National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

2018 ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENCY HONOR AWARDS

Johnson Space Center
Thursday, August 2, 2018

Foreword

Message from the NASA Administrator
2018 Agency Honor Awards

The NASA workforce is an extraordinary group of talented professionals, and each year it is a privilege to celebrate their accomplishments through the Honor Awards. At this ceremony, we present both the Distinguished Service Medal and the Distinguished Public Service Medal, which are the highest honors bestowed upon NASA employees.

As we publicly recognize the excellent performance of our honorees, I also want to thank the entire workforce collectively for your commitment and dedication to the NASA mission. Because of your efforts, the future is bright at NASA. We will be celebrating groundbreaking achievements in exploration, science, aeronautics, and technology in the near future that would not be possible without your hard work today.

I want to thank our team at the Johnson Space Center for hosting this tremendous event. It is the honor of a lifetime for me to serve as the NASA Administrator and to have been welcomed into the NASA family. The work we do here is not easy, but what we are achieving together each day is improving the human condition around the world. I hope you will join me in congratulating our distinguished colleagues, and I wish you the best as you continue the great work you are doing in support of our Agency.

I thank you all.

Ad astra

Jim

2018
Agency Honor Awards

Distinguished Service Medal

Distinguished Public Service Medal

Program

Introductions
Angela McDaniel
Agency Honor Awards Program Manager, OHCM

Ginger Kerrick
Master of Ceremonies

Presentation of Colors
Clear Falls High School Army JROTC Color Guard

The National Anthem
Clear Falls High School Troubadours

Welcome
Mark Geyer
Director, Johnson Space Center

Opening Remarks
Stephen Jurczyk
Associate Administrator

Speaker
James “Jim” Bridenstine
Administrator

Presentation of Distinguished Honors
James “Jim” Bridenstine
Administrator

Stephen Jurczyk
Associate Administrator

Closing Remarks
Ginger Kerrick
Master of Ceremonies

Reception
Teague Auditorium Lobby

Center Tour

Distinguished Service Medal

This is NASA's highest form of recognition that is awarded to a Government employee who, by distinguished service, ability, or vision, has personally contributed to NASA's advancement of United States' interests. The individual's achievement or contribution must demonstrate a level of excellence that has made a profound or indelible impact on NASA mission success, and therefore, the contribution is so extraordinary that other forms of recognition by NASA would be inadequate.

Theodore Adams

Gale Allen*

Christine Belcastro

John Charles

Charles Dovale

Philip Eberspeaker*

James Free*

Cornelis Gehrels

Pamela Hanes

Kenneth Human*

Robert Jacobs

Debra Johnson

Lauren Leo*

Robert Lightfoot*

Dawn Lowe

Joel Montalbano

Ellen Ochoa*

Krista Paquin*

Jonathan Pettus*

Dennis Reuter

Lesa Roe*

Michael Sampson

Christopher Singer*

Hanwant Singh

Gregory Williams*

Josef Wonsever

Joseph Zawodny

* The Agency Honor Award was awarded between April 2, 2017, and May 31, 2018, outside the normal awards cycle.

Distinguished Public Service Medal

This is NASA's highest form of recognition that is awarded to any non-Government individual or to an individual who was not a Government employee during the period in which the service was performed, whose distinguished service, ability, or vision has personally contributed to NASA's advancement of United States' interests. The individual's achievement or contribution must demonstrate a level of excellence that has made a profound or indelible impact on NASA mission success, and therefore, the contribution is so extraordinary that other forms of recognition by NASA would be inadequate.

Christopher Jones

John Magisano

William McClintock

Michael Melgares

Frank Morring*

Eugene Parker*

James Paulsen*

Byron Tapley

Yervant Terzian

Liqin Wang

Edward Wright

* The Agency Honor Award was awarded between April 2, 2017, and May 31, 2018, outside the normal awards cycle.

Distinguished Service Medal Recipients

Theodore Adams

For exhibiting distinguished service and extraordinary leadership, resulting in significant contributions for mission success.

Mr. Adams' profound impact spans many years, from his employment at United Space Alliance as the Fluids and Thermal Systems Design Manager, to his civil service career at NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC) as the Fluid Systems Design Chief, Chief of Project Engineering, and Mobile Launcher Deputy Program Manager. In his Mobile Launcher role, he provides technical integration between subsystem teams, chairs the Integrated Engineering Review Board to discuss technical issues and resolutions, and serves as the KSC Engineering Directorate's interface for construction management. Key to Mr. Adams' high-impact service is his cooperative and collaborative nature that builds teamwork to accomplish extraordinary results. Moreover, his executive leadership sows seeds of influential change, yielding innovative approaches to conception, design, and execution of projects, programs, and activities across KSC.

Gale Allen

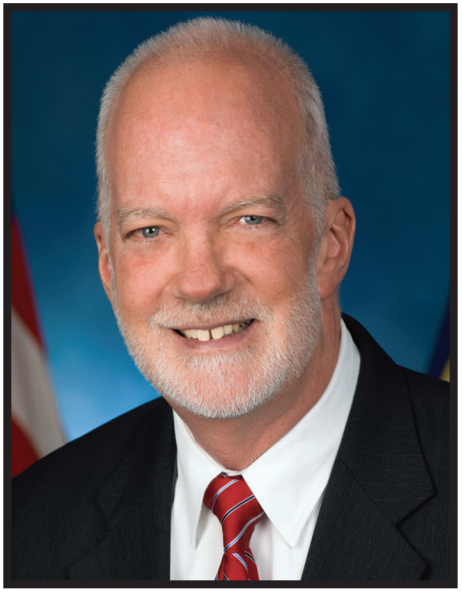
For distinguished and sustained service providing senior executive leadership of science and technology programs at NASA and as the senior advisor to NASA leadership on all scientific endeavors of the agency, as well as your work inside and outside the agency to empower women to reach their full potential.

