

List of Heroes

Scientists, Engineers and Inventors

<u>Walter Alvarez, Ph.D.</u> – Professor of Earth and Planetary Science, Geologist, Archaeologist, Co-discoverer of the Evidence that an Asteroid Destroyed the Dinosaurs	1
<u>Neil Armstrong</u> – Aviator, Test Pilot, Astronaut, Professor, Best Known as the First Man on the Moon	2
Review: <u>First Man: The Life of Neil A. Armstrong</u> (2005) by James R. Hansen	3
<u>Eleanor Baum, Ph.D.</u> – Engineer, Educator, Dean of Engineering at Cooper Union	5
<u>Sir Tim Berners-Lee</u> – British Professor of Computer Science at Southampton, Director of the World Wide Web Consortium, Known as the Inventor of the Internet	6
<u>Derek Cabrera, Ph.D.</u> – Expert on Thinking Skills and Systems Thinking	7
<u>K. Eric Drexler, Ph.D.</u> – Researcher, Inventor, Author, Visionary, Best Known as the Popularizer of Molecular Nanotechnology	10
<u>Lisa Gable</u> – A Grandmother of Invention	11
<u>Bill Gates</u> – Computer Wizard, Entrepreneur, Businessman, Visionary, Philanthropist, Recognized as the Man behind Microsoft	12
<u>Murray Gell-Mann, Ph.D.</u> –Theoretical Physicist, Nobel Prize Winner, Linguist, Best Known for His Discovery of the Quark	13
<u>Brian Greene, Ph.D.</u> – Professor of Mathematics and Physics at Columbia University	14
<u>Stephen Hawking, Ph.D.</u> – English Theoretical Physicist and Author, Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University (Best Known for his Theories on Cosmology and his Science Books)	15
<u>Homer Hickam, Jr.</u> – Former NASA Engineer, Writer, and Author of Best Selling Books	16
Review: <u>October Sky: A Memoir</u> (1998) by Homer H. Hickam, Jr.	17
<u>Rush Holt, Ph.D.</u> – Physicist, Energy Researcher, Best Known as a United States Congressman	18
<u>Dean Kamen</u> – American Inventor and Entrepreneur, and President of DEKA Research, Best Known for His Invention of the Segway Personal Transporter	19
<u>Stephanie Kwolek</u> – Chemist, Inventor, and Best Known as the Inventor of Kevlar	20

<u>Alan Lightman, Ph.D.</u> – Astrophysicist and Author of Non-Fiction and Fiction Works, Professor of Science and Writing at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology	22
<u>Marvin Minsky, Ph.D.</u> – Cognitive Scientist in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Researcher, Robotics Pioneer, Inventor, Author, Credited with Originating the Field of AI	24
<u>Henry Orenstein</u> – President of Topper Toys, Inc., Prolific Inventor, Author, Philanthropist, Best Known for Inventing Children’s Transformer Toys	25
<u>Les Paul</u> – Famed Jazz/Pop Guitarist, Entertainer and Inventor, Best Known for His Electric Guitar Invention and Sound Effects	26
<u>Henry Petroski, Ph.D.</u> – Professor of Engineering and History at Duke University, Author of Many Books on Engineering Design	27
<u>Ron Popeil</u> – Inventor, Salesman, TV Personality, and Entrepreneur, Best Known for His Kitchen Appliances and Gadgets	29
<u>Sally Ride, Ph.D.</u> – Physicist, Astronaut, Author, Professor of Physics, Company Founder, Best Known as First Women Astronaut	30
<u>Kip Thorne, Ph.D.</u> – Expert in Relativity and Gravitation, Professor of Theoretical Physics at California Institute of Technology, Author and Writer	31
<u>Margaret Turnbull, Ph.D.</u> – Astrobiologist, Best Known for Identifying and Cataloguing Habitable Star Systems	32
<u>Neil deGrasse Tyson, Ph.D.</u> – Astronomer, Director of the Hayden Planetarium and Professor of Astronomy, Princeton University	33
<u>H Ty Warner</u> – Entrepreneur and Inventor of Beanie Babies	35
<u>Anthony Winston</u> – Chemist, Inventor, New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame Inductee, “Mr. Baking Soda”	36
<u>Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs</u> – Engineer-Programmers and Inventors of the Apple Personal Computer, Door-Openers to the Future	37
<i>Medicine and Biology</i>	
<u>Ben Carson, MD</u> – Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at The Johns Hopkins University Medical Center	38
Review: <u>Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story</u> (1996) by Ben Carson with Cecil Murphey	38
<u>Atul Gawande, MD</u> – Surgeon and Author	40

