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## **JUDITH BRUNER TO RECEIVE KATHARINE WRIGHT TROPHY**

**Washington, DC, September 29, 2014** – The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) has announced that Judith Neuffer Bruner has been selected as the recipient of this year’s Katharine Wright Trophy. The Trophy is awarded annually to a woman who “...has contributed to the success of others, or made a personal contribution to the advancement of the art, sport, and science of aviation and space flight over an extended period of time.”

Ms. Bruner is being recognized for “...over 40 years of distinguished and historic contributions as one of the first female Naval Aviators, a pioneering research pilot, and a senior NASA technical leader.”

Ms. Bruner has distinguished herself in both military and civilian positions. She was part of the first group of eight women receiving orders for Navy Flight Training in 1973 and the first of the six who went on to earn their pilot's wings. She later served as the first woman to serve as a Navy P-3 pilot and the first female Navy pilot to fly through a hurricane. She retired from the Naval Reserve with the rank of Captain.

Ms. Bruner currently serves as a senior manager at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, where she is responsible for the overall management and implementation of Center activities in the areas of aerospace and avionics systems safety, mission assurance, quality management systems, and occupational health and safety.

Drawing upon her own experiences as a female pioneer in the Navy, Ms. Bruner has served as a mentor and role model for women in the aerospace community throughout her career.

The Katharine Wright Trophy Selection Committee consisted of Jonathan Gaffney, NAA President and CEO; Katharine Wright Trophy Recipient (2013) Kim de Groh, Martha Phillips, President of the Ninety Nines, Pat Prentiss, Past President of the Ninety Nines and a member of the NAA Board of Directors, and Jan McKenzie, Vice President of the Ninety-Nines.

*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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