
up in the Borlaug Balcony.

7:45 Quinn: I have another marvelous youth story—over the past 20 years, I have endeavored to include in the Laureate Award Ceremony entertainment and cultural performances that bring attention to our founders Norman Borlaug and John Ruan Sr. and our new Laureate all while inspiring the world in the fight against hunger.

I have commissioned a symphony to be written with maestro Joseph Giunta and the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra, arranged for Ray Charles to perform at Ceremony when it was held at Iowa State University, brought the Tokyo String Quartet to Des Moines

and two years ago, in an evening which made Laureate Akinwumi Adesina and his wife Grace legends for their dancing, we were honored to welcome Omawumi, the West African Idol and Nigerian pop star.

(Clip of Adesina and Grace dancing)

12) IMAG Pick up Adesina

As we played that video of Dr. Adesina and Grace dancing, I saw a worried look on Simon Groot's face - don't worry - we won't be asking you to dance. I was wondering what I would do after I retire. Maybe I could start a new TV show, "Dancing with the Laureates."

Continuing with our theme on youth, I wanted to find performers who might have meaning to you, Simon Groot. I know that East West Seed operates in Brazil where you have developed the semi-dwarf Bela nova papaya, somewhat like Norman Borlaug's semi-dwarf wheat.

Well we were not able to import any of those papaya for tonight, we do have another import from Brazil that will bring back some wonderful memories and that represents a great story.

When they were 19-year-old twins living in an urban favela in Rio, their mother had them take violin lessons in an effort to keep them from being caught up in gang culture.

Driving to work in 2006 I heard a story about them on Iowa Public Radio and brought them here to Iowa where they performed at our Laureate Award Ceremony in 2006 to honor our Laureates from Brazil.

7:47 Show Video Footage of 2006

At the end of their performance the President of the University of Northern Iowa rushed up to me and said he was offering them each a four year scholarship to his university on the spot - they have been here ever since.

Please join me in welcoming back to The World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony, the Brazilian 2wins.

Brazilian 2wins Perform (5 mins)

13) IMAG Quinn at Upper Podium

7:52 Quinn: Simon, tonight, we are so pleased to have what we feel will be a very special tribute to you and to all that you have accomplished.

Roll Prince of Netherlands Video (50 seconds)

7:54 Quinn: Now with the mood set for our Laureate Award Presentation, we have one more step before we can proceed: the Laureate Proclamation. In the Netherlands, you have a King to issue proclamations.

In Iowa we don't have a King, we have a governor, and we are very honored to have Iowa's Governor here tonight.

During her time as Lieutenant Governor she was a great friend to the World Food Prize and she has continued that interest and involvement as Iowa's first female governor.

She has been a leader in promoting STEM education and every year she has been with us at our Iowa Youth Institute, our Iowa Hunger Summit, and our Laureate Award Ceremony.

So now, to issue the official Laureate Proclamation, it is my great personal privilege to introduce the 43rd Governor of Iowa, the Honorable Kim Reynolds.

7:56 Reynolds..... It is with that in mind (and with a great sense of tradition) that I now proclaim Simon N Groot of the Netherlands as the 2019 World Food Prize Laureate.

8:00 Roll Laureate Video when Governor Reynolds says "Laureate" is the cue (9 mins 15 seconds mins)
(Stage managers escorts Laureate to main chamber entrance prepare to usher laureate to Lower Podium. ___ moves podium mic down. John Ruan III moves to lower level for presentation)

8:10 Van Oort: Ladies and Gentlemen please welcome the 2019 World Food Prize Laureate:

Mr. Simon Groot

*Laureate grand walk-up **Emotional music bed** – Laureate enters Lower Podium from Stage Right(Pause for applause and for photos of just the laureate.)*

Van Oort: At this time we invite, the World Food Prize chairman John Ruan III to join our Laureate on the Dias. We are also honored to invite the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, His Excellency Felix Tshisekidi; Ambassador Andre Haspels, of the Netherlands; Dr. Gebisa Ejeta, the Chair of the World Food Prize Selection Committee; the Deputy Vice Minister of Agriculture, of the Netherlands Marije Beens; and also from the Netherlands and a member of the World Food Prize Council of Advisors, the President of Wageningen (VAG IN ENG IN) University, Dr. Louise Fresco to join Mr. Ruan in presenting the Prize.

