AIAA AWARDS GALA
Celebrating Our Stars

18 May 2023
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Washington, DC
Welcome to the 2023 AIAA Awards Gala—celebrating our stars!

As members of the aerospace community, we find inspiration simply by looking skyward. Our careers have focused our gaze on air and space, through which we see the “stars” who we celebrate tonight. They have channeled their knowledge, curiosity, and ingenuity into their life’s work to advance the fields of aeronautics and astronautics, resulting in notable achievements that we are here to honor. Congratulations to all our award recipients!

Chosen by their peers, tonight’s AIAA Honorary Fellows, AIAA Fellows, and AIAA Premier Award winners play pivotal roles in shaping the next phases of our three domains: aeronautics, aerospace R&D, and space. We celebrate these exceptional visionaries who have built upon the work of great thinkers and inventors of the past. Innovation based on foundational knowledge links our rich heritage to our promising future.

Tonight, we celebrate three educators who have gone above and beyond to inspire the next generation of explorers and innovators. In partnership with Challenger Center, we honor the accomplishments of these inspiring teachers, recognizing them with the Trailblazing STEM Educator Award, and investing in their continued creativity to engage students’ imaginations.

We are also inspired by the potential we see in four students who are receiving AIAA Kahn Scholarships tonight. These scholarships honor Roger W. Kahn’s legacy of aviation enthusiasm and accomplishment begun nearly 100 years ago. It will remain relevant in the next 100 years of aviation and aerospace innovation largely due to these incredible high school students. We can’t wait to see how they shape the future of aerospace!

Welcome to our venue tonight—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts—which stirs our memory and our creativity. We will share a unique experience here celebrating aerospace excellence in a place dedicated to arts excellence, both such meaningful aspects of President John F. Kennedy’s legacy.

We hope you enjoy the evening!

Laura J. McGill
AIAA President

Daniel L. Dumbacher
AIAA Executive Director
ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome Remarks
National Anthem
Class of 2023 Fellows Recognition
Class of 2023 Honorary Fellows Recognition
Presentation of Premier Awards
Presentation of Roger W. Kahn Scholarships
Presentation of Trailblazing STEM Educator Awards
Closing Remarks
Dessert Reception

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

LOCKHEED MARTIN  BOEING
CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CLASS OF 2023 AIAA FELLOWS AND HONORARY FELLOWS!

R. STEVEN JUSTICE, P.E.

The Ginn Group, Inc. congratulates you on your conferment to AIAA Fellow and for your many achievements and contributions as leader and innovator in the aerospace engineering industry.
The title of a AIAA Fellow is granted to a person of distinction in aeronautics or astronautics, who shall have made notable and valuable contributions to the arts, sciences or technology.

**Behçet Açikmeşe**  
Professor of Aerospace Optimization and Control  
University of Washington  
For fundamental contributions to optimization-based guidance and control and its applications in planetary landing.

**Steven J. Beresh**  
Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff  
Sandia National Laboratories  
For outstanding and sustained contributions to high-speed wind tunnel experimentation using modern laser-based diagnostics for impact to national security applications and scientific advancements.

**Charles F. Bolden Jr.**  
Founder & CEO Emeritus  
The Charles F. Bolden Group  
For superlative service to the U.S. defense, aeronautics, and space exploration enterprises through personal dedication and lifelong passion, building a better future for everyone.

**Capt. Meredith B. Colket III**  
Senior Fellow  
Combustion Consulting Services, LLC / United Technologies Research Center (retired)  
For scientific and engineering contributions to augmentor flame stability, endothermic fuels for X-51 scramjet, low emission and fuel effects on combustor designs, and criteria for sustainable aircraft fuels.

**Christopher D'Souza**  
Deputy Branch Chief, EG6; Navigation Technical Discipline Lead  
NASA Johnson Space Center  
For seminal contributions to the theory and practice of autonomous guidance, navigation, and control of space vehicles.

**Daniel DeLaurentis**  
Professor  
Purdue University  
For advancing modeling and simulation techniques and design methods for complex aerospace vehicles and system of systems.

**Helmut Ciezki**  
Coordinator Advanced Propellants and Propulsion Systems  
DLR - German Aerospace Center  
For notable contributions to the advancement of propulsion systems especially those using green liquid, gelled, solid, and hybrid propellants, and of ramjet and scramjet propulsion systems.