For over 30 years, Dr. Allen excelled in her career at NASA, including serving as Deputy Chief Scientist at NASA Headquarters, Director of the Strategic Integration and Management Division, Deputy for the Human Systems Research and Technology Program, and Associate Chief Scientist for Microgravity Research. Dr. Allen provided distinguished leadership in these highly visible and critical positions, working across NASA and with Government agencies, the White House and Congress, academia, industry, and international partners. From December 2016 until her retirement in April 2018, Dr. Allen served as Acting Chief Scientist, advising senior leaders, advocating for NASA's science to a wide range of national and international stakeholders, and leading the implementation of the Executive Office of the President's science policy across the Agency.

Christine Belcastro

For dedicated service to NASA in advancing resilient system technologies for aircraft loss-of-control prevention and recovery and for autonomous vehicle systems of the future.

For more than three decades, Dr. Belcastro has made significant accomplishments at Langley Research Center while leading sustained efforts developing technologies to mitigate adverse flight conditions and reduce the incidents of aircraft loss-of-control (LOC) accidents. She has developed advanced modeling/simulation technologies, control system technologies, and test capabilities which characterize, mitigate, and validate accident prevention strategies. She has authored and co-authored more than 60 technical papers and briefings for international conferences, workshops, and journals as well as contributed a book chapter and an entry for the Encyclopedia of Systems and Control. Her research will have long-lasting implications for national and international efforts in eliminating LOC aircraft accidents and saving human lives.



John Charles

For exceptional leadership as the Human Research Program Chief Scientist and advancement of NASA's human space flight mission.

Dr. Charles retired with a distinguished 35-year career at Johnson Space Center. As Chief Scientist of the Human Research Program, he set the scientific direction of human research and technology development. He led NASA's space life sciences planning for the joint U.S./Russian One-Year Mission (1YM) on the International Space Station (ISS) and Twins Study. Notably, he demonstrated exceptional leadership and diplomacy in coordinating the 1YM human research requirements. He coordinated requirements from five space agencies into a single ISS portfolio, and his significant efforts fostered cooperation among research teams worldwide. His efforts paved the way for integrated international research that will yield beneficial knowledge on the medical, psychological, and biomedical challenges long-distance explorers may face as they venture beyond low Earth orbit.

Charles Dovale

For distinguished and extensive contributions to NASA, the Nation, and the world by enabling launch of over 200 robotic space missions on Expendable Launch Vehicles.

Mr. Dovale is the Deputy Manager, Launch Services Program (LSP) at Kennedy Space Center where, for the past 33 years, he has served the NASA Expendable Launch Vehicle science and robotic mission community with distinction, contributing to more than 200 missions. In support of NASA and the United States' vital science missions, Mr. Dovale has been instrumental in leading LSP to focus on the complex and continually changing launch vehicle market environment to ensure the highest level of success for missions with values exceeding multibillions of dollars. His exceptional leadership and embodiment of NASA's core values have been crucial to each launch campaign, where the launch vehicle and spacecraft must perform together seamlessly to achieve successful missions that enable NASA to accomplish science and exploration.

Philip Eberspeaker

For sustained visionary leadership and direction of the NASA Sounding Rocket Program, and its continuous facilitation of first-rate scientific research.

With Mr. Eberspeaker's leadership and inspiration, the NASA Sounding Rocket Program (NSRP) has become recognized as a world-class science research program. As Chief since 2002, he demonstrated a sustained level of excellence in management, technology development, and staff development. He took a struggling program and transformed it into the undisputed world leader in sounding rocket research capability. The Program continues to carry out first-rate, unique experiments, including remote campaigns. These achievements have advanced scientific understanding in Astrophysics, Solar Physics, and Geospace disciplines. He was the guiding force that enabled such superb performance and stature, positioning the NSRP to continue well into the future and long after his retirement from NASA with 35 years of remarkable service.

James Free

For outstanding executive leadership in advancing significant programmatic and highly technical, multifaceted, and complex missions for the benefit of humankind.

Following a distinguished career, Mr. Free retired in May 2017 from NASA Headquarters as the Deputy Associate Administrator, Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate. He demonstrated extraordinary results and provided executive leadership, as well as technical, programmatic, and institutional guidance in support of NASA programs and projects. He ensured project delivery across a variety of research and space exploration technology development projects. His contributions helped NASA accomplish significant programmatic and highly technical missions that explored our solar system for the benefit of humankind while ensuring Astronaut health. As Director of Glenn Research Center, he spearheaded a multiyear effort to improve employee engagement, and his leadership directly led to unparalleled achievements in development of technologies that advanced air and space flight.

Cornelis Gehrels (Awarded Posthumously)

For an exceptional lifetime of outstanding contributions to NASA.

After 30+ years of exceptional service to NASA, Dr. Gehrels passed away in January 2017. He served as Chief of Goddard Space Flight Center's Astroparticle Physics Laboratory from 1995 until his passing. Dr. Gehrels was one of the most influential and productive scientists in NASA history. His research focused on transient objects in the universe such as gamma ray bursts, supernovae, and active galaxy flares. He published 600+ refereed papers and was cited over 40,000 times. Dr. Gehrels is best known as the Principal Investigator for the revolutionary Swift Observatory. He shared the 2017 Dan David Prize for astronomy, the 2016 Milner Breakthrough Prize for the first direct measurement of gravitational waves, and many awards from NASA. He worked to develop gamma ray astrophysics from a field of experiments detecting a few objects to a satellite-based astronomical discipline.

Pamela Hanes

For outstanding leadership in envisioning and executing a major programmatic transformation of the applications management functions for all NASA applications.

Ms. Hanes began her NASA career 35 years ago as a NASA Cooperative Education student and devoted many years to improving NASA's financial management before transitioning into the Information Technology (IT) arena. Ms. Hanes served in multiple key positions, including the Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) Chief Financial Officer (CFO), MSFC Deputy Chief Information Officer, and twice as the NASA Deputy CFO. Her work at the Center and Agency levels has impacted nearly every facet of Agency operations, including strategic planning, program management, accounting, budgeting, and information systems. She has contributed greatly to improved financial and IT management at NASA. The results she achieved surpass expectations and are directly attributable to her sustained and exceptional leadership qualities.

