

Ching Wan Tang

(b. July 23, 1947)

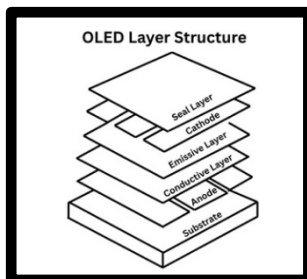
Physical Chemist

Chinese American

Place of Birth:

Hong Kong

Invention: Organic Light-Emitting Diode (OLED)



Maggie May E. Dea (SFSU 2024)

Ching Wan grew up weeding in a wet rice field with his bare hands and on bent knees. So, he made a handmade raking tool out of scrap wood and nails. Ching Wan went to Canada for his Bachelor of Science degree and then to the United States for his PhD at Cornell University. While working at Eastman Kodak, Ching Wan and Steven Van Slyke invented the Organic Light-Emitting Diode (OLED) that provides increased power efficiency and longer battery life. Ching Wan has received numerous awards, like the 2011 Wolf Prize in Chemistry. He was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2018.