



August 1, 2013

Professional Award Winners Announced

Great Minds in STEM^î is proud to announce the HENAAC Award Winners for 2013. These outstanding role models in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will be honored at the 25th Anniversary HENAAC Conference, October 3-5, 2013.

For a quarter century, Great Minds of STEM^î has honored the best and brightest STEM minds America has to offer. The Class of 2013 is no exception. Each honoree is peer-reviewed and selected by a committee of representatives from industry, government, military and academic institutions. Dr. Nicholas J. Altiero, Dean School of Science and Engineering at Tulane University, and Dr. Steven Johnson, Dean College of Sciences at the University of New Orleans, co-chaired this committee. Tulane University and the University of New Orleans are the lead Academic Hosts of the 25th Anniversary HENAAC Conference.

The HENAAC Award Winners will be honored at one of two recognition events . the HENAAC Awards Show and the HENAAC Awards and Luminary Luncheon. Both of these events will take place during the Conference, which will be held October 3-5, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Orleans, LA.

Engineer of the Year

Christopher M. Hernandez
Vice President Advanced Weapons Systems
Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems
Northrop Grumman Corporation

Scientist of the Year

Annabelle Rodriguez-Oquendo, M.D., F.A.H.A.
Linda and David Roth Chair of
Cardiovascular Research
Professor of Cell Biology
University of Connecticut Health Center

Albert V. Baez Award

Peter Soliz, Ph.D.
Founder, Chief Executive Officer
& Chairman
VisionQuest Biomedical, LLC

Executive Excellence

Arturo (Art) A. Rosales
Director of Operations
Commercial Satellite Systems,
Space and Intelligence Systems
The Boeing Company

Outstanding Technical Achievement

Francisco J. Valero-Cuevas, Ph.D.
Director of the Brain-Body Dynamics Lab
Professor Department of Biomedical
Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering
Professor, Division of Biokinesiology
and Physical Therapy
University of Southern California

Outstanding Technical Achievement

Santiago C. Grijalva, Ph.D.
Director Power Systems Engineering Center
Energy Systems Integration Facility
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Pioneer Award

Gustavo A. Stolovitzky, Ph.D.
Manager Functional Genomics
& Systems Biology Group
Computational Biology Center
IBM

Vanguard Award

Daniel H. López, Ph.D.
President
New Mexico Institute of Mining
and Technology

Lifetime Achievement

George A. Salazar
Chief Engineer
Human Interface Systems Branch
NASA Johnson Space Center

Entrepreneur

Carol M. Craig
Founder, Chief Executive Officer
& Chief Financial Officer
Craig Technologies

Education - Administrator

Irma Becerra-Fernandez, Ph.D.
Vice President, Office of Engagement
& Professor
Florida International University

Education- Professor*

Oscar Marcelo Suárez, Ph.D.
Professor, General Engineering Department
University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez

Professional Achievement II

Commander George Perez, Jr.
Commanding Officer
U.S.S. New Mexico, SSN-779
U.S. Navy

Professional Achievement II

Carlos A. Gonzalez, Ph.D.
Chief, Chemical Sciences Division
National Institute of Standards & Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

Professional Achievement I

Ivette Nuñez
Systems Engineer 3
Huntington Ingalls Industries-
Ingalls Shipbuilding

Santiago Rodriguez Diversity Award

Lucy Sorrentini
Principal, Diversity &
Inclusion and Leadership
Booz Allen Hamilton

Civil/ Environmental Engineering

Sheila E. Hint, EIT
Environmental Engineer
Buffalo District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Information Technology *

José E. Moreira, Ph.D.
Research Staff Member
Thomas J. Watson Research Center
IBM

Community Service*

Victor M. Castillo, Ph.D.
Group Leader, Quantitative Risk Analysis
Computational Engineering Division
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

**Most Promising Engineer
or Scientist Advanced Degree - Ph.D. ***

Ana María Rey, Ph.D.
JILA Fellow & Associate Research Professor
Physics Department, University of Colorado
JILA

**Most Promising Engineer
or Scientist Advanced Degree - Ph.D. ***

Francis Samalot, Ph.D.
Materials Engineer/Scientist
Satellite Development Center
The Boeing Company

**Most Promising Engineer
or Scientist Advanced Degree -Master's**

Daniel Baca
Senior Systems Engineer, Orion Program
Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company
Lockheed Martin Corporation

**Most Promising Engineer
or Scientist Advanced Degree -Master's**

Tony Argote, Jr.
Technical Specialist, Charging Controls
General Motors

**Most Promising Engineer
or Scientist Advanced Degree -Master's**

Captain Ryan J. Silva
Director of Students & Assistant Professor
Department of Electrical and
Computer Engineering
U.S. Air Force Academy
U.S. Air Force

**Most Promising Engineer or Scientist -
Undergraduate Degree**

April R. Polo
Senior Operations Engineer I
Raytheon Integrated Defense
Systems Operations
Raytheon

**Most Promising Engineer or Scientist -
Undergraduate Degree**

Anabel Ugalde-Huebe
Lead Production Engineer &
Six Sigma Black Belt Engineer
Ethylene Oxide/Ethylene Glycol Plant
The Dow Chemical Company

*These individuals will be honored at the HENAAC Awards and Luminary Luncheon which will be held on Friday, October 4, 2013.

For more information on the HENAAC 25th Anniversary Conference or the Great Minds in STEM[®] organization please visit www.greatmindsinstem.org

Great Minds in STEM[™] Vision

Be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers especially in underserved communities