Kenneth Human

In recognition of more than 40 years of distinguished service to NASA and Stennis Space Center.

Mr. Human has served as Associate Director of Stennis Space Center (SSC) with distinction since 2010. He began his NASA career in 1978 as the only attorney advisor to the Chief Counsel at SSC. He became Chief Counsel, SSC, in 1986, and provided legal foundations for SSC activities and operations over 21 years, forging agreements with industry and Government to bring space flight program assignments to SSC, including testing all Space Shuttle main engines and J-2X engines for the Space Launch System, and test services for Orbital Sciences Corporation that moved NASA toward its goal of commercial resupply of the International Space Station (ISS). Named Deputy Manager of ISS External Integration at Johnson Space Center in 2007, he developed strategy supporting the ISS and managed international collaborations, particularly with the space agencies of Russia, Japan, Canada, and Europe.

Robert Jacobs

For outstanding creative and innovative communications efforts that have transformed NASA's engagement with the American people.

Mr. Jacobs has orchestrated many innovative dissemination and engagement methods to share NASA mission activities with worldwide audiences for 20 years. He led numerous award-winning public outreach activities. He directed the largest digital migration and conversion of multimedia assets in NASA history. His efforts allowed NASA to share launches, mission activities, news conferences, education programming, and other information in high definition. Other achievements include an Emmy Award for NASA TV, the creation of North America's first 4K Ultra High Definition (UHD) television channel, and the upgrade of NASA's Web and social media presence. He recognized the potential of social media and direct public engagement and assumed leadership of NASA's first Twitter feed, which now has 30 million followers. NASA's primary social media accounts grew to over 80 million followers across more than 12 platforms.

Debra Johnson

For sustained outstanding leadership of the NASA Johnson Space Center Office of Procurement.

Ms. Johnson is the Director of Procurement at Johnson Space Center (JSC) and has provided substantial contributions to NASA's procurement functions over the course of her 14 years as the JSC Procurement Officer. She effectively manages almost one-third of the Agency's total contracts and procurement budget, including: the International Space Station (ISS) Sustaining Engineering contract ($19.4 billion); Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle contract ($12.1 billion); and the Roscosmos contract, the Agency's largest international contract, valued at $4.4 billion. In 2017, she successfully purchased 5 Soyuz seats to the ISS, resulting in an increased crew size from 3 to 4. Ms. Johnson's exceptional work to execute and administer these and other NASA contracts ultimately enhances life on Earth and life of NASA's vehicles and crew, and is expanding exploration, science, research, and utilization.

Lauren Leo

For a career of outstanding leadership, distinguished service, and significant contributions to NASA's Human Capital environment.

Ms. Leo began her career at Goddard Space Flight Center as a Presidential Management Intern. She was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in December 2012 as the Director of the Workforce Culture Division in the Office of Human Capital Management. Later, she served as NASA's Assistant Administrator, Office of Human Capital Management and Chief Human Capital Officer. In these roles, Ms. Leo was responsible for NASA's workforce and led NASA's efforts to strengthen employee engagement, develop leaders, and create an innovative working environment in which all people can thrive. As a result, NASA employees rated NASA as the best place to work for 5 consecutive years. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Leo's hard work and dedication to NASA's vision have helped the Agency create and sustain a culture that is looked upon as the model place to work.

Robert Lightfoot

For a renowned career as a great leader to the nation's space program and the youth of this nation. Your tireless and steady leadership of the Agency at the National and International level, while promoting teamwork, collaboration, diversity and inclusion to successfully manage NASA's missions and programs will be remembered for generations to come.

Mr. Lightfoot is honored for his incredible 29-year NASA career. His extraordinary commitment and contributions to the NASA mission included testing Space Shuttle Main Engines and all types of propulsion systems at Marshall Space Flight Center and Stennis Space Center, managing the Space Shuttle Program, leading Marshall as its Deputy Director and Director, spearheading numerous Agency improvement initiatives as Associate Administrator, and serving NASA for 15 months as Acting Administrator. He is recognized for his visionary leadership in guiding NASA programs and his remarkable ability to engage employees. During his leadership tenure at Headquarters, the Agency reached new heights in aeronautics, Earth science, research, and space exploration endeavors, and NASA became the number one place to work in the Government.

Dawn Lowe

For recognition of exceptional leadership and significant contributions to the development and operations of NASA's key ground and science systems.

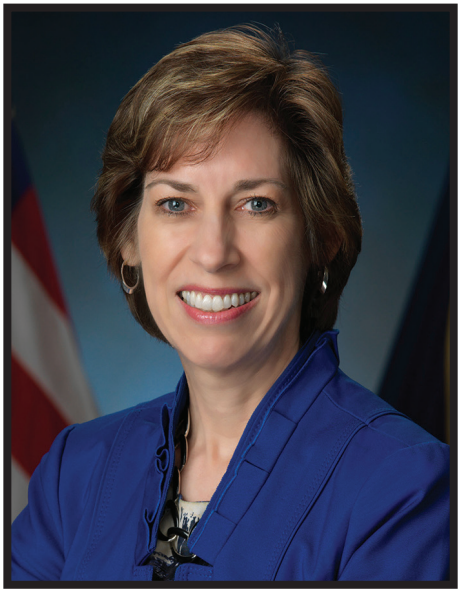
Ms. Lowe has dedicated her life to NASA's missions and continuously worked to inspire improvements Agency wide. As a senior adviser to the Earth Science Data and Information Systems (ESDIS) project at Goddard Space Flight Center, her contributions to process improvements as a satellite ground systems developer facilitated the early success of the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System. She assisted in overcoming many challenges for the system that became the primary communications gateway for the International Space Station and other spacecraft. As the ESDIS Project Manager, Ms. Lowe was committed to creating and providing innovations in Earth Observing System (EOS) data, which multiplied the value of NASA's EOS missions. Ms. Lowe also deserves special recognition as a role model for developing teams, working with partners, and fostering team cooperation.

Joel Montalbano

For exceptional vision, technical leadership and dedication, advancing the mission of NASA and the International Space Station Program.

