

Speech by
Professor Carlos Kenig

Your Majesty the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaz Al Saud, I'm honored and deeply grateful to be awarded the 2026 King Faisal Prize in Science on the topic of Mathematics. I also thank the Chairman of the Prize's Board, His Royal Highness Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, and the Selection Committee of the King Faisal Prize for having selected me for this sterling distinction.

I became interested in mathematics at the age of 12, when in my first year of high school in my native country Argentina, our math teacher taught us Euclidean geometry, and how to prove rigorously theorems about triangles. I was hooked from that time on! I then had the very good fortune to study at the University of Chicago, and to be a postdoc at Princeton University, under some of the most outstanding mathematicians of the 20th century. These experiences influenced the direction of my research, which turned to topics in mathematical analysis, and eventually mostly to the study of the partial differential equations that govern our physical world.

My style of work has always been collaborative, sharing the research enterprise with many outstanding collaborators, postdocs and students. I single out here Gustavo Ponce, Luis Vega, Thomas Duyckaerts and Frank Merle.

Personally, I have had the invaluable support of my parents, Natalio and Aida, and of my brother Jorge. My wife Sarah and our daughters Lucy and Anna's love and unconditional support have been indispensable for all aspects of my life.