Note – Ruan stands next to Laureate – stage left. Stage manager escorts Laureate to the dias entering from stage right.

8:12 Van Oort: The World Food Prize sculpture will now be presented to the 2019 Laureate by the chairm. the World Food Prize Foundation, Mr. John Ruan III.

John Ruan III presents the World Food Prize sculpture to the Laureate.

Quinn: I now invite Chairman Ruan and the presentation party to return to their seats.

Quinn: Now, I invite our Laureate to offer your remarks.

8:18 Quinn: (After laureate conclude remarks) Let's have one more huge round of applause for our 2019 World Food Prize Laureate.

8:19 Quinn: I invite our laureate to return to his seat. We have one more special presentation as part of our Laureate Award Ceremony.

8:20 (Laureate seated.)

Quinn: When Simon Groot arrived in the Philippines in the 1980s to start what would become a global vegetable seed revolution, it was a time that represented the confluence of several other revolutions, each with an interesting World Food Prize connection.

[[SLIDE]] Swami (12)

At The International Rice Research Institute in Los Banos, the first World Food Prize Laureate Dr. M.S. Swaminathan was presiding over the continuation of the Green Revolution in rice, that had started under Laureate Hank Beachel and was being carried forward by Laureate Gurdev Khush, who is with us tonight.

[[SLIDE]] Beachell (13)

At the same time, The People Power Revolution lead by President Corazon Aquino, turned out a dictator and dramatically restored the country to democratic rule.

[[SLIDE]] President Aquino (14)

I had the privilege to support the new President's efforts as the Deputy US Ambassador in Manila.

[[SLIDE]] Aquino and Ambassador Quinn (15)

I was so proud 20 years later when President Aquino accepted my offer to become a member of the World Food Prize Council of Advisors.

And there was a revolution in music as two Filipina teenagers, Lea Salonga and Monique Wilson, were chosen to play the lead in a new musical Miss Saigon.

[[SLIDE]] Lea Salonga and Monique Wilson (16)

And my wife Le Son, my own Miss Saigon, and I joined in sending them off to Broadway with a reception at our embassy.

I asked myself who could we get that could musically honor our Laureate and his Filipino partner, and bring together all of these events. I was stymied until I spoke to my daughter Kelly, who lives in London.

She told me that there was an amazing singer from the Philippines starring in Hamilton in London. She has flown here tonight to help recall all of those revolutions and honor Simon Groot's great achievements.

Tonight she will perform Bayan Ko in tribute to the late President Aquino, and a medley of songs from her Broadway career including the Movie in my Mind from Miss Saigon,

and in honor of our distinguished Laureate who has risen to the challenge of changing the lives of millions of farmers in over 60 countries, she will close the program with the popular smash hit, Rise Up. Please welcome, the international Broadway star, Rachelle Ann Go. (Ray-shell Ann Go)

1. Traditional Filipino Song - 3 mins
2. Broadway Medley - 8 mins
3. Rise Up - 4 mins

8:42 Quinn: Thank you for your time and talents, Rachelle. You have truly made this a night to remember. Let's have another round of applause for everyone!

To everyone here, and everyone watching, thank you for being with us tonight, thank you for celebrating my 20 years and thank you for a lifetime of memories.

Quinn leads VIPs out of the well and to the Capitol Rotunda

Van Oort: Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes the 2019 World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony. Thank you and good night.

(IPTV returns to Announcer, with intern award winners as needed to fill time)

Van Oort: We invite you to join the Laureate party outside on the second floor for a reception followed by a gala dinner on the main level. There is open seating, except for some reserved tables, and we encourage our guests from Iowa and around the world to dine with one another and help make new international connections this evening. Thank you for joining us. Enjoy your evening.

Reception

8:45 75-minute dinner served
9:50 Guests exit State Capitol
10:00 Evening concludes