



National Space Club & Foundation
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**NASA AND NORTHROP GRUMMAN INDUSTRY TEAM WIN Dr. ROBERT H.
GODDARD MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR THE JAMES WEBB SPACE
TELESCOPE**

WASHINGTON – Jan. 9, 2023 - The National Space Club and Foundation (NSCF) is pleased to announce the NASA James Webb Space Telescope and the Northrop Grumman industry team as the winners of the 2023 Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy for the groundbreaking achievement and success of the James Webb Space Telescope, the largest and most powerful space telescope.

The award is the National Space Club and Foundation's highest honor and presented annually to the individual or group who made a substantial contribution to U.S. leadership in astronautics or rocketry. The award will be presented at the 66th Annual Robert H. Goddard Memorial Dinner, taking place at the Washington Hilton Hotel on March 10, 2023.

The successful development of NASA's Webb Telescope is a historic milestone in American aerospace and engineering. Developed over the span of 20 years, the NASA and Northrop Grumman industry team pioneered several groundbreaking technologies to include a deployable sunshield to block heat and light emitting from the sun, earth and moon, and a gold-segmented mirror able to detect light from the early universe.

Webb's revolutionary technology has allowed astrophysicists to study every phase of cosmic history and view the earliest stars and galaxies like never before. The observatory has already taken the deepest, sharpest infrared image of a distant galaxy, probed previously unseen regions of space, and discovered carbon dioxide in an exoplanet's atmosphere. These accomplishments are only the beginning, as Webb continues its mission to expand humanity's understanding of the universe.

"Webb is a triumph for American leadership in space and a testament to public and private partnerships that push the limits of technology and human ingenuity," said Dr.

Lisa Monaco, president, National Space Club and Foundation. “Webb’s successful development and groundbreaking capabilities are already expanding our understanding of the universe and inspiring a new generation of astronomers in the U.S. and around the world.”

Webb is an infrared space telescope designed to see the first light coming from the earliest stars and galaxies in the universe after the Big Bang. On Dec. 25, 2021, Webb launched from the European Space Agency’s (ESA) Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana. It arrived at its solar orbit, Lagrange Point 2 (L2) one month later, marking the completion of its million-mile journey and the first month of its half-year long commissioning period. On July 11, 2022, NASA revealed Webb’s first image, marking a new era of astronomical discovery.

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The National Space Club and Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization devoted to fostering excellence in space activity through interaction between industry and government, and through a continuing program of educational support. Youth Education is a premier focus of the Club, providing over \$160,000 in scholarships and internships each year. Awards are offered to recognize the outstanding accomplishments in spaceflight, engineering, science, management, and education. Follow us on Twitter: @SpaceClubNews; Instagram: @NationalSpaceClub; and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalSpaceClub>.