Mr. Montalbano has demonstrated exceptional leadership and resourcefulness during his 29-year career. As the International Space Station (ISS) Program Deputy Manager, Utilization, he is a driving force behind the collaboration of 15 nations, organized into five principal partners. His leadership supports the ISS mission to advance science and technology research, expand human knowledge, inspire and educate the next generation, foster the commercial development of space, and enable future exploration. This year, Joel spearheaded changes in support of the Revolutionize ISS for Science and Exploration (RISE), an initiative to increase research integration. Also, to expand human space flight into low Earth orbit, he has been instrumental in building and leading an international partnership to formulate and to ultimately commit resources to build the Deep Space Gateway.

Ellen Ochoa



For distinguished service as the leader of the NASA Johnson Space Flight Center, a critical and influential member of the Agency senior leadership team, an inventor, astronaut, celebrated woman in American history and a role model for generations to come.

Having joined NASA in 1988 as a research engineer at Ames Research Center, Dr. Ochoa moved to Johnson Space Center (JSC) in 1990 when she was selected as an astronaut. She became the first Hispanic woman to go to space when she served on a 9-day mission aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1993. In 2007, Dr. Ochoa became JSC's Deputy Director and transitioned to Center Director in 2012. She was JSC's first Hispanic Director and its second female Director. In this position until her retirement in May 2018, Dr. Ochoa oversaw the Nation's astronaut corps, the Orion Program, and mission operations for the International Space Station. In 2017, Dr. Ochoa was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. Additionally, five schools, including one in Texas, have been named after her.

Krista Paquin

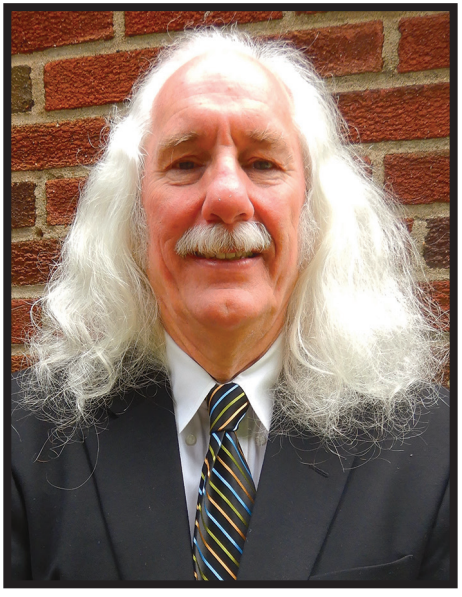
In recognition of sustained outstanding leadership while serving in numerous critical roles for the Agency leading to significant contributions in advancing aeronautics research, science, technology and exploration objectives for the nation.

Ms. Paquin began her career at NASA as a Presidential Management Intern at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). She held a variety of progressively responsible positions during her 22 years at GSFC before joining NASA Headquarters in 2006 as the Deputy Director, Office of Programs and Institutional Integration and transitioning to Assistant Associate Administrator of NASA in 2009. After 4 years in the private sector, Ms. Paquin returned to NASA in May 2014 as Deputy Associate Administrator for the Mission Support Directorate (MSD), then Associate Administrator for MSD, where she led the design of the Business Services Assessment process. Before retiring from NASA in May 2018, she had served as NASA's Deputy Associate Administrator starting in November 2017, assisting the NASA Administrator and senior managers in implementing all aspects of the Agency's functions.

Jonathan Pettus

For distinguished service to NASA that has made a profound impact on NASA's mission success.

Mr. Pettus joined Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) in 1991 and served in increasingly significant leadership roles. He brought remarkable achievements resulting in outstanding contributions to the Nation's human space flight, scientific, and aeronautical programs. Mr. Pettus led large-scale, Agency-wide transformation projects, such as the development of the Business Services Assessment Integrated Implementation Plan for Information Technology. His plan has already resulted in new governance structures and processes that address long-standing issues and risks, and an improved performance scorecard from Congress. He was also instrumental in gaining approval across Headquarters, the Office of Management and Budget, and the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for a major restructuring that aligned long-term, large-scale human space flight projects at MSFC.



Dennis Reuter

For a distinguished career of Earth and Planetary Science instrument development and science achievements.

Dr. Reuter has played a vital role, scientifically, technically, and programmatically, in the success of an unprecedented set of space flight missions—both in the development of scientific instruments and in the operation of those instruments during flight. Over his nearly 34-year NASA career, Dr. Reuter has enabled many valuable scientific observations and contributed to the mission success of a number of flight missions by providing advanced payload instruments. He currently serves as Project Scientist for the New Horizons Ralph imaging instrument and Instrument Scientist for the Linear Etalon Imaging Spectral Array spectrometer. Along the way, he gained the respect and admiration of his coworkers and has earned deep appreciation for his contribution to the mission successes of NASA and Goddard Space Flight Center.

Lesa Roe

For extraordinary contributions, distinguished service & outstanding leadership in support of NASA's mission and the Nation's space program.

Ms. Roe is honored today for her extraordinary contributions, distinguished service, and leadership in support of NASA's mission and the Nation's space program. She retired in September 2017 after 32 years of valued service. She is a remarkable leader who supported 38 Space Shuttle flights, managed the International Space Station Research Program, and was the first woman to lead Langley Research Center as Center Director, a role she held from 2005 to 2014. From 2014 to 2017, she served as the Agency's Deputy Associate Administrator, where she was instrumental in positioning NASA to establish a more efficient operating model that maintains a minimum set of capabilities to meet current and future mission needs. She was also NASA's second-in-command, serving as Acting Deputy Administrator, in 2017. Her outstanding leadership will be an example for generations to come.

