



WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION

78th Annual Awards





Reaching New Heights Requires Staying Resilient

*By Christopher E. Kubasik
President of the Wings Club and Vice Chairman,
President and COO of L3Harris Technologies*

The proud history of aviation is one of defying the odds to achieve the remarkable. COVID-19 is testing us in ways never imagined, but we are responding by taking actions in areas we can control and adapting to strengthen and bolster vulnerabilities that have been exposed. I am confident our industry will emerge with new protocols and approaches to build on our legacy of innovation and global progress.

For eight decades, the Wings Club has supported the advancement and education of current and future aviators in every sphere of our industry. The organization's 1,200 members are industry professionals and aviation enthusiasts who represent airlines, aerospace manufacturers, the financial community and universities. Our members are the men and women who will lead our industry out of this most challenging period.

In-person celebrations are not possible at this time, but I am delighted that the Wings Club is taking a virtual approach to its annual recognition event. I hope you will join me in honoring the 2020 Wings Club awardees. These include a woman I deeply admire and who has made an incredible impact on our industry, 11 student scholarship recipients and a humanitarian nonprofit organization that demonstrated its dedication despite extraordinary circumstances.

2020 Distinguished Achievement Award Honoree

The Wings Club Distinguished Achievement Award recognizes those who have made a lasting contribution to our field and industry. Past recipients include Astronaut Neil Armstrong, President George H.W. Bush and airline CEO Sir Richard Branson.

This year it is my great honor on behalf of the Wings Club, to announce Phebe N. Novakovic, Chairman & CEO of General Dynamics, as this year's recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award.

In the 15 years I have known Phebe, she has been a trailblazer. Phebe joined General Dynamics, an aerospace and defense company, in 2001 and has served as Chairman and CEO for nearly eight years, leading one of the world's largest companies with 100,000 employees and \$39 billion in annual revenues. Under her leadership, one of the company's businesses – Gulfstream – has delivered over 1,000 aircraft and successfully launched the G500 and G600 business jets.



Prior to joining General Dynamics, she held key positions in our nation's government, including serving as the special assistant to the secretary and deputy secretary of defense from 1997 to 2001.

Phebe is also active in the community, serving on the boards of the Aerospace Industries Association, the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund, and is Chairman for Ford's Theatre Society. She is also the Chairman of the Association of the United States Army and is a member of the Business Roundtable.

On behalf of the Wings Club Board of Governors and the entire membership, there is not a more worthy recipient of this distinguished award. We thank Phebe for her contribution, dedication and patriotism and congratulate her on this distinction.

Scholarship Recipients

The Wings Club's scholarship program helps students with diverse backgrounds who have demonstrated academic and leadership milestones and sets them on a leadership path. The 11 recipients of this year's Wings Club scholarship are impressive and talented students.

The recipients include Airin Khan, Alex Meredith, Alexa Rae Cruz, Douglas Niemela, Jay Kurup, Kaelie Holstine, Kyle Montes de Oca, Maor Gozalani, Param Patel, Nasir Curry and Nathaniel Lazard. They represent the future of our industry. They are smart, dedicated, high achievers who represent the top university aerospace programs across the country.

This next generation of aviators, engineers and general problem solvers inspires me. They show that our future leaders are on a path to reinvent our industry, stay adaptable and lead us through the challenges that tomorrow will inevitably bring.

Humanitarian Award

Each year, the Wings Club recognizes a global organization that demonstrates how our industry can make a difference towards a better and more compassionate world. This year I want to applaud Corporate Angel Network (CAN) as the recipient of the Humanitarian Award. CAN is the only charitable organization dedicated to transporting cancer patients to receive specialized treatment at no cost. And despite COVID-19 reducing the number of flights, CAN has remained steadfast in pairing patients with air transportation.

The entire Wings Club thanks CAN for its dedication and commitment to those in need.

The Future

This year's honorees have excelled and demonstrated admirable resilience as they persevered through this most challenging period. Each one of you inspires me to remain optimistic about our industry.

