



WIA Connections Fall 2012 | [Click here to view online](#)

October 2012

Connections Newsletter

Dear Annette,

Near the end of his life, the Italian architect, painter, poet and sculptor Michelangelo Buonarroti, wrote *Ancora Imparo*, or "I am still learning." I keep a plaque with this engraving in my office as a reminder to keep my eyes open and my focus on increasing understanding.

During the last five years, one of the greatest sources of my learning has been through Women in Aerospace. I have learned from the incredible speakers and panelists who generously give of their time and knowledge as part of WIA's events. I have learned from interacting with all the people who volunteer on committees, as officers, and board members. I have learned by serving in various leadership roles within WIA's officer team.



Stephanie Schierholz
President

I never could have imagined so much of my personal and professional growth would result from getting involved. The more I participate, the more I am in awe of the outstanding people WIA brings together.

It is hard to believe our activities for 2012 are nearing a close, but two of my favorite events remain: the annual Women in Aerospace Awards and the volunteer reception. The amount of outstanding women nominated for our awards each year is a hopeful reminder to me of all the truly wonderful people in our own industry from whom I can learn. We look forward to honoring this year's exceptional recipients on Nov. 1 and hope you'll join us. You can read all about them [here](#). Each year, this evening inspires and energizes me as I interact with and meet more great people within our industry.

One of the new awards presented as part of the ceremony is the WIA Educational Scholarship for a rising college senior. When I began as a WIA officer, the WIA Foundation and scholarships had not yet been formed, so it is very exciting that Kristyn Marie Johnson is our third recipient this year. And next year, the program expands to two scholarships of \$2,000 each. Applications are due Feb. 1, 2013, for all those female juniors who are still learning! More information is available [here](#).

Finally, we will close out this year of WIA activities with a reception Dec. 6 to recognize our volunteers who contributed time and effort this year to make our organization successful in its mission to expand opportunities for women in the aerospace industry. We invite all members to join us in thanking the board members, officers, speakers, and countless behind-the-scenes volunteers!

I hope you will join us for these two wonderful events. I challenge you to think about ways to continue your own learning. I can confidently promise one guaranteed way to keep learning is to get involved with WIA!

Cheers,

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[2011 WIA Awards Ceremony and Dinner Photos](#)

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Stephanie Schierholz
President
Women in Aerospace



Celebrating Industry Leadership *Nine Outstanding Women Leading the Way*

On Thursday, Nov. 1, WIA will celebrate women's professional excellence in aerospace by recognizing nine female leaders who have made outstanding contributions to the aerospace community. Don't miss our 27th annual Women in Aerospace Awards dinner and reception at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Arlington, Va.

Throughout the year, our programs, events, and initiatives all focus on enhancing women's experience in the aerospace industry. Our Women in Aerospace Awards dinner and reception are our annual representation of the manifestation of these goals. Our 2012 recipients are:

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: **Gwynne Shotwell**, president, SpaceX

AEROSPACE AWARENESS AWARD: **Susan Anderson**, public affairs specialist, NASA's Johnson Space Center

AEROSPACE EDUCATOR AWARD: **Sheila Condino**, advanced placement Physics and Chemistry teacher, Presidio High School, Texas

LEADERSHIP AWARDS: **Simonetta Di Pippo**, ASI European Space Policy Observatory and **U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison**

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: **Lieutenant General Ellen Pawlikowski**, commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command and Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space

OUTSTANDING MEMBER AWARD: **Debra Facktor Lepore**, industry professor, Stevens Institute of Technology and president, DFL Space LLC, Hoboken

WIA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP: **Kirstyn Marie Johnson**, a junior in aerospace engineering sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU) will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to be applied to the 2012-2013 academic year.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE: **Sally Ride**, a woman who embodied the mission of WIA, and the excellence for which we strive, and served as an inspiration to women and men both within the aerospace industry and in the global community. To show our sincere gratitude for all of her work and ongoing legacy, Women in Aerospace will provide a \$1,000 donation to *Sally Ride Science*, a company founded to educate, engage, and inspire students. We look forward to welcoming Sally Ride Science CEO **Sheryle Bolton** and Founder **Dr. Karen Flammer** to accept our donation and our thanks for perpetuating the mission of Ms. Ride.