**Ismet Gursul**  
Professor of Aerospace Engineering  
University of Bath  
For outstanding technical contributions in vortex-dominated flows and unsteady aerodynamics, and sustained editorial contributions to the science of aeronautics.
LOCKHEED MARTIN CELEBRATES
the distinguished 2023 Class of AIAA Honorary Fellows, Fellows and Premier Awardees.

We are proud to support AIAA and our employee members as they shape the future of aerospace. Special congratulations to our new Fellows and Engineer of the Year!

AIAA Fellow
Rodney Makoske
Chief Engineer and Senior Vice President, Engineering & Technology
Lockheed Martin

AIAA Fellow
Lawrence Stephens
Director, Engineering Transformation
Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control

AIAA Engineer of the Year
Alison Nordt
Director, Space Science & Instrumentation
Lockheed Martin Space
Kauser S. Imtiaz  
Technical Fellow, Structures  
NASA (retired)  
For distinguished contributions to aviation and space operations, advancement of structures discipline, and inspirational leadership in engineering, safety, and knowledge transfer.

R. Steven Justice  
Chief Innovation Officer  
The Ginn Group  
For technical contributions advancing integrated analytical techniques, leadership supporting and growing the aerospace industry, and a lifetime of service to the community.

Raymond M. Kolonay  
Director, Multidisciplinary Science and Technology Center  
Air Force Research Laboratory  
For visionary leadership and scientific and engineering contributions to the field of multidisciplinary analysis and design optimization for aerospace vehicles.

Rodney Makoske  
Chief Engineer and Senior Vice President, Engineering & Technology  
Lockheed Martin  
For a unique impact on the profession of engineering, delivering technical program excellence and leading a diverse, highly-skilled workforce.

Jill Marlowe  
Digital Transformation Officer  
NASA  
For exceptional, relentless leadership in transforming aerospace capabilities through advanced digital tools, emerging technologies, and modern methods that enable future aerospace solutions.

Pamela Melroy  
Deputy Administrator  
NASA  
For extraordinary contributions to the aerospace profession in the United States and internationally through military and civilian service, spaceflight, engineering, and research excellence.

David G. Mitchell  
President  
Mitchell Aerospace Research  
For industry-defining research and globally recognized leadership in flying qualities, handling qualities, and PIO evaluation in both fixed-wing and rotary-wing vehicles.

Eugene A. Morelli  
Research Engineer  
NASA Langley Research Center  
For technical leadership and innovative contributions in the field of aircraft system identification, with applications to flight testing, flight mechanics, simulation, and flight control systems.

Scott E. Palo  
Schelke Endowed Professor  
University of Colorado Boulder  
For pioneering leadership in the conception, design, implementation, and operation of small satellites for scientific applications, and the development of educational programs in small satellites.

Surendra Sharma  
Senior Space Technology Advisor  
NASA Ames Research Center  
For extremely valuable contributions and leadership in chemical non-equilibrium and radiative heat transfer related to reentry vehicles and other space exploration enabling technologies.
Aerojet Rocketdyne Congratulates Jim Maser on his selection as an AIAA Honorary Fellow and the other members of the AIAA 2023 Fellows and Honorary Fellows class.

Jim Maser
Aerojet Rocketdyne Senior Vice President, Space Business Unit
Robert T.-I. Shin  
Principal Staff  
MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
For technical accomplishments in the development of advanced air vehicle systems and initiating extensive hands-on project-based STEM outreach efforts.

Rickey J. Shyne  
Director, Research & Engineering Directorate  
NASA Glenn Research Center  
For outstanding personal contributions to and exemplary leadership of research and development activities in NASA’s aeronautics research and space exploration programs.

Leena Singh  
Senior Technical Staff  
MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
For developing robust, optimal guidance and control algorithms, including novel attitude determination and control methods, across a range of spacecraft, aircraft, and hypersonic reentry platforms.

Michael Sinnett  
Vice President & General Manager, Product Development  
Boeing Commercial Airplanes  
For leadership in commercial aircraft and aircraft systems development, creating improvements in performance and cost.

