



National Space Club & Foundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL SPACE CLUB & FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2018 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Washington, DC - The National Space Club & Foundation is pleased to announce its Annual Award Recipients. The Awards are selected by panels of experts from across the aerospace and defense industry, government and academia, and are a testament to the inspiring work of individuals across the United States. The Awards will be presented at the 61st Annual Robert H. Goddard Memorial Dinner, taking place at the Washington Hilton Hotel on Friday, March 16, 2018.

Recipients are:

General John E. Hyten will receive the Club's preeminent award, the **Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy**. General Hyten is honored for his distinguished military career and his ongoing efforts dedicated to the National Security Space Enterprise. The vision and guidance of General Hyten have made an enduring contribution to national security space leadership and the integration of space into all aspects of our warfighting capability. The general has been involved in the acquisition, development, requirements generation of space systems, and the operation and application of space power for the past three decades. General Hyten has followed in the footsteps of trailblazing space leaders like General Bernard Schriever and General Thomas Moorman in his dedication to the active development of the next generation of national security space leaders.

Samantha O'Sullivan, a senior at School Without Walls Senior High School in Washington, D.C. is the recipient of our nation-wide search for the **Goddard Memorial Dinner Keynote Scholarship**. Ms. O'Sullivan was chosen from over hundreds of students that submitted applications. Ms. O'Sullivan's passion for space education and volunteer work with underserved minority students through STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) outreach set her apart from the competition. Her impressive list of honors and accomplishments include working as a research intern and educator at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, being named a National Merit Commended Scholar, and serving as Class President from 2015 to 2017. Ms. O'Sullivan hopes to apply her commendable skills to conducting astrophysics research as an undergraduate this upcoming fall and eventually fulfill her dream of becoming an astronaut working on the International Space Station.

The **Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) System** will receive the **Nelson P. Jackson Award**. The U.S. Military and Industry Team has conducted a missile defense test aimed to protect the nation from a targeted attack. The test, which took place on May 20th, 2017, at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, was deemed successful by U.S. officials after an upgraded long-range interceptor missile directly collided with its target - a mock intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). The United States' Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system "is vitally important to the defense of our homeland." The successful test "demonstrates that we have a capable, credible deterrent against a very real threat," and it also marks the nation's first live-fire test against a simulated ICBM. In the past, intercepting an ICBM has proven incredibly difficult-akin to hitting one bullet with another at an exceptional distance, officials say. The successful test has enabled the Missile Defense Agency to aggressively move forward on updating the GMD system including the Redesigned Kill Vehicle and more Ground Based Interceptors placed in Alaska. Considering the current threat, this success is critical to the defense of the United States.

Dr. Scott D. Rudlosky, Physical Scientist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/NESDIS and University of Maryland/ESSIC, will receive the **NOAA David Johnson Award** for his innovative contributions to the exploitation of lightning measurements during the preparation for and during the post launch check out of the GOES-16 Geostationary Lightning Mapper, including the development of visualizations and new applications of ground lightning measurements for operational weather forecasters, paving the way for the transition of these highly valuable applications from GOES-16 into the forecaster operational environment.

Lieutenant Colonel Laura Robinson, Chief of Space Force Structure Plans for the Space Superiority Division, Headquarters United States Air Force, is the winner of the **General Bernard Schriever Award**. Lt Col Robinson leads budgetary planning and programming for the \$12+B annual Space Superiority portfolio as well as the Air force's \$360B long-range plan for space. Also in 2017, she served as Commander for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Launch Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB) and the Deputy Program Manager for a \$355M bi-coastal payload launch site support contract, where she led a diverse 450-member team in satellite transportation, integration and processing for launch. Lt Col Robinson's space and program management expertise paid huge dividends in formulating the Secretary of the Air Force's FY 2020 Planning Choices for Space Superiority. She championed an aggressive effort to reverse a decline across the planning horizon. Her advocacy resulted in \$60B increase across the Air Force's 30-year plan for advancements to resilient space systems, continuing the development and deployment of the Commander of Air Force Space Command's Space Warfighting Construct.

Earl H. Maize, Cassini Project Manager, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will receive the **Astronautics Engineer Award** for his leadership of the NASA-JPL Cassini mission and for his critical role in guiding the Cassini mission through its tour of the Saturnian system. Launched in 1997, the Cassini spacecraft toured the Saturn system since its arrival in 2004 for its up-close study of the planet, its rings and moons. During its journey, Cassini made numerous dramatic discoveries, including a global ocean within Enceladus and liquid methane seas on Titan. The Cassini mission recently completed its 20-year investigation of Saturn with a fiery entry into Saturn's atmosphere on September 15, 2017. The Cassini mission has established itself as one of the world's most successful and productive planetary missions.

Jeff Foust, Senior Staff Writer, Space News, will receive the **Press Award** in recognition of nearly two decades of being at the forefront of reporting about all aspects of space activity – particularly

policy and budget issues, and the rise of commercial space activity. His coverage spans a wide range of important developments that touch everyone interested in space. His reporting is based on a dedication to knowing his subjects and subject matter as thoroughly as possible. Mr. Foust founded spacetoday.net in 2001 and followed that success by starting The Space Review in 2003. He continues to publish both publications in association with Space News.

Dr. Shiaonung D. Kuo, Director, Geospatial Intelligence Futures Study Group, National Reconnaissance Office, will receive the **Dr. Joseph V. Charyk Award**. Dr. Kuo was chosen as the deputy lead for the "mother-of-all" Analysis of Alternatives, with the goal of identifying the next-generation Electro-Optical architecture. He oversaw analyses of millions of architectures to meet the best value for the U.S. government, and saw his role grow from solely modeling to including evaluation of utility analysis, risk, and commercial imagery. He oversaw conceptual development of the next-generation Radar System enhancement, coordinating the concept across the executive and legislative branches, and taking the idea from initial concept to contract award in less than one year.

Mark Westlake, Director of the Saint Thomas Academy Innovation Center, will receive the **Space Educator Award**. Mr. Westlake is being recognized as an outstanding High School Teacher. His class was the only high school group to have an experiment in the NASA SOAR program. He was lead teacher in the NASA Microgravity for Educators program, and was the Air Force Association National Aerospace Educator of the Year in 2015. He is a Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam Master Teacher, and served as a one of two teachers chosen nationally as a panel member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences STEM initiative.

Tobias Hoffman Eegholm, Student, River Hill High School, Columbia, MD is the winner of the **Olin E. Teague Scholarship**. Mr. Eegholm is being recognized for his research centered on technology development for a space-based gravitational wave observatory, the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA), which will detect gravitational waves and study a rich array of sources, including binary supermassive black hole mergers. Low-noise operational amplifiers (op-amps) were modeled and tested as possible electronics in the photo receiver for the LISA mission.

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Individuals and organizations interested in attending the 61st Annual Robert H. Goddard Memorial Dinner on Friday, March 16, 2018 at the Washington Hilton, may find more information on our website www.spaceclub.org. For specific questions please contact the Space Club at info@spaceclub.org or by calling 202-547-0060.