Michael Sampson

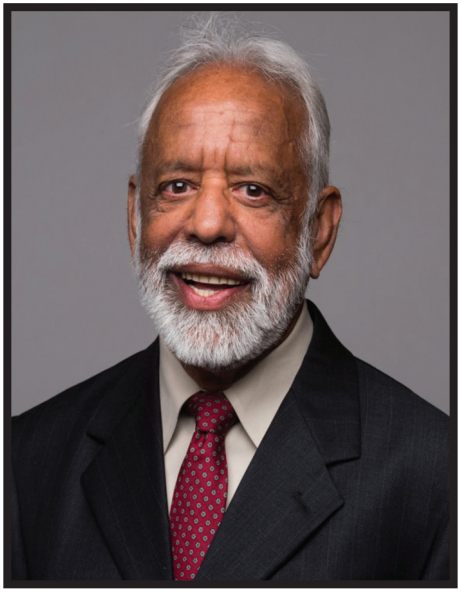
For a distinguished career of service to NASA in Electrical, Electronic & Electromechanical (EEE) Parts Assurance.

During his 20-year career, Mr. Sampson became the Agency's most influential expert for EEE parts quality and reliability assurance. As the leader of the NASA Electronic Parts and Packaging Program, he led the availability of new EEE part technologies and sustained established parts that NASA, international space agency partners, and the Department of Defense depend on. He is NASA's leader and voice for the sustainment of military specification products and assurance standards for the space market, directly influencing specifications and determining supplier capability. He also contributed significantly to NASA's understanding and management of counterfeit part avoidance and risks associated with lead-free platings. Mr. Sampson is invaluable as a researcher, manager, consultant, and guide enabling the NASA to successfully maneuver through EEE problems and industry challenges.

Christopher Singer

For extraordinary and distinguished leadership service in the development of NASA's Human Space Flight Missions and Programs.

Mr. Singer distinguished himself in performance and leadership in his stellar 34-year career. As Director, Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) Engineering Directorate, he held leadership roles on multiple NASA human space flight programs including the Space Shuttle Program and Space Launch System (SLS) Program. His innovative strategies and pacesetting methods resulted in many achievements, advancing NASA's missions and engineering capabilities. He made significant contributions to development of SLS vehicle designs and led production and delivery of many flight hardware systems. Under his leadership, MSFC worked with the Commercial Crew Program to define certification requirements and processes to permit NASA-crewed flight aboard previously nonhuman-rated launch vehicles. He led the way in developing systems engineering standards that can be tailored to fit academia and industry.



Hanwant Singh

For seminal contributions in understanding the Earth's natural atmosphere and the global change resulting from human activities.

During Dr. Singh's 32-year career at NASA, he contributed major theoretical and experimental ideas to understanding the Earth's natural atmosphere and the global change resulting from the impact of human activities. He led the advocacy, science definition, and implementation of NASA campaigns, including the Airborne Tropical Tropopause Experiment (2010-2015). He was the first to demonstrate that select man-made chemicals could be used to determine the cleansing capacity of the global atmosphere and estimate how long a chemical will stay in the atmosphere before it is destroyed. He is also a member of a United Nations council to promote, organize, and coordinate international research efforts towards a cleaner and healthier world in less-developed countries. As an exemplary pioneer, his leadership and contributions to atmospheric science at NASA are unparalleled.

Gregory Williams

For your commitment to public service, integrity, exceptional accomplishments, and years of dedicated service to NASA.

For 32 years, Mr. Williams demonstrated extraordinary leadership at NASA. He was the Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Plans, Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate and created the groundbreaking Journey to Mars strategic document, integrating NASA's vision with a strategy that explained the complex interactions between technology, human space flight, and science. He previously served as Deputy Director of the Strategic Integration & Management Division for NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) and led the development of two triennial Science Plans that define NASA's Earth and space science objectives for the next decade. He led the team of policy analysts that manage the SMD's interactions with Executive and Legislative branch offices and public engagement activities. His leadership directly led to unparalleled positive impacts to NASA and the country.

Josef Wonsever

For exceptional and outstanding mission support for over four decades.

For over 40 years, Mr. Wonsever has made lasting contributions in Safety and Mission Assurance (SMA) for NASA. He leaves no stone unturned in ensuring safety and identifying mission risks, and in providing recommendations for mitigation. He managed SMA efforts for NASA and European Space Agency flagship planetary and Earth-orbiting spacecraft, was the Program Manager for Payload Mission Assurance at NASA Headquarters (HQ), and led the Systems Review Office at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). He chaired hundreds of design reviews and developed guidelines that laid the foundation for how technical reviews are now done at GSFC. He is currently the Chief for Technical Assessments for the SMA Directorate, Program Manager for the GSFC Technical Standards Program, and GSFC's SMA Representative for Orbital Debris matters. The positive impacts he has had on the SMA culture at GSFC and NASA have been exceptional.

Joseph Zawodny

For sustained, distinguished contributions to an increased scientific understanding of the Earth's upper atmosphere.

During his 30-year career, Dr. Zawodny distinguished himself as a respected leader of the Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (SAGE) Group for his innovative advances in both remote sensing techniques (hardware) and retrieval algorithms (software). He provided technical guidance, critical measurements, and visionary leadership for important Earth Science missions and the international ozone assessment community. He significantly increased the accuracy and range of SAGE II ozone measurements which led to SAGE II data being regarded as the international standard for ozone profile measurements. He is responsible for the operational approach, methods, and instrument concept for SAGE III, was selected as Project Scientist to put the SAGE III instrument on the International Space Station, and did the early groundwork on occultation imagers which led to the development of SAGE IV.

Distinguished Public Service Medal Recipients

Christopher Jones

For distinguished service with the design, analysis and team leadership of the Voyager 1 TCM thruster test extending the science mission return by an additional 2-3 years.

Voyager 1, launched in 1977, is NASA's farthest and fastest spacecraft and the only human-made object in interstellar space. As the original designer and operations engineer on Voyager, Mr. Jones' unique understanding of the spacecraft was invaluable to the thruster degradation analysis and the development of the highly innovative solution of using the Trajectory Correction Maneuver (TCM) thrusters, after 37 years of nonuse, for attitude control, enabling continued communication with Earth. His leadership ensured the Jet Propulsion Laboratory team analysis was thorough, sound, and complete. He demonstrated exceptional achievement in the design and execution of the successful thruster test and materially contributed to the extension of the Voyager science mission, a cornerstone of NASA's Heliophysics Program, by an additional 2-3 years.