Lawrence W. Stephens  
Research Engineering Director  
Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control  
For exceptional technical leadership in missile systems engineering and flight technologies that has advanced the performance and capability of leading-edge missiles and fire control systems.

Mitchell L.R. Walker II  
Professor  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
For outstanding leadership and advancement of high power electric propulsion research, testing, and future workforce development.

Brian L. Wardle  
Professor  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
For contributions in both the science and engineering of nanostructured and nanoengineered composite materials and devices for aerospace applications, and the education of future aerospace leaders.

Michael E. White  
Principal Director, Hypersonics  
Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering  
For sustained technical excellence and national leadership in the field of hypersonics for both offensive and defensive weapon systems.

Michael Winter  
Principal Fellow, Advanced Technology  
Pratt & Whitney  
For advancing our knowledge of aerospace combustion processes and bringing model-based control to a variety of aerospace systems.

Thomas H. Zurbuchen  
Associate Administrator, Science Mission Directorate  
NASA (retired)  
For exceptional leadership and innovative mission management, and for successfully planning and executing the NASA Science mission portfolio leading to unprecedented science.

Congratulations
The title of Honorary Fellow, the highest distinction conferred by AIAA, is granted to preeminent individuals who have long and highly contributory careers in aerospace, and who embody the highest possible standards in aeronautics and astronautics.

Mark Drela
Terry J. Kohler Professor
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
For unique, sustained contributions to a broad range of pathbreaking aircraft designs and for development of widely used aircraft design software.

James G. Maser
Senior Vice President, Space
Aerojet Rocketdyne
For exceptional, visionary leadership and innovation in the design, development, and operation of propulsion and space launch systems for the U.S. and international markets.

William A. Sirignano
Distinguished Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
University of California, Irvine
For pioneering research in combustion dynamics, atomization and spray, and innovative concepts for propulsion and power, as well as outstanding educational leadership and professional service.

Congratulations
Alison A. Nordt
Director, Space Science & Instrumentation
Lockheed Martin Advanced Technology Center

For exceptional engineering and technical leadership in the development of the Near Infrared Camera critical to the success of the James Webb Space Telescope.

Alison Nordt is the director for Space Science and Instrumentation at Lockheed Martin’s Advanced Technology Center. She is responsible for developing and operating missions that provide observational data to advance space science knowledge. Her work involves maturing technology to support current and future space-based telescopes and instruments. She is currently the principal investigator for TechMAST (Technology Maturation for Astrophysics Space Telescopes) and related internal research and development efforts.

Previously, Nordt was the senior manager for Astrophysics and held several roles on the NIRCam program, including program manager, Integrated Product Team Lead and Certified Principal Engineer. She was responsible for the design, development, testing, and delivery of the NIRCam instrument including optics, structures, mechanisms, electronics, and software. She also held responsibility for programmatic performance including cost and schedule execution and post-delivery support.

Nordt has an extensive engineering background in structures, opto-mechanical systems, and instrument development including design, analysis and hands-on hardware experience through integration and test. Nordt holds Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University and a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University. She is an AIAA Associate Fellow and serves on the Board of the Planetary Science Institute.

For a full list of recipients:
aiaa.org/engineer-of-the-year-award
Congratulations

Phillip J. Ansell
Associate Professor
Dept. of Aerospace Engineering
Director of the Center for Sustainable Aviation

2023 Recipient of the AIAA Lawrence Sperry Award
AIAA Lawrence Sperry Award

The Lawrence Sperry Award is presented for a notable contribution made by a young person, age 35 or under, to the advancement of aeronautics or astronautics. This award honors Lawrence B. Sperry, pioneer aviator and inventor, who died in 1923 in a forced landing while attempting a flight across the English Channel.

Congratulations

Phillip J. Ansell
Associate Professor
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

For outstanding contributions to electrified aircraft technologies and pioneering work toward sustainable aviation.

Phillip J. Ansell is an Associate Professor and Allen Ormsbee Faculty Scholar in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Illinois. He is the Director of the Center for Sustainable Aviation (CSA) and the Director of the Center for High-Efficiency Electrical Technologies for Aircraft (CHEETA). He is also the current Chair of the AIAA Electrified Aircraft Technology Technical Committee.

