AIAA Diversity and Inclusion Award

The inaugural award is scheduled to be presented during SciTech 2017. Nomination Deadline is September 1, 2016.

Scope
This award recognizes an individual or group within AIAA who has made significant contributions to the advancement of diversity and inclusion in the Institute.

Purpose
The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or groups within the AIAA who have made substantial contributions to the Institute’s diversity and inclusion. In doing so this award also seeks to raise awareness on the value of a diverse membership and inclusive environment, and of important and challenging issues pertaining to diversity and inclusion in the aerospace workforce at large. This award also seeks to bring champions of diversity and inclusion at AIAA to the attention of its members as inspirational figures and enablers of opportunities for successful careers in aerospace. Lastly, this award seeks to inspire other members to engage in activities that will promote the Institute’s diversity and inclusion.

Definitions
Diversity – Outreach and recruitment of individuals with different life experiences, working styles, cultures, personality types and other differences (such as but not limited to gender, race, country of origin, ability, the quality or state of having many different forms, types, ideas, etc.) which fosters a creative and innovative organization community

Inclusion – Active, intentional and ongoing engagement of diverse individuals to create a welcoming and supportive environment where individuals and organizations thrive and are rewarded with mutually beneficial relationships.

Eligibility Criteria
For the nomination of individuals, nominees must be AIAA members in good standing. For the nomination of groups, nominated groups must exist at the time of the nomination, an individual must be designated as the group’s representative in the nomination, and the representative must be an AIAA member in good standing. Nominees may not be current members of the AIAA Diversity Working Group, or have been members of it within the three years preceding the nomination submission deadline.

Nominees/awardees may not receive more than one AIAA award for the same accomplishment.

All nominees must be living at the time of the nomination deadline. Posthumous awards will only be made if the selectee dies after AIAA headquarters formally notified the person of their selection for the award but prior to presentation of the award. If a nominee dies during any carryover period, the nomination will be withdrawn and AIAA will notify the nominator. If a nominee dies while the selection process is ongoing, the nomination will be withdrawn and will not be considered.

Nominations
The standard Award Nomination Form will be used. A minimum of three complete nominations are required in any cycle for the award to be given. All complete nomination packages must be submitted to the AIAA HAC by the nomination deadline.
Nominators shall be AIAA members in good standing. A member of the Diversity Working Group may be a nominator. The nominator may not also serve as a reference.

A complete nomination package consists of a signed award nomination form, a one page description of the nominee’s accomplishments and contributions to AIAA’s diversity and inclusion as the basis for the award, a one-page resume of the person or one-page summary of the group nominated, and three signed one-page supporting letters from AIAA members in good standing. One page documenting public contributions (such as publications, patents, major addresses, etc.) may be submitted if related to the accomplishments or contribution.

Should a nominee not be selected in the initial year of submission, the nomination will be carried over and considered active for a period of three calendar years from the date of initial consideration, or for two award cycles, whichever is greater. Thus a nomination will be considered a total of three times for annual awards, and twice for other than annual awards; the award need not be made to count as an award cycle.

For AIAA’s overall award guidelines go to http://www.aiaa.org/Secondary.aspx?id=2915
Updated materials to enhance the original nomination are highly encouraged and may be submitted if such materials are received at AIAA prior to or on the next appropriate nomination deadline and comply with the page limits.

If the nominee is not selected during this period, the nomination will expire and a new nomination package, or a one paged signed re-nomination letter from the nominator authorizing use of the existing package, must be submitted in order to consider the nominee further. In all cases, AIAA Honors and Awards will notify the nominator as to the status of the nomination.

**Evaluation and Selection Criteria**
Nominees will be judged on continued and significant contributions to the advancement of diversity and inclusion in the AIAA, as demonstrated by:
- Specific efforts to raise awareness on the importance and value of a diverse and inclusive membership, and more broadly an aerospace workforce
- Specific efforts, with tangible positive results, for the improvement of diversity and inclusion at the AIAA
- Acknowledged strong mentoring, inspirational, and positive influence on other AIAA members who identify as an underrepresented minority, and/or their allies, towards their engagement and participation as active AIAA members, and the realization of a fulfilling professional career in aerospace.

Download Nomination form - [http://www.aiaa.org/OpenNominations/](http://www.aiaa.org/OpenNominations/)