Congratulations to this year's honorees. Thank you to Airbus, The Boeing Company, General Dynamics, and Pratt & Whitney for their financial support of the Wings Club Foundation and its mission.

GENERAL DYNAMICS

Phebe N. Novakovic
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

October 12, 2020

To the Members of the Wings Club Foundation,

I am honored to accept the 2020 Wings Club's Distinguished Achievement Award on behalf of the more than 100,000 men and women of General Dynamics. Thank you from all of us.

The Wings Club has long served as a venue for the aerospace industry's exchange of ideas, best practices and lessons learned. General Dynamics, through our aerospace subsidiaries, Gulfstream and Jet Aviation, has participated in these exchanges over the years and has benefited from the association.

Since 1942, the Wings Club has supported the aerospace industry as it has changed the course of human travel and exploration. The scholarship fund that you established almost 30 years ago has provided 117 grants to schools across the nation focused on aviation and has funded more than \$1,000,000 in scholarships for aspiring students, many of whom went on to successful careers in aviation. Your steadfast commitment to the future of aviation is laudatory.

For many, 2020 has been a trying year, especially so for those in commercial aviation. The precipitous drop in air traffic hobbled an entire industry driving lay-offs, financial uncertainty and in some instances, bankruptcies. Your continued investment in the next generation of aviation professionals helps ensure that we will have the talent we need when the economy and our industry recover. Now more than ever, that support is important.

I regret that I am unable to thank you in person for this recognition, but am nonetheless grateful for this honor and for your steadfast support of aviation.

Sincerely,



11011 Sunset Hills Road
Reston, VA 20190



THE 2020 WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



Alexa Rae Cruz
Vaughn College of Aeronautics
and Technology
Major: Aviation Science
Wings Club Foundation Scholar



Douglas Niemela
Embry-Riddle
Aeronautical University
Major: Aeronautical Science
The Wings Club
Foundation Scholar



Jay Kurup
Vaughn College of
Aeronautics and Technology
Major: Aviation Science
Distinguished Scholar Award



Nasir Curry
Tuskegee University
Major: Aerospace
Science Engineering
Distinguished Scholar Award



Maor Gozalzani
Purdue University
Major: Aeronautical and
Astronautical Engineering /
Minor: Management
Distinguished Scholar Award



Nathaniel Lazard
Tuskegee University
Major: Aerospace
Science Engineering
Distinguished Scholar Award

THE 2020 WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



Alex Meredith
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Major: Aerospace Engineering /
Minor: Computer Science
Distinguished Scholar Award



Kyle Montes
de Oca
University of Texas at Austin
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Distinguished Scholar Award



Param Patel
Embry-Riddle
Aeronautical University
Major: Aviation Business
Administration / **Concentration:**
Air Transportation
Distinguished Scholar Award



Airin Khan
Vaughn College of
Aeronautics and Technology
Major: Aviation Science
12th Annual William R.
DeCota Scholarship



Kaelie Holstine
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
University
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Minor: Mathematics
Children of Fallen
Patriots Scholarship
The Vern L. Pray Scholarship



The Wings Club Foundation Annual Humanitarian Award

A key component of the Wings Club Foundation's mission is to support charitable organizations that use aircraft to provide humanitarian aid to those in need. This year, the Wings Club Foundation is proud to present the Corporate Angel Network with a \$25,000 donation.

With the innovation and continued support of the aviation community, Corporate Angel Network is able to use both commercial and business aviation to transport cancer patients to care during this challenging time.

"We are extremely humbled by the substantial support of The Wings Club Foundation, which will allow Corporate Angel Network to help patients in critical need during the pandemic and after."

- Gina Russo, Executive Director, Corporate Angel Network

*“Aviation is proof that given the will,
we have the capacity to achieve the impossible.”*

Captain Eddie Rickenbacker

On behalf of the Wings Club Foundation Board of Governors
and Officers, thank you all for your continued
support and resilience.