Prof. Ansell earned his Ph.D. (2013) and M.S. (2010) in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his B.S. (2008) in Aerospace Engineering from Penn State University. He is the principal investigator of a NASA University Leadership Initiative multi-disciplinary program focused on developing advanced technologies for zero-emissions aircraft. His primary areas of work include subsonic and transonic aerodynamics, sustainable aviation, aero-propulsive integration, and air-vehicle design.

In recognition for his efforts he has been granted Young Investigator Awards from ARO and AFOSR and was included on the list of Forbes 30 Under 30 under the Science category. He has also received several distinctions from his resident institution, including the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research and the College of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award.

Past Award Recipients: AIAA Lawrence Sperry Award

1990  Ilan M. Kroo
1991  Mark Drela
1992  John T. Batina
1993  Tim Barth
1994  William K. Anderson
1995  William P. Schonberg
1996  Penina Axelrad
1997  John Kallinderis
1998  Iain D. Boyd
1999  Robert D. Braun
2000  Anna-Maria R. McGowan
2001  Keith A. Comeaux
2002  Edward C. Smith
2003  Myles L. Baker
2004  Jeffrey D. Jordan
2005  Tim C. Lieuwen
2006  Lynn Nicole Smith
2007  Amy Pritchett
2008  Ryan P. Starkey
2009  Adam Rasheed
2010  Mitchell L. Walker, II
2011  M. Brett McMickell
2012  Hamsa Balakrishnan
2013  Eric J Ruggiero
2014  Kimberley C. Clayfield
2015  Jeremy T. Pinier
2016  Joshua Rovey
2017  Karen T. Berger
2018  Michael D. West
2019  Katya M. Casper
2020  Patrick Neumann
2021  Benjamin Jorns
2022  Michael P. Snyder

For a full list of recipients: aiaa.org/lawrence-sperry-award
Bringing the universe into focus.
That’s Defining Possible.

NGC.com
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AIAA Public Service Award

The highest recognition AIAA bestows to a person outside the aerospace community who has shown consistent and visible support for national aviation and space goals.

Congratulations

Bill Nye
Chief Executive Officer
The Planetary Society

For demonstrating sustained and visible support for aviation and space goals through popular media outreach.

Bill Nye is The Planetary Society’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He has served as CEO since 2010, providing vision and guidance, leading key organizational decision making, and serving as the public face of the society.

He is best known as the host of the PBS children’s science show *Bill Nye the Science Guy*, and for his many subsequent appearances in popular media as a science educator and advocate.

Nye joined The Planetary Society as a charter member when the organization was founded in 1980 and deepened his involvement over time. He joined the Board of Directors in 2005, taking on the role of President of the Board, and was elected to the position of CEO in 2010.

After earning a degree in mechanical engineering at Cornell University, Nye spent more than 20 years working as an engineer for the Boeing Corporation, Sundstrand Data Control (now Honeywell), and other engineering firms in the Seattle area. Drawing on his strengths in science and comedy, Nye went on to create, write, produce, and host the Emmy award-winning television show *Bill Nye the Science Guy* between 1993 and 1998. He continued his work in television with *The Eyes of Nye* in 2005 and *Bill Nye Saves The World* in 2017 and 2018. A documentary film about his life’s work, *Bill Nye: Science Guy*, was released in 2017.

Nye has authored several books, including the New York Times bestseller *Undeniable, Unstoppable, and Everything All at Once*. He regularly appears on television, sharing his views on the importance of science and space exploration, and inspiring people of all ages to change the world for the better.

Past Award Recipients: AIAA Public Service Award

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>V. June Scobee</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Walter Cronkite</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>Douglas S. Morrow</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Senator E. J. (Jake) Garn</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Hugh Downs</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>The Honorable Gerald L. Baliles</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Congressman George E. Brown</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Michael DeBakey</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Senator Barbara A. Mikulski</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>John Holliman</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>William Perry</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Congressman James Sensenbrenner</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Congressman Curt Weldon</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Ellene Galloway</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Robert Walker</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Congressman David L. Hobson</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Amanda Wright-Lane</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Duncan Copp</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Miles O’Brien</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Richard John</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Neil deGrasse Tyson</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Kathie L. Olsen</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Congressman Ralph M. Hall</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>The Honorable Kay Ivey</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>George C. Nield</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Pamela A. Melroy</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Steve T. Knight</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>Marcia S. Smith</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>HON Lori B. Garver</td>
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</tbody>
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For a full list of recipients: aiaa.org/public-service-award
Congratulations, 2023 AIAA honorees

Michael Sinnett
Boeing Commercial Airplanes
2023 AIAA Fellow

David R. Riley
Boeing Research & Technology (retired)
2023 AIAA Distinguished Service Award

People are at the heart of our work. Boeing congratulates this year’s AIAA Fellows, Honorary Fellows and Premier Award Winners.
AIAA Distinguished Service Award

AIAA recognizes an individual member who has provided distinguished service to the Institute over a period of years.

David R. Riley
Platform Subsystems Technology Team Lead
Boeing Research & Technology (retired)

In recognition of over four decades of dedicated leadership and service to AIAA at the section, region, national, and international levels.

David Riley has served the Institute in many capacities from his student section and local St. Louis Section to the Board of Directors, and he’s made many contributions that have had a lasting impact on the Institute.

He served as a member, secretary, and chair of the Atmospheric Flight Mechanics Technical Committee (TC) and chaired the 1993 Atmospheric Flight Mechanics Conference.

Riley served on the AIAA Board of Directors as a Director-at-Large, Engineering and Technology Management Group Director, Aerospace Sciences Group Director, and Vice-President of Technical Activities. In parallel with his many years of service on the AIAA Board of Directors, Riley served recurrently on the Audit Committee, Ethics Committee, Finance Committee, Institute Development Committee, and new Initiatives Subcommittee.

He served his local St. Louis Section as a member of the section’s Advisory Council and has served recurrently as a judge at the AIAA Region III (Central) Student Paper Conference.

Riley has worked on high technology aerospace products for 40+ years while working for McDonnell Douglas and The Boeing Company. He made significant contributions to products that range from front-line fighter aircraft to transport aircraft, classified programs, and from VSTOL aircraft to winged spacecraft.

For a full list of recipients:
aiaa.org/distinguishedserviceaward
CONGRATULATES

DR. JOHN LANGFORD

2023 REED AERONAUTICS AWARD WINNER & LIFELONG ROCKETEER
AIAA International Cooperation Award

AIAA recognizes an individual or individuals who have made significant contributions to the initiation, organization, implementation and/or management of activities with significant United States involvement that includes extensive international cooperative activities in space, aeronautics, or both.

Congratulations

Vincent A. Orlando
Senior Staff
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

For over 40 years of sustained technical innovation, standards development, and international harmonization of aviation surveillance system technology.

Vincent A. Orlando graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1957 with a degree in electrical engineering, before going to work as an electrical engineer for General Electric on the Atlas Missile Guidance System and for Stanford Research on Military Command and Control Systems.

In 1959, Orlando entered Stanford University in an Operations Research Program and received a Master of Science in Statistics. He later received a Ph.D. in Systems and Information Science from Syracuse University and joined MIT Lincoln Laboratory in 1972.

Orlando was responsible for the software development of the Modes S Surveillance System, the application of Mode S technology to the TCAS Collision Avoidance System, and the development of the Extended Squitter ADS-B system.

Before any avionics system can be implemented, it must be standardized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). For forty years he chaired an ICAO subgroup that was responsible for the continued development of the standards for Mode S and Extended Squitter. The success of this activity led to the worldwide implementation of Mode S and the initial implementation of Extended Squitter in many states.

For a full list of recipients:
aiaa.org/international-cooperation-award

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS: AAIA International Cooperation Award

1997 John H. McElroy
1998 Lynn F. H. Cline
1999 Ian Pryke
2000 Mireille Gerard
    Richard H. Petersen
2001 George T. Schmidt
2002 Richard Kline
2003 D. Brent Smith
2004 Margaret Finarelli
2005 Not presented
2006 William Gerstenmaier
2007 Graham Gibbs
2008 Peter M. Bainum
2009 John E. Lamar
    Dietrich J. Hummel
2010 Kenneth D. Hummel
2011 Not presented
2012 Jean-Michel Contant
2013 Scott Pace
2014 John E. LaGraff
2015 Andreas Schuette
    Russell M. Cummings
2016 Simonetta Di Pippo
2017 Melissa B. Rivers
    John C. Vassberg
    Richard A. Wahls
2020 Jaiwon Shin
    Joachim Szodruch
2021 Michael A. Gross
    Frank Flechtner
    Michael Watkins
    Albert Zaglauer
2022 Dominique Collin
Electra.Aero is proud to salute

