



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Avellino CEO and President Jim Mazzo 2021 Recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor

MENLO PARK, Calif. – (Sept. 1, 2021) – Avellino Lab USA, Inc. (Avellino) is pleased to announce that Avellino CEO and President James “Jim” Mazzo is a 2021 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Presented by the Ellis Island Honors Society, the medal is one of the nation’s highest honors, and is presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the United States based on a number of criteria, including via an honoree’s profession, or via their civil, cultural, or other notable contributions.

“I am honored and humbled to be selected for an Ellis Island Medal of Honor,” says Jim Mazzo. “My family comes from Italy, and their strong work ethic and desire to help others deeply influenced me, and I thank them and the extraordinary colleagues and mentors I have had the pleasure to work with during my career for their unwavering support and making this special moment possible.”

The 2021 recipients will be honored on Ellis Island in a special ceremony in October.

Jim joins Avellino Founder and Chairman Gene Lee as an Ellis Island Medal of Honoree. A 2019 recipient, Gene was recognized for his pioneering work in gene therapy and molecular diagnostics. Past medal recipients include U.S. presidents, world and business leaders, and Nobel Laureates.

Jim is one of the ophthalmic industry’s best known and most respected business leaders with more than 40 years of proven experience. Currently, he is CEO, President and a Board Member of Avellino; Neurotech’s Executive Chairman; and an advisor to both Bain and Carl Zeiss.

Beyond his vast experience in eye care, Jim’s other passion is philanthropy. He has served as Board Chairman for AdvaMed; currently sits on the University of California at Irvine foundation; is Vice Chair Trustee at Chapman University; and was the past trustee for the University of San Diego.

Jim also leads a number of foundations, including for the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Ophthalmology Foundation, American Glaucoma Society, is an Anaheim Ducks Foundation board member, and is an Officer in the Order of St. John. Jim is also on NASA's Mission to Mars committee.

His efforts have helped support both the educational and medical needs of thousands, positively impacting countless communities both in the US and internationally.

About Avellino

Avellino Lab USA, Inc. is a global leader in gene therapy and molecular diagnostics at the forefront of precision medicine for eye care. With a long-term mission to develop personalized approaches to improve health and disease management through genomics, the company is developing a transformative genetic diagnostics product pipeline, as well as genetic therapeutics leveraging CRISPR gene editing, to better manage, and potentially cure, inherited diseases. The company also developed the Avellino SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR diagnostic test to aid in COVID-19 pandemic testing efforts in the US. The third private company in the US to receive EUA for its COVID-19 test, Avellino has performed more than 2 million COVID-19 related tests. Avellino is headquartered in Silicon Valley, California, with operations in Korea, Japan, China and the UK.

To learn more about Avellino, visit www.avellino.com.

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