



Women in Aerospace
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A Message from WIA President Merrie Scott



As we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Apollo Lunar landing just a few weeks ago, we also celebrated the progress made by women in aerospace over the past forty years. But we temper that celebration with the knowledge that, despite a rich legacy of women supporting the space program as mathematicians, physicists and computer engineers, American women were not admitted to the astronaut corps until 1978. Astrophysicist Sally Ride broke that barrier and became the first U.S. woman astronaut. When she soared into the heavens in 1983, she carried along with her the hopes and dreams of so many in our community.

Shortly after that historic mission, Women in Aerospace (WIA) was founded to expand opportunities for women in the aerospace industry, and to recognize our collective, and individual, accomplishments. Through our networking events with leading aerospace professionals; our professional programs and events which feature topics of critical importance to the aerospace industry; our job bank, mentoring programs and career-building workshops; as well as our prestigious annual awards program recognizing excellence and achievement by women in our industry, WIA has blazed a trail for others to follow, while providing support and guidance for the journey.

In 2009, women serve as military and civilian aerospace leaders. We are CEOs of aerospace corporations and leaders of government agencies and we routinely soar in the sky and into space.

We honor those who went before us, those who are currently blazing the trail, and those creating new opportunities today. Without whose efforts we could never have achieved so much: the Mercury 13, Bessie Coleman, Sally Ride, Kathryn Sullivan, Judith Resnick, Eileen Collins, Wanda Austin, Sheila Widnall, Marion Blakey, Shana Dale and so many more.

Now it's your turn! Get involved! Invest in your future and the future of those who will follow the path you blazed. Become a [member](#)! Serve as a WIA [officer](#) or on the WIA board. Serve as a WIA [mentor](#). Volunteer on a [committee](#) or special event. Invest yourself in others, and help make our community's future even brighter than our present!

It's what WIA - and we - are all about.

WIA wants to know....

Speaking of a bright future, there are so many great ideas for WIA programs and activities among our members that we created a survey of WIA members to capture all that creative thinking in one document. Please take a moment and click on the [2009 WIA Member Survey](#), give us your opinion about the future of WIA, and send it along. If you do, you just might win free attendance at a future WIA event (excluding the Annual Awards Ceremony)! Deadline for responses is August 31st.

We really appreciate your comments!

WIA Elections!

All current WIA members are eligible and encouraged to take an active role in guiding our association and creating opportunities to advance the WIA mission. Seats on the WIA Board and Officer positions are available in 2010.

Nomination deadline is **September 1, 2009**. Women and men are encouraged to apply. WIA members may recommend themselves or other qualified, dynamic leaders. Nomination packages, including a bio and letter of interest, should be sent to info@womeninaerospace.org or can be mailed to WIA, 204 E Street NE, Washington DC 20002.

Upcoming WIA Events

September 16, 2009: **Women in Aerospace Networking Reception**

4:30 - 5:30 pm

Gold Room, 2nd Floor, Civic Auditorium

Pasadena Convention Center . Pasadena CA

September 30, 2009: **Breakfast with NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco**

Hyatt Regency Washington . 400 New Jersey Ave., NW . Washington DC 20001

Sponsored by AIAA, ATK, ITT and Lockheed Martin

October 18-21, 2009: **Women in Aerospace Networking Reception**

GEOINT2009 Symposium . San Antonio TX

Sponsored by ITT and Booz Allen Hamilton

More information coming soon!

October 27, 2009: **Annual WIA Awards Ceremony and Banquet**
National Press Club . 529 -14th Street, NW . Washington, D.C. 20004
[Reserve your seats now!](#)

For more information on these events, please see the [WIA Current Events](#) page on our web site.

Jobs in Aerospace!

Government Affairs Associate, The Space Foundation, Washington, DC

The Associate assists in the Washington Office mission, interfacing with Space Foundation customers within the White House, the Congress, the space industry and relevant federal agencies such as the Department of Defense, Department of Commerce, Department of State, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, National Science Foundation, and Department of Education. The associate will similarly interface with the international space community in Washington, D.C. [Email](#) for more information.

OMB Science and Space Branch Examiner, Washington, DC

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