John Langford
2023 Reed Aeronautics Award Winner

Mark Drela
2023 Honorary Fellow

And their
45 Years
of Aeronautical Collaboration
AIAA Reed Aeronautics Award

The highest honor AIAA bestows for notable achievement in the field of aeronautics. The award is named after Dr. Sylvanus A. Reed, the aeronautical engineer, designer, and founding member of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences in 1932. Reed was the first to develop a propeller system composed of metal rather than wood. His aluminum alloy propeller gave Jimmy Doolittle’s plane the speed it needed to win the 1925 Schneider Cup race and brought the inventor much credit and many rewards.

Congratulations

John S. Langford III
Founder & CEO
Electra.Aero

For exemplary achievement as an outstanding aeronautical engineer, visionary leadership in the development of autonomous flight, and relentless advocacy of the future aerospace workforce.

John S. Langford is the CEO of Electra.aero, which he founded in 2020 to develop sustainable aviation solutions for regional mobility. In 1989 he founded Aurora Flight Sciences, which he led until 2019. Aurora was acquired by Boeing in 2017.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Langford earned his bachelors, masters, and doctorate degrees from MIT. While at MIT, Langford organized and led the Daedalus Project, which in 1988 shattered the world distance and endurance records for human-powered flight with a 72-mile flight between the Greek islands of Crete and Santorini.

Prior to starting Aurora, Langford worked for Lockheed Corporation, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA).

Langford was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2018. He is an AIAA Fellow and served as AIAA President from 2018 to 2020. He has worked on over 100 new aircraft development programs, many of which he organized and led.

Langford is a lifelong aeromodeller and a passionate STEM education advocate. He and his family own Estes Industries, the world’s leading manufacturer of model rockets and model rocket engines.

Past Award Recipients: AIAA Reed Aeronautics Award

1987 R. Richard Heppe
1988 Brian H. Rowe
1989 Jon Patierno
1990 Bernard L. Koff
1991 Richard H. Petersen
1992 James N. Krebs
1993 Charles A. Zraket
1994 Ben R. Rich
1995 Wolfgang Herbst
1996 Alan Mulally
1997 George G. Field
1998 Roy V. Harris Jr.
2000 Sheila E. Widnall
2001 Elbert L. Rutan
2002 Robert A. K. Mitchell
2003 Dain Hancock
2004 Heinz Erzberger
2005 Ralph Heath
2006 Holt Ashley
2007 Meyer (Mike) Benzakein
2008 Alain Garcia
2009 Anatol Roshko
2010 Eugene Covert
2011 David A. Peters
2012 Preston Henne
2013 Paul Kaminiski
2014 Ben T. Zinn
2015 Ramesh K. Agarwal
2016 Earl Dowell
2017 Edward M. Greitzer
2018 Mark Drela
2019 Philippe R. Spalart
2020 Alan C. Brown
2021 Michimasa Fujino
2022 Peretz P. Friedmann

For a full list of recipients: aiaa.org/reed-aeronautics-award

2023 AIAA AWARDS GALA | 21
AIAA Goddard Astronautics Award

The highest honor AIAA bestows for notable achievement in the field of astronautics. It was endowed by Mrs. Goddard in the 1940s as the ARS Goddard Memorial Award to commemorate her husband, Robert H. Goddard—rocket visionary, pioneer, bold experimentalist, and superb engineer whose early liquid rocket engine launches set the stage for the development of astronautics.

NASA GODDARD-NORTHROP GRUMMAN TEAM
JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE

For delivering groundbreaking engineering performance for the James Webb Space Telescope, to advance the study of every phase of cosmic history.

Charles Atkinson

Director and James Webb Space Telescope Chief Engineer
Northrop Grumman

Charlie Atkinson has 37 years of technical and program management experience in civil space, defense, and aerospace industry development programs. Since March 2019, Atkinson has been the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) Chief Engineer, responsible for the technical success of the mission.

