

# Academy Inducts 229th Class of Members

## Celebrating the Arts and Sciences

On October 10, 2009, more than 500 Fellows, Foreign Honorary Members, and guests attended the Academy's 229th Induction Ceremony. The event honored the extraordinary achievements of the 230 new members – leaders in the mathematical, physical, and biological sciences; the humanities and the arts; business; public affairs; and the nonprofit sector.

The Induction Ceremony featured a reading from the letters of John and Abigail Adams by new members **James Earl Jones** (Emmy and Tony Award-winning actor and Kennedy Center Honoree) and **Emmylou Harris** (Grammy Award-winning Singer-Songwriter and Member of the Country Music Hall of Fame).

The Ceremony also included presentations by new Fellows, representing the five classes of Academy membership, who described the opportunities and challenges of their work and reflected on important issues facing our global society. **Terence Tao**, Professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles, discussed the future impact of Internet-based technologies on academia. **Elizabeth G. Nabel**, President of Brigham & Women's/Faulkner Hospitals and former Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, spoke about the benefits and promises of scientific and medical discovery to advance human health. **Ronald M. George**, Chief Justice of California, called for reform of the voter initiative process used in California. **Edward Villella**, Founding Artistic Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Miami City Ballet and former principal dancer for the New York City Ballet, described the transformative power of music, dance, and art. **Kent Kresa**, Chairman Emeritus of Northrop Grumman Corporation, considered



**New members Emmylou Harris and James Earl Jones reading from the letters of John and Abigail Adams**

the roles of robotic and human exploration activities in the country's future space program. (See pages 3 – 12 for the full text of the speakers' remarks.)

The Induction Ceremony was the centerpiece of three days of meetings and presentations that focused on the arts and the sciences. The events began on October 9 with a celebration of Academy writers. The meeting included readings by new Fellows **Jamaica Kincaid**, Josephine Olp Weeks Chair and Professor of Literature at Claremont McKenna College; **James Salter**, author of *A Sport and a Pastime*; *Light Years*; *Dusk and Other Stories*; *Burning the Days*; and *Last Night*; and **Gish Jen**, Professor and Codirector of the Creative Writing Program at Brandeis University; as well as by longtime member **Denis Donoghue**, University Professor and Henry James Professor of English and American Letters at New York University. They read prose and poetry by Elizabeth Bishop, Kenneth Koch, Mary Oliver, Robert Fitzgerald, Grace Paley, Seamus Heaney, and Anthony Hecht, many of whom are members of the Academy. The evening also featured Academy Fellow **Galway Kinnell**, former Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Creative Writing at New York University, reading from his own work, including "The Bear," "Oatmeal," and "It All Comes Back."

On October 10, leaders of Academy projects and studies briefed new members on the work of the Academy. The program included presentations on the Initiative for Science, Technology, and Engineering; The Global Nuclear Future; Reconsidering the Rules of Space; U.S. Policy Toward Russia; The Challenge of Mass Incarceration in America; The Independence of the Judiciary; Challenges to Business in the 21st Century: The Way Forward; the Initiative for Humanities and Culture; and Educating the World's Children. (See pages 36 – 52 for the full text of these presentations.)



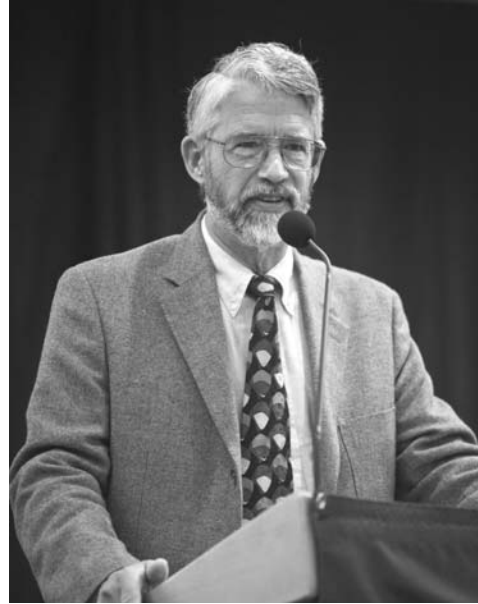
**Celebrating the Arts: An Evening with Academy Writers**

**Left to right: Denis Donoghue (New York University), James Salter (Bridgewater, New York), Galway Kinnell (New York University), Gish Jen (Brandeis University), and Jamaica Kincaid (Claremont McKenna College)**

## Celebrating the Arts and Sciences

The Induction weekend concluded with a keynote address on Science Policy and a panel discussion on the Future of Energy. John P. Holdren, Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President of the United States, delivered the Harvey Brooks Lecture on “Science and Technology Policy Challenges and Opportunities for the Obama Administration.” As John Holdren observed, “Economic recovery and growth and, more specifically, what science and technology can contribute in that domain” are near the top of the list of big challenges for the United States and the world. (See pages 13 – 18 for the full text of John Holdren’s presentation.)

Richard A. Meserve, President of the Carnegie Institution for Science and a member of the Academy’s Council and Trust, moderated a panel discussion on the Future of Energy. The program featured presentations by Steven E. Koonin, Under Secretary for Science at the United States Department of Energy, John W. Rowe, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Exelon Corporation, Paul L. Joskow, President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Elizabeth and James Killian Professor of Economics and Management at MIT (on leave), and John Doerr, Partner at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers. As Paul Joskow noted, “Until we bite the bullet and educate the public about the costs as well as the long-term benefits of controlling greenhouse gas emissions, we are going to have difficulty passing the legislation that will get us on a path toward a least-cost solution to these problems.” (See pages 19 – 29 for these presentations.)



**John P. Holdren**  
(Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President of the United States)

Commenting on the focus of this year’s Induction, Academy CEO Leslie Berlowitz remarked, “From our evening with writers to our symposium on science, energy, and the environment, the Induction weekend gave us an opportunity to celebrate the Academy’s mission and the accomplishments of its members. Their diversity reflects the range and vitality of the Academy.” ■



**Addressing Energy Challenges**  
Left to right: Richard A. Meserve (Carnegie Institution for Science), Steven E. Koonin (U.S. Department of Energy), John W. Rowe (Exelon Corporation), Paul L. Joskow (Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and MIT), and John Doerr (Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers)