Great Minds in STEM Announces 2018 HENAAC Award Winners

Montebello, CA – UPDATED: Great Minds in STEM™ is proud to announce the 2018 Class of HENAAC Award Winners. These phenomenal role models in science, technology, engineering and math will be honored at the 30th Anniversary HENAAC Conference, “Generation Xcellence” in Pasadena, CA, October 17-21, 2018.

27 outstanding scientists, engineers, and other STEM professionals have been selected for a prestigious HENAAC Award this year. Great Minds in STEM™ salutes its 30th class of honorees and thanks the men and women from industry, government, military and academic institutions who participated in the independent Selection Committees to review nominations. The peer review process was co-chaired by Dr. Forouzan Golshani, Dean of College of Engineering at California State University, Long Beach, and Dr. Yannis C. Yortsos, Dean of the University of Southern California’s Viterbi School of Engineering. The California State University System and the University of Southern California will be joined by the California Institute of Technology as Academic Hosts of the 30th HENAAC Conference.

ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
L. Rafael Reif, Ph.D.
President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR
Clarise Starr, Ph.D., DR-III
Deputy Chief of Applied Technology and Genomics Division
Aeromedical Research Department
United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory

ALBERT B. BAEZ AWARD
Jose E. Sánchez, SES, P.E.
Deputy Director
Research and Development, and Deputy Chief Scientist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CHAIRMAN’S AWARD
Sandra Evers-Manly
Vice President
Global Corporate Responsibility
Northrop Grumman Corporation

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE
Ignacio L. Garcia
Vice President - Latin America Area Business Organization
Cummins Inc.

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE
Adriana Torres
Senior Vice President
Global Head of Customer Support for Hospitality and Food & Beverage
Oracle
Press Release
August 6, 2018

OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT
Arianna T. Morales, Ph.D.
Staff Research Scientist
Research & Development Center
General Motors

OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT
Orlando Rios, Ph.D.
Research Staff, Deposition
Sciences Group
Materials Science and Technology Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Mauricio Guerra
Chief Information Security Officer and Director,
Information Compliance and Risk Management
The Dow Chemical Company

PIONEER
Teresa Hamid
IBM Fellow, VP, CTO - Cognitive Process
Global Business Services
IBM Corporation

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
José M. Castellón, Jr.
Director, Global Hawk Systems Engineering and Integration
Northrop Grumman Corporation

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
Rosa M. Bravo
Business Development Director
Southern California Public Service Market
Accenture

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL II
Andres Martinez
Program Executive
Advanced Exploration Systems (AES) Division, Human Exploration and Operations Missions Directorate
NASA Ames Research Center

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL II
Nelson Pedreiro, Ph.D.
Director, Chief Engineer
Strategic and Missile Defense
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Press Release
August 6, 2018

Professional Achievement Level I

Valerie Dawson
Senior Manager
Stowbins, Bin Systems & Secondary Supports
Interiors Responsibility Center
The Boeing Company

Professional Achievement Level I

Annabel Flores
Product Line Director
Airborne Early Warning and Reconnaissance Systems
Space and Airborne Systems
Raytheon

Professional Achievement Level I

Carlos González, Jr.
Manager of Construction Services
Chevron Corporation

Professional Achievement Level I

Luis “Danny” Bathen, Ph.D.
Research Staff Member
Almaden Research Center
IBM Corporation

Most Promising Engineer
Advanced Degree - Ph.D.

Maricela Lizcano, Ph.D.
Research Materials Engineer
Materials Chemistry and Physics Branch
NASA Glenn Research Center

Most Promising Engineer
Advanced Degree - Master’s

Michelle M. Garcia Sagredo Ang
Product Development Engineer
Texas Instruments Inc.

Most Promising Engineer
Undergraduate Degree

Captain Jason W. Fischbach
Flight Commander, Mission Support Flight Lead, Power Space and Cooling Engineer, 485th Intelligence Squadron
U.S. Air Force

Most Promising Engineer
Undergraduate Degree

Luis Leon
Lead Process Engineer
Kimberly Clark Corporation
Press Release
August 6, 2018

Great Minds in STEM would like to thank the 2018 Selection committee, especially the Committee Co-Chairs representing two of our Academic Hosts!

MOST PROMISING ENGINEER UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Nina Porter
Program Manager
Bombers Program
The Boeing Company

EDUCATION

Krystel K. Castillo, Ph.D., Sc.D.
GreenStar Endowed Associate Professor in Energy
Director, Texas Sustainable Energy Research Institute
University of Texas at San Antonio

EDUCATION

Ramon E. Lopez, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Physics
Co-Director, UTeach Arlington
University of Texas at Arlington

SANTIAGO RODRIGUEZ DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD

William C. Davis
Deputy Diversity & Inclusion Manager / Equal Employment Specialist, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity
NASA Johnson Space Center

COMMUNITY SERVICE

James E. Valenzuela
Senior Industrial Engineering Lead
Engineering Operations
Raytheon Company

Most Promising Engineer Undergraduate Degree

Nina Porter
Program Manager
Bombers Program
The Boeing Company

Education

Krystel K. Castillo, Ph.D., Sc.D.
GreenStar Endowed Associate Professor in Energy
Director, Texas Sustainable Energy Research Institute
University of Texas at San Antonio

Education

Ramon E. Lopez, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Physics
Co-Director, UTeach Arlington
University of Texas at Arlington

Santiago Rodriguez Diversity and Inclusion Award

William C. Davis
Deputy Diversity & Inclusion Manager / Equal Employment Specialist, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity
NASA Johnson Space Center

Community Service

James E. Valenzuela
Senior Industrial Engineering Lead
Engineering Operations
Raytheon Company

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Forouzan Golshani, Ph.D.
Dean
College of Engineering
California State University, Long Beach

Yannis C. Yortsos Ph.D.
Dean
Viterbi School of Engineering
University of Southern California
Great Minds in STEM™ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers, especially in underserved communities. Established in 1989 and based in the Los Angeles area, the organization’s nation-wide programming focuses on STEM educational awareness from kindergarten through college, and on seeking-out and documenting the world-class contributions of Hispanic professionals in STEM to serve as role models for the next generation of American engineers and scientists. 2018 marks the organization’s 30th anniversary.

Great Minds in STEM’s annual HENAAC Conference is the organization’s flagship event where all elements of outreach and programming come together to celebrate excellence in STEM. The conference features executive forums, seminars, competitive programs, career opportunities and networking sessions and is attended by over 3,000 STEM students and professionals annually.

Great Minds in STEM is once again partnering with CAHSI (the Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions), NOGLSTP (the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals) and CHCI (the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute) in 2018. They’ve all chosen the Conference as the venue for annual meetings and events.

For more information about Great Minds in STEM and the 2018 HENAAC Conference, please visit us online at: www.greatmindsinstem.org