Prior to becoming JWST Chief Engineer, Atkinson was the Northrop Grumman Deputy Telescope Manager for JWST since program inception, managing the technology development, design, assembly, and test of the first large aperture, deployable, segmented telescope to be put in space.

Before JWST, Atkinson was responsible for the integration and alignment of the grazing incidence cylindrical mirrors on the Chandra X-Ray Telescope and other spaceborne optical systems.

Atkinson received his B.S. in Physics, Math, and Geophysics from Washington and Lee University in Virginia. He has twice been awarded an Engineers’ Council Distinguished Engineering Achievement Award, as well as the Robert H. Goddard Exceptional Achievement Award in Engineering, the NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal, and the NASA Distinguished Public Service Award. He also has been awarded five Northrop Grumman Chairman’s Awards, the Aviation Week Program Excellence Award, and he holds a patent for a telescope design using a discontinuous pupil corrector.

Lee D. Feinberg

James Webb Space Telescope Optical Telescope Element Manager
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Lee Feinberg has been the Optical Telescope Element (OTE) Manager and optics lead for the James Webb Space Telescope at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, since 2002. Earlier in his career, Feinberg was the Assistant Chief for Technology in the Instrument Systems and Technology Division at Goddard. Prior to that, Feinberg held several roles as part of the optical team that repaired the Hubble Space Telescope on Serving Mission-1. He was the Space Telescope Imaging Spectroscope Instrument Manager on Servicing Mission-2 and he co-led the concept study for Hubble Wide Field Camera-3. Feinberg was a member of the Science and Technology Definition teams that led to the recently started Habitable Worlds Observatory and he is a member of the Roman Space Telescope Standing Review Board. His research focuses on large and ultra-stable telescopes.

Feinberg is a Fellow of the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) and a NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Senior Fellow. He has received numerous NASA awards including the 2022 NASA Distinguished Service Medal and the Goddard Moe Schneebaum Memorial Award. Feinberg has a B.S. in Optics from University of Rochester and a M.S. in Applied Physics from Johns Hopkins University.
Jennifer Love-Pruitt
Northrop Grumman Fellow, Space Vehicle System Engineering
Northrop Grumman
Jennifer Love-Pruitt is a Technical Fellow in the Strategic Space Systems Division of Northrop Grumman Space Systems.

As a Northrop Grumman Fellow Love-Pruitt is recognized as a Space Vehicle System Engineering leader leveraging her technical knowledge to solve complex challenges across a range of the company’s programs.

Love-Pruitt dedicated a significant portion of the past decade to providing technical leadership to the System Engineering and Electrical Vehicle Engineering teams on the James Webb Space Telescope, the largest, most complex, and powerful space telescope ever launched. In this role she led the Webb teams responsible for all major electrical spacecraft systems. Love-Pruitt served in positions of increasing responsibility across her 40-year career with Northrop Grumman and legacy TRW. She has been the System Engineering lead on a range of restricted programs meeting extremely challenging mission objectives. Love-Pruitt was also the associate Principal Investigator on a research effort contributing to the development of an avionics product line. She has enjoyed tackling a wide range of spacecraft technical challenges, from design and test, to system architecture definition, to launch and operations support.

Love-Pruitt received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Valparaiso University and M.S in Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern California.

Michael T. Menzel
NASA JWST Mission Systems Engineer
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Michael Menzel has worked for 41 years in aerospace, 23 years in industry, and 18 years for NASA. He is currently the NASA Mission Systems Engineer (MSE) for the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).

Menzel received a B.S. in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1981 and an M.S. in Physics from Columbia University in 1986. He began his career in 1981 with the RCA Astro Space Division as an antenna engineer, designing flight antennas for commercial and DOD communications and remote sensing satellites. In 1990 he took a position in the Systems Engineering Group of the General Electric Astro Space designing space systems. In 1995 he took a position as Director of Systems Engineering in the Orbital Sciences Corporation, and in 1997 he took a position as the Deputy Program Manager for the Hubble Space Telescope Servicing Group at Lockheed Martin. In 1998 he began working on Pre-Phase A studies for the Next Generation Space Telescope, and in 2004 he became the NASA MSE for JWST.

Menzel has been the recipient of several awards including the NASA Distinguished Service Medal in 2022, and the Norman L. Baker Astronautics Engineer Award in 2023.
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