



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Stephanie Griffith  
703-416-4888 Ext 104, [sgriffith@naa.aero](mailto:sgriffith@naa.aero)

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### **The United States Department of the Air Force – Boeing X-37B Team to Receive the 2019 Robert J. Collier Trophy**

**Washington, DC, August 13, 2020** – The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) is pleased to announce that the United States Department of the Air Force – Boeing X-37B team has been named as the recipient of the 2019 Robert J. Collier Trophy for "... developing and employing the world's only reusable, autonomous spaceplane, which logged more than 2,865 days in orbit across five missions, changing access to space and serving as the nation's workhorse in space experimentation and technology."

"The X-37B team win of the 2019 National Aeronautic Association, Robert J. Collier Trophy exemplifies the kind of lean, agile and innovative technological development our nation needs to secure its interests," said U.S. Space Force Chief of Space Operations, Gen. John "Jay" Raymond. "The ability to test new systems in space and return them to Earth is unique to the X-37B and enables the U.S. to more efficiently and effectively develop spacepower to maintain superiority in the space domain."

The Collier Trophy is awarded annually for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year." The list of Collier recipients represents a timeline of air and space achievements, marking major events in the history of flight dating back to 1911.

“We are honored to receive the Collier Trophy, along with our partners at the U.S. Department of the Air Force, in recognition of a record-breaking year for the X-37B program,” said Boeing Defense, Space & Security CEO Leanne Caret. “The extraordinary men and women who make up our government-industry team now take their place alongside the Collier Trophy legends who preceded them. They have made a lasting impact on aerospace development for the past decade and will influence future generations of space systems to come.”

“The X-37B team should be commended for their accomplishments over the last decade and more importantly for what they accomplished in 2019,” said NAA Chairman Jim Albaugh. “As the world’s only autonomous, reusable spaceplane, it continues to contribute to our understanding of both space and air flight.”

The Collier Trophy Selection Committee, comprised of 35 aviation and aerospace professionals, reviewed presentations from nine nominees and selected the X-37B team as the recipient on August 11.

Members of the Collier Trophy Selection Committee:

Richard Aboulafia, Teal Group	Samantha Magill, Vice-Chair, NAA
Jim Albaugh, Chairman, NAA	Elizabeth Matarese, Secretary, NAA
Christopher Brunner, Raytheon Technologies	Mary Miller, Signature Aviation
Steve Champness, Atlanta Aero Club	Mary Claire Murphy, Textron
Leda Chong, Gulfstream Aerospace	Ken Panos, Aerojet Rocketdyne
James Darcy, Airbus	Georgia Pappas, Aero Club of New England
Rich Hanson, Academy of Model Aeronautics	Eric Pierce, Lockheed Martin
Duane Hawkins, Spirit Aerosystems	Donald Pointer, Dassault Falcon
David Hurley, Aviation Partners	Peter Prowitt, GE Aviation
Margaret Jenny, MJenny Strategies	Mark Rector, Honda Aircraft Company
Tim Keating, The Boeing Company	Darryl Roberson, Rolls-Royce, North America
Leo Knaapen, Bombardier Aviation	Blake Scholl, Boom Aerospace
Charles Lyon, Northrop Grumman	Todd Simmons, Cirrus Aircraft

Amy Spowart, National Aviation Hall of Fame    Brad Thress, FlightSafety International  
Bob Stangarone, Stangarone & Associates        Read Van de Water, Safran  
Ellen Stofan, Smithsonian's National Air &        Tony Velocci, Aviation Week (Ret.)  
Space Museum    Patty Wagstaff, Patty Wagstaff Airshows, Inc.  
Alyssa Ten Eyck, Embraer                            Clyde Woltman, Leonardo Company

The 2019 Collier Trophy will be formally presented on a date to be determined. For more information or to view a complete list of previous recipients of the Collier Trophy, please visit [www.naa.aero](http://www.naa.aero).

*The National Aeronautic Association is a non-profit, membership organization devoted to fostering America's aerospace leadership and promoting public understanding of the importance of aviation and space flight to the United States.*

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