John Magisano

For sustained superior support to the NASA Launch Services Program since January 2001.

Since 2001, Mr. Magisano has demonstrated the highest level of technical support to the NASA Launch Services Program (LSP) at Kennedy Space Center. His efforts in the areas of Guidance, Navigation, and Flight Controls have directly led to the success of numerous high-visibility, flagship deep space and Earth science missions in support of NASA's goals. Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Magisano has provided exceptional support to all NASA Atlas and Delta IV missions, beginning years before a vehicle reaches the launch site. Mr. Magisano's technical expertise spans component to system levels and is highly regarded by the LSP team, and is also coveted by the launch vehicle provider and its hardware manufacturers.

William McClintock

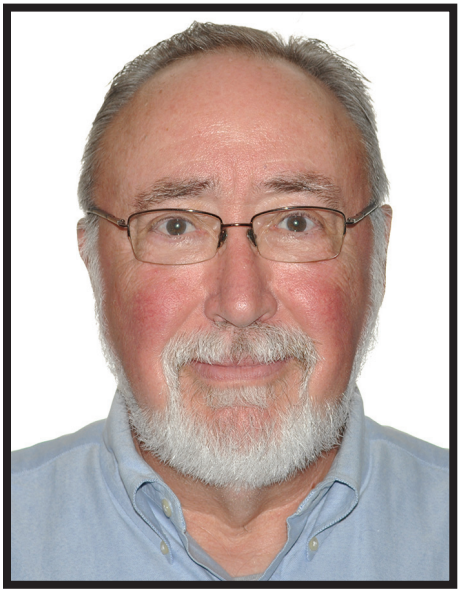
For significant and lasting scientific and technical contributions in ultraviolet imaging enabling major scientific advances in Heliophysics, Planetary, and Earth Sciences.

Dr. McClintock is a leader in designing and building scientific ultraviolet (UV) instruments for space exploration. Over the past four decades he has led instrument development for NASA's Planetary Science, Earth Science, and Heliophysics Divisions. A few of his most significant contributions include serving as Principal Investigator for the Solar-Stellar Irradiance Comparison Experiment instrument, as Deputy Principal Investigator for the Ultraviolet Imager on the Cassini mission, as Principal Investigator for the Mercury Atmospheric and Surface Composition Spectrometer, and as Deputy Principal Investigator for the Imaging Ultraviolet Spectrograph on the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution mission. Dr. McClintock's latest UV imager is the Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk instrument, which launched on a commercial communication satellite in January 2018.

Michael Melgares

For outstanding technical leadership of the contractor support team responsible for the engineering, assembly, and test operations of the Capsule Parachute Assembly System.

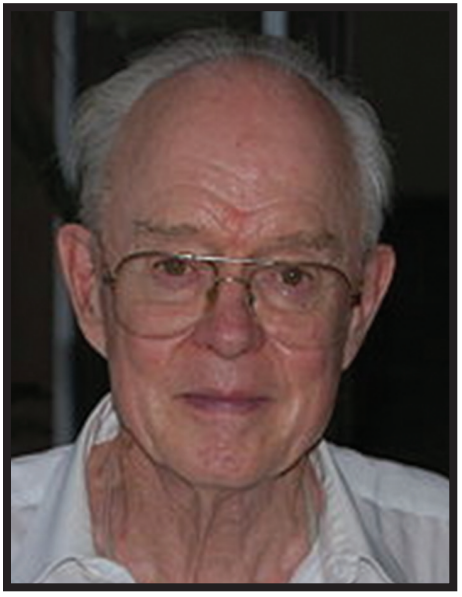
Serving as the Capsule Parachute Assembly System Project Manager for the Jacobs Engineering and Science Contract at NASA Johnson Space Center, Mr. Melgares has demonstrated exceptional management and leadership skills in leading teams of engineers and technicians and orchestrating highly successful overlapping airdrop test campaigns across remotely located facilities. Because of his extraordinary personal commitment to countless team technical tasks, multiple technical and programmatic review boards, oversight of safety-critical assembly and checkout operations, and the provision of essential day-of-test coordination and support of the airdrop tests, Mr. Melgares was instrumental in helping the Project meet its commitments to gather the data required to qualify the Orion spacecraft's parachute system and ultimately enable NASA's human exploration goals.



Frank Morring

For outstanding service as a journalist whose reporting has significantly contributed to public knowledge and understanding of NASA's impact on our Nation and the world.

Mr. Morring's exceptional 30-year career contributed to informed leaders in Government and industry about space policy and programs that shaped America's future. He provided a service to the Nation by clearly reporting NASA's ongoing work, including the Space Shuttle Program and the construction of the International Space Station. He demonstrated a keen ability to understand and translate complex science and engineering activities in a way that audiences of all ages can understand, correctly communicating NASA's work. Additionally, he interviewed every NASA Administrator since 1988, giving the world insight into how NASA leaders directed and influenced critical decisions that make NASA the agency that it is today. Mr. Morring deserves NASA's highest civilian medal, acknowledging a career of service as a guiding civilian voice in news and information about America's space program.

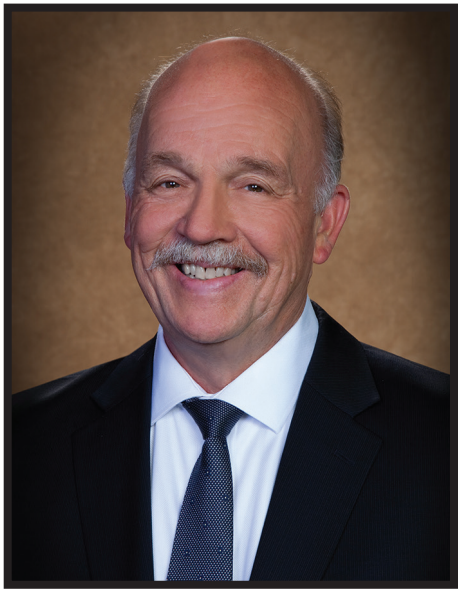


Eugene Parker

For a lifetime of extraordinary scientific achievement and outstanding leadership in space science and NASA's space program.

