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Dear AIAA Member,

June has continued the busy pace this year for the Institute and our members. One of the best parts of AIAA is seeing projects like the rocket launch of a satellite equipped with the latest weather monitoring technology delight educators and students. We all marveled at AIAA Corporate Member SpaceX's Falcon Heavy launch from Launch Complex 39A at NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC). Some called it "picture perfect" and many said, "It's one of the best days of my life seeing this."

AIAA was able to host nearly 80 middle and high school students from North Dakota, Nebraska, Texas, New York, Massachusetts, and Maryland to witness the launch of the GOES-U weather satellite through the Students To Launch (S2L) program. We've been able to share the full-scale S2L experience with hundreds of students in the past few years – witnessing a space launch in person, traveling to NASA KSC to learn about a wide spectrum of space missions, meeting aerospace professionals including astronauts, and imagining a future for themselves working in the space industry.



In addition, the three 2024 Trailblazing STEM Educators were able to witness the launch. We are honored to recognize these educators in partnership with [Challenger Center](#). Our host for the educator's visit to the Space Coast was AIAA Corporate Member Blue Origin's Club for the Future, who provided them with a personalized tour of Blue Origin's New Glenn facility. The educators also toured AIAA Corporate Member United Launch Alliance (ULA) facilities, including seeing the launch pad where the Starliner mission recently launched. They were thrilled with these experiences, commenting they were "life changing."





Our 2024 Trailblazing STEM Educators: Jenn Donais, Darryl Newhouse, and Sarah Leonard.

These kinds of events are just one way we get to touch and inspire the next generation of innovators and explorers. I encourage all AIAA members to find ways to reach out to the next generation and share insights into your work that could inspire them toward a great future as hands-on artisans, engineers, scientists, business leaders, policymakers, communications professionals, and more. We need all of these talents and more if we are to extend the human neighborhood beyond low Earth orbit to the moon and on to Mars.

We also were very fortunate to be able to spend more time on the Space Coast after the launch activities and enjoy a networking reception in Cocoa Beach. We welcomed about 25 local AIAA individual members and representatives from our Corporate Member companies, along with our Trailblazing STEM Educators. The exchange among the attendees was energizing, especially after we all witnessed an awe-inspiring launch. It's always encouraging when we get to spend time with AIAA members in their local environment.



As we have been following the Starliner mission throughout June, the Institute had the opportunity to provide commentary to CNN. We underscored the focus on the crew's safety by NASA and AIAA Corporate Partner Boeing. ICYMI, you can watch the [interview here](#).

Important Discussions Held at Inaugural Summit on Outer Space Heritage

Along with the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (NASM), AIAA organized a Summit on Outer Space Heritage at the NASM's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center outside Washington, DC. The event was timed around the 55th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing this summer and the increasing importance of the Artemis Accords' approach to U.S. space diplomacy.

This inaugural Summit considered the implications and preservation methods for the historical Apollo sites as well as other aspects of off-Earth space heritage. It is part of our Space Domain's expanding activities in response to questions of sustainable space exploration and heritage. We are grateful to the organizing committee and interdisciplinary experts who described the scope of the Artemis Accords' impact on priorities for engineering, scientific research, policy, conservation, economics, and space law. You can read this [coverage of the Summit](#) from *Payload* newsletter.

We look forward to further discussions about engineering challenges and opportunities as they relate to lunar landing and space exploration during the upcoming 2024 ASCEND, when we'll publish the Summit report and videos of the Summit's panel sessions.

Get Involved as a Leader with the Institute

Volunteer leadership is the foundation of AIAA. The Institute is currently seeking nominations for numerous positions. Please take a look at the current opportunities to develop your leadership skills as well as to give back to the aerospace community through serving. You can learn more and submit nominations here: [AIAA Nominations and Elections](#). **Submit by 14 July, 6 p.m. ET.**

- AIAA President-Elect
- AIAA Board of Trustees – Members-at-Large
- AIAA Council of Directors
- Region IV – South Central, Director
- Region V – Mid-West, Director
- Aerospace Outreach Group, Director
- Integration Group, Director
- Young Professionals Group, Director-Elect
- Information Systems Group, Director
- Propulsion & Energy Group, Director
- AIAA Integration and Outreach Group Division Chief

Announcing the Recipient of the 2024 Resilient Student Scholarship – Rylie Tatum

We are excited to announce the first recipient of our newest scholarship created with Blue Origin's non-profit Club for the Future: the 2024 Resilient Student Scholarship is presented to **Rylie Tatum** from Mableton, Ga. Rylie is a recent high school graduate of The Lovett School, Atlanta, Ga. She will attend Princeton University in the fall.

The Resilient Student Scholarship was created with a profound commitment to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the aerospace industry. It's specifically designed to empower and inspire students who have faced unique challenges including disabilities and socioeconomic circumstances, as well as first-generation college students. We're thrilled to present Rylie with a \$10,000 scholarship and a professional mentor. We can't wait to see how Rylie shapes the future of aerospace.

Continuing our Commitment to Promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

This [#PrideMonth](#) in June, we honored the history and achievements of the LGBTQ+ community in the fields of aeronautics and astronautics. Read the profiles of [AIAA member Pat Goulding](#) and [AIAA member Holly Pascal](#) posted on the AIAA LinkedIn page and other social media platforms.

During June, we celebrated and honored the invaluable contributions of women in the field of engineering on [#InternationalWomenInEngineeringDay](#). AIAA is committed to fostering diversity in the aerospace industry, ensuring it reflects the demographics of our society. Enjoy this [video on the AIAA LinkedIn page](#) saluting women engineers worldwide.

We are excited to hear more from Sonya Smith, the new chair of the AIAA Diversity Working Group (DWG) in the July/August issue of [Aerospace America](#) (to be posted online on 1 July). She shares why she is committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within AIAA and the greater aerospace community, as well as her vision for her term leading the DWG.

AIAA AVIATION Forum + ASCEND Coming Up Soon

Make your plans now to attend [2024 AIAA AVIATION Forum](#) and [2024 ASCEND](#). You can see the impressive [technical programs and the prominent speakers who are being finalized in high-level sessions](#).

Check out the extended deadline to apply for the [2024 Humans In Space Challenge](#) that seeks innovative ideas potentially revolutionizing human life in space. If you are a startup company or researcher focused on overcoming the challenges of sustaining human presence in space, you have two more weeks to submit your pioneering proposal on enhancing health care capabilities on Earth. We'll get to hear more about the progress of the HIS Challenge during 2024 ASCEND.



On the Horizon

- Nominations for AIAA Elections, [due 14 July](#), 6 p.m. ET
- [2024 AIAA AVIATION Forum](#), 29 July–2 August, Las Vegas, Nevada
- [2024 ASCEND](#), 30 July–1 August, Las Vegas, Nevada
- 2025 AIAA DEFENSE Forum Call for Presentations [due 15 August](#)

All the Best,

Dan



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