

# Press Release

August 12, 2016

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## Great Minds in STEM Announces 2016 HENAAC Luminary Honorees

**Monterey Park, CA** – Great Minds in STEM™ is proud to announce the 2016 HENAAC Luminary Honorees. This year's class of 13 STEM role models is comprised of leaders who represent industry and government, and they have been selected for their distinction and achievement in their respective fields. These STEM professionals are leading, collaborating and initiating key programs and research, and all have been selected for their accomplishments that clearly contribute to their organization's technical prowess. Luminaries will be honored at the 2016 HENAAC Conference, "Excellence Through Diversity," in Anaheim, CA, October 5-9, 2016.



**Michael A. Alvarez**  
Network Engineer IV  
Leidos



**Rosa V. Avalos Chumpitazi**  
Mechanisms and Operations Engineer  
International Space Station  
Boeing Defense, Space and Security  
The Boeing Company



**Jose Borges**  
Sr. Project Engineering  
Lead II  
Aerospace Systems  
Northrop Grumman  
Corporation



**Olga Carbajal**  
Manager  
Unified Communications  
Engineering and Operations Services  
General Motors



**Antonio Carrillo  
Ojeda, Ph.D.**  
Project Scientist  
Corporate Research  
and Engineering  
Kimberly Clark Corporation



**Esther Casas**  
Manager I  
Quality Assurance Engineering  
Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems  
Raytheon

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**Fernando Gil**  
Commercial Manager -  
Business Development  
Africa-Latin America  
Exploration and Production  
Chevron



**Guillermo A. Gonzalez**  
Avionics Lead, Electropyrotechnics System  
Engineering Lead, Launch Abort System  
Office (LaRC), Engineering Directorate  
NASA Langley Research Center  
NASA



**Jim Laredo**  
Senior Technical Staff  
Member, Manager -  
Services and API  
Ecosystems,  
Master Inventor  
IBM



**John Martinez**  
Program Management Manager  
U.S. Navy Training  
Mission Systems and Training  
Lockheed Martin Corporation



**Teresa Szakos**  
Architecture Team Lead  
Architecture and Facilities  
Engineering  
Walt Disney World Resort  
The Walt Disney Company



**Vincent Urias**  
Principal Member of Technical Staff  
Cyber Analysis and Research and  
Development, Solutions Department  
Information Solutions  
Sandia National Laboratories



**Juan Zepeda**  
Software Engineer  
Software Engineering Center  
Raytheon

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## About the Organization

Great Minds in STEM™ is a 501(c)3 a 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.

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 Hispanic 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.

For 2016, Great Minds in STEM is partnering with MAES - Latinos in Science and Engineering, who will hold their annual Symposium at the HENAAC Conference, and CAHSI (the Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions) who have chosen the Conference as the venue for their annual Summit as well.

For more information about Great Minds in STEM and the 2016 HENAAC Conference, please visit us online at:

[www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)



October 5-9, 2016

IN PROUD ASSOCIATION WITH