We honor Dr. Parker for his outstanding scientific contributions, leadership in space science, and legacy of shaping and guiding the space science community over its first five decades, all of which had a remarkable influence on NASA's science program. He is internationally acknowledged for the "Parker equation" on the origin, properties, and distant extent of the heliosphere. He theorized the existence of solar wind before any observations were made, even before spacecraft reached the solar wind environment. He began his exceptional career before the dawn of the space age and published his seminal work on solar wind soon after joining the Enrico Fermi Institute, University of Chicago in 1955. The importance of his predictions is evidenced by the number of space missions specifically designed to validate and expand on his work, including the Parker Solar Probe, Voyager, and many more.

James Paulsen



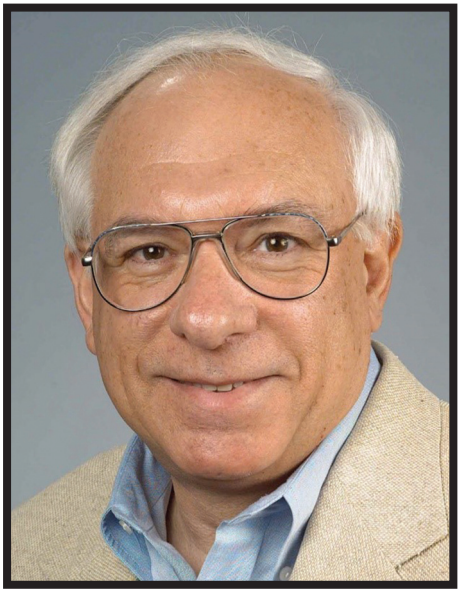
For exemplary engineering and program leadership of the Space Shuttle Main Engine and Space Launch System RS-25 engine programs.

Throughout Mr. Paulsen's 40-year career, he distinguished himself as an innovative and inspirational leader for the Space Shuttle Main Engine (SSME) during the Space Shuttle Program (SSP) and the RS-25 engine during the Space Launch System (SLS) Program for engine prime contractor Aerojet Rocketdyne. He served for almost 35 years in roles in the SSME, serving as Program Manager from 2001 until the SSP ended in 2011. His leadership style and devotion to flight safety were crucial, helping make SSME the most reliable large rocket engine ever produced. He helped NASA assess core engine options for the SLS, ultimately choosing the SSME, renamed RS-25, for the core stage because of its reliability and adaptability. Mr. Paulsen's passion for safety, innovative ideas, and inspiring leadership helped make the SSP successful and will help make SLS reliable, affordable, and sustainable.

Byron Tapley

For distinguished service and leadership to NASA in the creation and advancement of space geodesy, and for the education and mentoring of young engineers.

Dr. Tapley is an internationally respected researcher known by NASA and the geodetic science community for his elegant statistical modeling of nonlinear Precision Orbit Determination (POD) and geodetic parameter recovery. For 50 years, his work led to groundbreaking analysis and the capability to perform POD of satellites in orbit, using dynamics theory, laser ranging, and the emergent Global Positioning System of satellites. As a professor at the University of Texas, he mentors engineers and established the Strategic University Research Partnership with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Center for Space Research (CSR). The CSR research spans fisheries and agriculture to mapping ocean circulation and tracking environmental impacts of events such as the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. His legacy will endure for determining and measuring how our Earth systems interact and change.



Yervant Terzian

For sustained and exceptional public service by integrating research and education in space science over several decades.

Dr. Terzian dedicated his life to education, public service, and scientific research. He served on eight NASA committees, including the Hubble Space Telescope Fellowship Committee, NASA's Diversity in Science Education, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Radio Astronomy Evaluation Committee. He also contributed to dozens of radio and television programs on topics such as Life in the Universe and the State of Astronomy. Joining Cornell University in 1965, he made significant contributions to research using national radio astronomy observatories to unlock mysteries of the regions of hydrogen gas between distant galaxies and the physics of the interstellar medium. For 20 years, he directed the NASA New York Space Grant Consortium. His indelible impact on education and inspiring young minds, and his research and commitment to scientific knowledge, have advanced space science and astrophysics.

Liqin Wang

For exceptional contributions to NASA's Mission in the areas of materials engineering and failure analysis.

Dr. Wang has served in the Materials Engineering Branch at Goddard Space Flight Center for over 20 years. His expertise in materials engineering, particularly the failure analysis of complex materials-related problems, has resulted in him being personally requested by project personnel and management when they are faced with difficult technical challenges. In particular, Dr. Wang was integral in resolving issues associated with the Advanced Topographic Laser Altimeter System Flight Laser 2 and supporting the operational success of the Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer mission launched in 2017. Over the past 2 years, Dr. Wang has performed over 130 individual analyses in support of NASA's flight projects. Additionally, he serves as a mentor to three junior materials engineers, helping improve the skills and advance the careers of NASA's next generation workforce.