<u>Jane Goodall, Ph.D.</u> – Primatologist and Leader of International Environmental Organizations	42
<u>Sherwin B. Nuland, MD</u> – Surgeon and Author	43
<u>Oliver Sacks, MD</u> – Neurologist and Author	44
<u>Professor Edward O. Wilson</u> – Evolutionary Biologist, Harvard University	46
Review: <u>Consilience: The Unity Of Knowledge</u> by Edward O. Wilson. (1998)	48
<i>Literature and Poetry</i>	
<u>Geraldine Brooks</u> – Author and Pulitzer Prize Winner	50
<u>Annie Dillard</u> – Noted Author and Pulitzer Prize Winner	51
<u>Rita Dove</u> -- Poet and Professor of English, the University of Virginia	52
<u>Khaled Hosseini</u> – Afghan-American Novelist and Medical Doctor	54
<u>John Jakes</u> – Gifted Hero of Historical Fiction	55
<u>Garrison Keillor</u> – Humorist, Storyteller, Author, and Host of <i>A Prairie Home Companion</i>	56
<u>Mario Vargas Llosa</u> -- Peruvian Author	57
<u>Gabriel García Márquez</u> – Columbian Author, Inventor of Magical Realism and Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature	59
<u>Larry McMurtry</u> – Author and Book Lover	60
<u>N. Scott Momaday, Ph.D.</u> – Native American Creative Writer, Artist and Activist	62
<u>Mary Oliver</u> -- Poet of Nature and Quietude	64
<u>Jeff Shaara</u> – Novelist of American Military History	66
Review: <u>The Rising Tide</u> (2006) by Jeff Shaara	67
<u>Helen Vendler, Ph.D.</u> – Professor of English and American Literature, Harvard University	68
<i>Music, Art, Dance and Media</i>	
<u>Joshua Bell</u> – Classical Music Violinist	70

<i>Review: Books on Musical Talent</i>	71
<u>Pierre Boulez</u> – Composer, Conductor, and Writer	73
<u>James Burke</u> – Documentary Television Producer, Historian of Science, Author	76
<u>Ken Burns</u> – Master Documentary Film Producer and Director	77
<u>Deborah Butterfield</u> – Contemporary Sculptor, Master of Horse	78
<u>Plácido Domingo</u> – Genius of Opera Performance and Humanitarian	80
<u>Hugh Downs</u> – Journalist, Interviewer, Media Personality, Known for his Coverage of Important American Issues and the Space Program	81
<u>Gustavo Dudamel</u> – Symphony Orchestra Conductor and Violinist, Conductor of the National Youth Orchestra of Venezuela, Conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic	82
<u>Marvin Frederick Hamlisch</u> – Extraordinary American Composer	85
<u>Judith Jamison</u> – Artistic Director and Choreographer, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater	87
<u>Stan Lee</u> – Gifted Author of Comic Book Heroes	88
<u>Wynton Marsalis</u> – Classical and Jazz Trumpet Player, Composer, Director of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra	90
<u>Itzhak Perlman</u> – Gifted Violinist, Conductor and Teacher	91
<u>Martin Puryear</u> – Sculptor Beyond Borders	93
<u>Dal Richards</u> – Clarinetist, Saxophonist, Bandleader, Composer, Arranger, and Mentor	95
<u>Wayne Thiebaud</u> – Contemporary American Artist	97
<u>Michael Tilson Thomas</u> – Pianist, Conductor, and Composer	99
<u>André Watts</u> – Concert Pianist and Heroic Genius of Multiculturalism	101