Monterey Park, CA – Great Minds in STEM™ is proud to announce the 2017 Class of HENAAC Award Winners. These phenomenal role models in science, technology, engineering and math will be honored at the 29th Annual HENAAC Conference, “Destiny Driven by Determination” in Pasadena, CA, October 18-22, 2017.

27 outstanding scientists, engineers, and other STEM professionals have been selected for a prestigious HENAAC Award this year. Great Minds in STEM™ salutes its 29th 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. Gaurav S. Sukhatme, Executive Vice Dean of Engineering, Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California. 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 29th HENAAC Conference.

Great Minds in STEM Announces 2017 HENAAC Award Winners

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ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
Julio A. Navarro, Ph.D.
Senior Technical Fellow
The Boeing Company

SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR
Adriana C. Ocampo, Ph.D.
Lead Program Executive, New Frontier Program
Science Mission Directorate
Planetary Science Division
NASA, Headquarters

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE - CORPORATE
Jesus Mantas
Managing Partner & General Manager, IBM Cognitive Process Transformation & Chief Strategy Officer
Global Business Services
IBM

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE - ACADEMIA
Eduardo M. Ochoa, Ph.D.
President
California State University
Monterey Bay

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE - MILITARY
CDR Jose A. Peña, P.E., CFM
Commanding Officer
Coast Guard Base Los Angeles
Long Beach
United States Coast Guard

OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT
Carlos R. Gonzalez, Ph.D., P.E
Research Civil Engineer
Engineering Systems and Materials Division, Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT

Monica Sorribas
Centers for Biology Excellence
Global Leader, Global Crop Protection R&D Director
Dow AgroSciences
The Dow Chemical Company

PIONEER AWARD

Francisco J. Delgado
Lead, Hybrid Reality and Advanced Operational Concepts Lab, Spacecraft Software Engineering Branch
NASA Johnson Space Center

SANTIAGO RODRIGUEZ DIVERSITY AWARD

Tizoc S. Loza
Corporate Manager
Global Supplier Diversity Programs/Government Relations
Northrop Grumman Corporation

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Antonio Ruiz, Ph.D.
Chief Systems Engineer
NAVAIR Tomahawk Command and Control System and UAV Common Control System
Leidos

CHAIRMAN’S AWARD

Juan Pablo Urrego-Blanco, Ph.D.
Petrophysical Engineer
Shell Exploration & Production
Shell Oil Company

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL II

Andre Bozzo Argenton, Ph.D.
Global R&D Director
Performance Materials and Chemicals
The Dow Chemical Company

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL II

Steven M. Trujillo, Ph.D.
Manager
Nuclear Weapons Systems Analysis Department
Sandia National Laboratories

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL I

Monica M. Quaresma
Technical Lead Engineer
Contamination and Radiation Group Survivability Engineering-Space and Missile Systems
The Boeing Company
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PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL I

Major Eduardo Barajas
Deputy Chief, Materials Durability and Sustainment Branch (AFRL/RXSS), Systems Support Division (AFRL/RXS)
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
United States Air Force

James C. Narey
Integrated Fighter Group - F-22 Electrical Power Systems Technical Lead
Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company
Lockheed Martin

MOST PROMISING ENGINEER
ADVANCED DEGREE – PH.D.

Evan J. Pineda, Ph.D.
Aerospace Research Engineer
Materials and Structures Division Multiscale and Multiphysics Modeling (LMS) Branch
NASA Glenn Research Center

Ricardo A. Koller Jemio, Ph.D.
Research Staff Member
IBM T.J. Watson Research Center
IBM

MOST PROMISING ENGINEER
ADVANCED DEGREE – MASTER’S

Veronica Marie Boesen
Senior Multi-Disciplined Engineer I
Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems
The Raytheon Company

Humberto Santacruz
Arming, Fuzing, and Firing (AF&F) Lead, W76-1
Sandia National Laboratories

MOST PROMISING ENGINEER
UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Keysha M. Camps Figueroa
Assistant Program Engineering Manager
Autonomous Vehicles
General Motors

Rigoberto Lopez
Subsea Wells Supervisor, GWO
GoM Subsea Wells
BP
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Great Minds in STEM would like to thank the 2017 Selection committee, especially the Co-Chairs representing our Academic Hosts!

EDUCATION
Jorge L. Gardea-Torresdey, Ph.D.
Dudley Professor of Environmental Science & Engineering and Chairman, Department of Chemistry
The University of Texas at El Paso

Olivia A. Graeve, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Jacobs School of Engineering
University of California, San Diego

Erika T. Camacho, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences
Arizona State University

Giuliana Haro Paz
Architect DLR DE A&FE
Disneyland Resort
Walt Disney Parks and Resorts

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

Community Service
Martha L. Garcia
Program Manager & Project Engineer, Winglet Seamless Support, Commercial Aviation Services, Program Integration and Product Engineering
The Boeing Company

Infrastructure/Civil Engineering
Gaurav S. Sukhatme, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Dean of Engineering
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 program 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 2017, Great Minds in STEM is 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), who have all chosen the Conference as the venue for annual meetings and events.

For more information about Great Minds in STEM and the 2017 HENAAC Conference, please visit us online at:

www.greatmindsinstem.org

“DESTINY DRIVEN BY DETERMINATION”

October 18-22, 2017