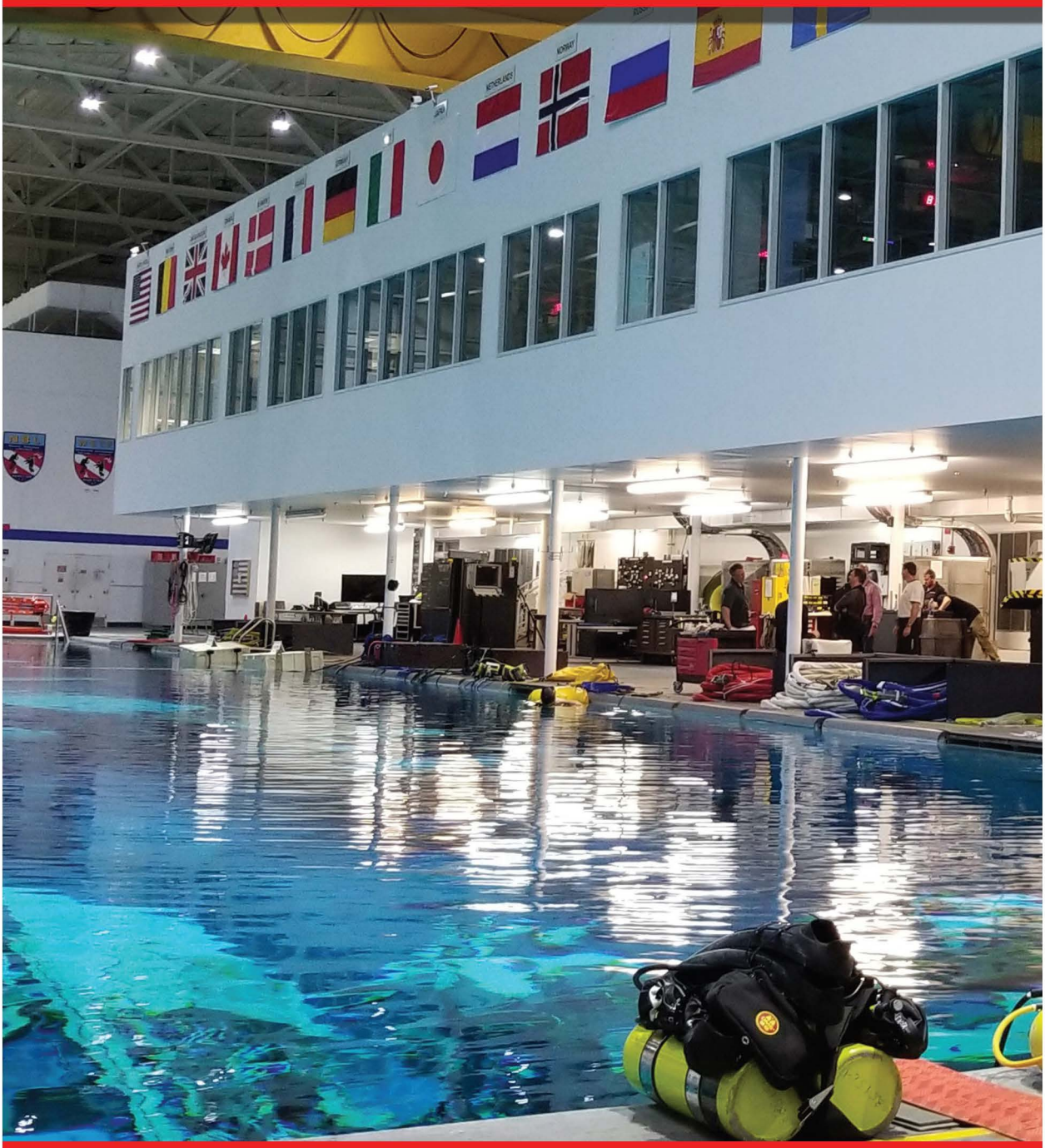
Edward Wright

For extraordinary contributions to NASA in multiple fields of research, from the cosmology of the microwave background to the astronomy of the infrared sky.

Dr. Wright is an exceptional scientist whose breadth of knowledge and depth of intellect were indispensable to the success of NASA missions, including the Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE), Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP), Spitzer, and Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer. Leading the COBE Science Data Team, he decoded cosmological consequences of the cosmic microwave background radiation spectrum and found the Cosmic Infrared Background. As Co-Investigator for WMAP, his survey design and data algorithms were pivotal, and he was the first to correctly predict the cause of the anomalous acceleration. As a member of the Spitzer Team, he conducted extensive simulations that resulted in finding the most distant galaxy known. Dr. Wright served NASA with an unmatched versatility that earns him the respect of all his colleagues and the most lauded astrophysicists working today.

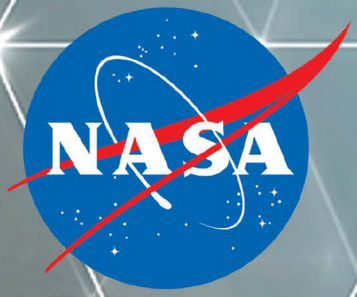
Space Vehicle Mockup Facility

Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory



Mission Control Center

Teague Auditorium



Acknowledgements & Special Thanks

Special appreciation is extended to the NASA Administrator, James "Jim" Bridenstine; Associate Administrator, Stephen Jurczyk; Master of Ceremonies, Ginger Kerrick; and Director of Johnson Space Center (JSC), Mark Geyer; as well as the NASA Office of Human Capital Management; JSC Center Director's Office; JSC Human Resources Awards Office; NASA Television and Audiovisual Team; JSC Center Operations; NASA Headquarters External Relations and JSC External Relations; and our ceremony volunteers for their contributions to making today's ceremony a success.

The NASA Agency Honor Awards Program would not have been possible without the dedication and contributions of the Incentive Awards Board (IAB), Center Review Boards, and the NASA Awards Community.

The Agency would like to extend a special thanks to the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) for coordinating and supporting the 2018 Agency Honor Awards IAB Review and the Administrator's Ceremony.

The Agency also wishes to recognize our special guests: Clear Falls High School Army JROTC Color Guard led by H. Ray Canas, LTC (Ret.) and the Clear Falls High School Troubadours under the direction of Jill Fetty for their performance today.

To the extraordinary Honorees, we thank you for participating in today's event, and we wish you much continued success in all of your endeavors. For the benefit of all, may you continue to strive to reach new heights and inspire future generations of explorers and pioneers.

Ames Research Center

Armstrong Flight Research Center

Glenn Research Center
Glenn Research Center Plum Brook Station

Goddard Space Flight Center
Software Independent Verification and Validation Facility
Wallops Flight Facility
Goddard Institute for Space Studies

Headquarters
NASA Shared Services Center

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Johnson Space Center
White Sands Test Facility

Kennedy Space Center
Vandenberg Air Force Base

Langley Research Center

Marshall Space Flight Center
Michoud Assembly Facility

Stennis Space Center

NSDIM-3000-0003

MOON, MARS, & DEEP SPACE

www.nasa.gov