We are grateful to these outstanding leaders in aerospace who will be presenting the awards to our 2012 WIA Award recipients:

- **Gen James Cartwright**, USMC, retired, Harold Brown Chair in Defense Policy Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies



Karen Yasumura, VP of
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- **Prof. Joanne Irene Gabrynowicz**, director, National Center for Remote Sensing, Air and Space Law; Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Space Law
- **Cindy Malawy**, vice president, Marketing, The Boeing Company, and WIA Foundation President

We look forward to seeing you at this celebration to recognize women who continue to inspire us. Tickets, tables, and event sponsorships are available online [here](#), or by contacting me at vpmembership@womeninaero.org for more information. Registration will close on October 23rd. We look forward to a great evening and hope to see a large contingent from our membership present!



Scan to join Women in Aerospace today!
or visit www.womeninaerospace.org/join



With Appreciation to our 2012 Awards Dinner Sponsors

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Update on WIA Website Makeover

Our communications committee has been hard at work collecting data from our recent website functionality survey. We plan to issue an RFP from web developers in November. The changes will include updated navigation, responsive design to adjust to various devices and a more efficient backend database to

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Jennifer Hoil, VP of Communications

minimalize redundancies in processing information. We could not have gotten this far without the fabulous response from our August/September survey takers whose interest and commitment to WIA is apparent. Our end goal is to make sure members and corporate sponsors are getting high value for their participation. Our website is overdue for an update, and we thank our membership for its patience in seeing that happen. Our goal is to see the new website in action by mid-2013. Please provide questions or comments to vpcommunications@womeninaero.org.

"How To..." Series Wraps for the Year with a Discussion on Ethics



Sara Fuentes, VP Professional Development

Women in Aerospace had its final "How To..." series of 2012 this past October. Senior Legal Counsel and Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer at EADS North America, Dana Vader, led an open discussion on "How To Navigate Ethics Laws." WIA Members learned how to structure events as to not violate ethics laws---always involve your ethics officer/general counsel in the planning as soon as possible. We also learned how to switch jobs from the public and private sector without jeopardizing either position and how to navigate the intersections of social and professional lives when you are friends with someone you have a professional relationship with too.

Many thanks go out to the speakers and attendees of WIA's "How To..." Series! This was the first two years of the program, and we are happy it has been a success. WIA members have learned about planning their finances, self-branding, social networking in a professional setting, and much, much more. If there's anything you'd like to learn or a skill that you think WIA members should learn, [let us know!](#)



Achievements for Women in Aerospace

October 3, 1991

On October 3, 1991, Marta Bohn-Meyer became the first female crew member of the SR-71 Blackbird, as part of NASA's high-speed flight research program at Dryden Flight Research Center. (In 1985, Congresswoman Beverly Byron flew in an SR-71 as a VIP.) During her career at NASA, Bohn-Meyer served in a variety of aeronautical research and operations engineering positions. At the time of her death, Bohn-Meyer was the chief engineer at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center.[1]

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Upcoming Events

November 1, 2012
*27th Annual WIA Awards
Dinner and Ceremony*
Location: Ritz Carlton
Pentagon City
Arlington, VA
Click [here](#) to register.

December 6, 2012
MEMBERS ONLY
WIA Volunteer Recognition
Reception
Location: Brasserie Beck
Washington, DC
Click [here](#) to register.



[\[2\]](#)

Additional information:

Three SR-71 aircraft were used at different times during the 1990s by NASA as test beds for high-speed and high-altitude aeronautical research.[\[3\]](#)
Bohn-Meyer was a precision aerobatic pilot.

She was awarded the Aerospace Educator Award in 1998 from Women in Aerospace.

[Dryden SR-71 in flight.](#)

[\[1\]](#)

[\[2\]](#) Photo

[\[3\]](#)

WIA Foundation Update

WOMEN IN AEROSPACE FOUNDATION NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2013 SCHOLARSHIPS

WIA Foundation is pleased to announce that two awards of \$2,000 each will be given to rising seniors in college, to be applied to the 2013-2014 academic year.

WIA gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Digital Avionics Technical Committee of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

We encourage you to invite any rising senior in college who fits the following eligibility requirements to apply for this award:

- Must be studying engineering, science or math
- Minimum college grade point average (GPA) of not less than the equivalent of a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Must have completed at least two and a half academic years of full-time college work at the time of application, and must be currently enrolled at an accredited college or university in the United States or its territories, working towards a bachelors degree, and plan to continue to be enrolled in the subsequent academic year
- Interested in pursuing a career in the aerospace field
- Entering senior year in the 2013-2014 academic year
- Must be female of citizenship or nationality

Click [here](#) for an application. The deadline to submit an application is February 1, 2013. Please feel free to call us if you have any questions.