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# 2025 ACS National Award winners: Part V

**Recipients are recognized for significant contributions to chemistry and the chemical community**

by [\*Nina Notman, special to C&EN\*](#)

January 9, 2025 | A version of this story appeared in [Volume 103, Issue 1](#)

**M. Frederick Hawthorne Award in Main Group Inorganic Chemistry: Gary J. Schrobilgen**



Credit: Courtesy of Cathie Coward

Gary J. Schrobilgen<sup>[P]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**Sponsor:** Endowed fund established by M. Frederick Hawthorne; Diane Hawthorne; the University of California, Los Angeles; and others

**Citation:** For advances in the synthetic chemistries of Group 13–18 elements that encompass strong oxidizers; hypervalent, high-oxidation-state species; and ring, cage, and cluster polyatomic anions

**Current position:** Professor emeritus of chemistry, McMaster University

**Education:** BS, chemistry, Loras College; MS, inorganic chemistry, Brock University; PhD, inorganic chemistry, McMaster University

**Schrobilgen on his scientific heroes:** “I have many colleagues whom I admire for their outstanding creativity and stimulating scientific exchanges. Among the earliest and most enduring interactions I have had were with Karl O. Christe at the University of Southern California and the late Neil Bartlett at University of California, Berkeley. I admire them both for their curiosity, scientific integrity, insights, and their passion for very challenging synthetic and structural inorganic fluorine chemistry that is meticulously thorough, fundamental, and significant.”

**What Schrobilgen’s colleagues say:** “Gary is internationally known for his many outstanding contributions to the experimentally challenging fields of inorganic main-group fluorine chemistry, main-group polyanion (Zintl anion) chemistry, and noble gas chemistry. In addition to doing very demanding and innovative synthetic work, he is a top-notch specialist in multinuclear nuclear magnetic resonance and Raman spectroscopies and X-ray crystallography.”—G. K. Surya Prakash, University of Southern California