

Von Braun Spaceflight Trophy

Wayne Hale

Wayne Hale is a well-respected Space Professional with stellar careers in both civil service at NASA and industry, leading some of the most prolific efforts at NASA. Currently Wayne is the Director of Human Spaceflight at Special Aerospace Services of Boulder, CO. He began his NASA career in 1978 as a flight controller in the propulsion systems section. Wayne quickly ascended to the position of flight director, leading 41 space shuttle missions. On February 1, 2003 Wayne started a new job as the Space Shuttle Program's Launch Integration Manager. If that day seems familiar, that was the day we lost the Columbia orbiter and her crew. NASA needed leadership in those dark days. Wayne Hale was recruited to the role of Deputy Program Manager for the Space Shuttle Program in July 2003. He assumed the role of Program Manager in September 2005 after STS-114, the return to flight mission. Wayne Hale retired from NASA on July 21, 2010 as a Deputy Associate Administrator at NASA Headquarters.

But Wayne Hale's mark on NASA history is larger than an abbreviated listing of his roles. Wayne was a driving force in changing the NASA culture! Today's NASA is more of a listening culture, open to alternate and even dissenting opinions. He led the team of the most visible and important space program in our nation's history and set the tenor for safe, cost-efficient, and timely missions dedicated to completing the International Space Station and safely winding down the space shuttle program. But perhaps more important and certainly more influential is Wayne's talent for telling a story. His blogs have been read by thousands and continue to influence this generation of engineers and managers. His unique insight invokes deep introspection on lessons we should learn and systems thinking that we should employ. Space leadership continues to seek his advice on myriads of topics. Wayne Hale never shies away from offering an expert opinion, especially when it affects the safety of human space flight.

Wayne Hale is nominated for the Von Braun Space Flight Trophy for his extensive and expert influence on the furtherance of safe human space flight in the past, present and future.

Wayne Hale exemplifies the qualities of this prestigious award.

David King

David King is a well-respected Space Professional with stellar careers in both civil service at NASA and industry as well as an avid participant in many community service roles. He began his NASA career in 1983 as a propulsion engineer at the Kennedy Space Center. He may be best known in the space sector as the 10th Center Director of the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), a position he held from 2003 through 2009 when he retired from federal service. David was called upon to lead the recovery operations for the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster in 2003 while serving as the MSFC Deputy Center Director. Following his NASA career he joined Dynetics, Inc in Huntsville as Executive Vice-President and promoted to President in 2013 and CEO in 2015. As CEO David led the sale of Dynetics to Leidos where he continued to serve until his retirement in 2023. He continues to serve on various boards, consult, coach, volunteer and mentor leaders in the Huntsville area. David's contributions to the space industry are many and span several years. He led MSFC through a dark period following STS-107, creating a can-do spirit that helped propel the space shuttle program through return to flight and safe flyout and retirement. David led the center through the design efforts that led to the Space Launch System (SLS). His contributions continued during his industry career as well. He led company efforts to engage in several space efforts while continuing industry-leading efforts in military programs.

He received many honors and awards including the Presidential Rank Award-Meritorious.

David has been consistently active in serving and supporting the local space community and space community engagements with the greater community.

It is also hard to measure the number of space professionals young and old and students that David has and continues to mentor and provide his advice, wisdom, perspective, and support. David King exemplifies the qualities of this prestigious award.

SLS Program -- PM (Honeycutt) to accept on behalf of program

NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) program team is nominated for the Von Braun Space Flight Trophy. SLS is the nation's preeminent human space flight launch vehicle. In 2010, NASA was directed to build a heavy lift launch vehicle that would both replace the space shuttle and also transport humans and machines beyond earth orbit to the moon and on to Mars. The SLS program began in earnest in 2011 under the guidance of Todd May with a small team that grew rapidly. The government and industry team designed and developed a launch vehicle capable of sending crew and cargo directly to the moon. Crafted from existing and proven designs and a significant amount of hardware from the space shuttle program the SLS program made steady progress towards successful tests and initial production of the first vehicle. On Nov. 16, 2022, SLS launched from NASA Kennedy Space Center's Launch Complex 39B in Florida, making history as the most powerful rocket NASA has ever launched. Under the guidance of John Honeycutt, the successful SLS vehicle ushered in a new era of exploration, as NASA prepares to send astronauts to the Moon as a prelude to human exploration of Mars. Post-flight data reviews determined that SLS met or exceeded performance expectations, and the rocket is ready to support a crewed flight on Artemis II and future crewed missions. The incredible integrated team of civil servants and contractors have met the nation's challenge and developed the new generation launch vehicle that will be the workhorse of exploration, evolving to larger and more powerful variants that will enable human habitation on our moon and later human exploration of Mars.

The SLS Program of NASA and Industry Partners is nominated for the 2023 Von Braun Space Flight Program for the development of America's heavy lift human exploration launch vehicle and its successful first flight that met and/or exceeded all requirements and expectations.

Astronautics Engineer Award

Harold Benjamin Finger

Harold Benjamin Finger (born February 18, 1924) is an American aeronautical nuclear engineer and the former head of the United States nuclear rocket program. He helped establish and lead the Space Nuclear Propulsion Office, a liaison organization between NASA and the Atomic Energy Commission to coordinate efforts to create a nuclear thermal rocket.

When NASA was established on October 1, 1958, Mr. Finger was asked to come to Washington where he started as Chief of NASA's Space Nuclear Propulsion program and later was named Director, Space Power and Nuclear Systems.

In 1960, he was also appointed Manager of the Space Nuclear Propulsion Office which was a joint office of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and NASA responsible for managing the development of nuclear reactor rocket propulsion systems for deep space missions.

In 1965, he was also appointed the AEC's Director, Space Nuclear Systems Division. While serving simultaneously in those three positions, he managed NASA's Nuclear Engine for Rocket Vehicle Application (NERVA) program and as such was responsible for developing the nuclear rockets needed for deep space missions and for human missions to Mars.

NERVA started testing in September 1964, and the final engine in this series was the XE, designed with flight representative hardware and fired into a low-pressure chamber to simulate a vacuum.

SNPO fired NERVA engines dozens of times, and the XE series all generated 1100 MW, with many of the tests concluded only when the test-stand ran out of hydrogen propellant.

NERVA reportedly produced the baseline 334 kN (75,000 lbf) thrust that NASA MSFC required in contemporaneous planning for Mars missions.

The last NERVA NRX firing lost 17 kg of nuclear fuel in two hours of testing, which was judged sufficient for space missions by SNPO.

Despite its impressive accomplishments in maturing nuclear propulsion technologies for deep space flight, the NERVA program was regretfully cancelled in 1973.

Finger was also in charge of the Systems for Nuclear Auxiliary Power (SNAP) project that developed space nuclear power sources. By 1999, twenty-six NASA missions (including seven Project Apollo missions to the Moon) had used nuclear generators to power scientific experiments on the Moon and in deep space.

Finger served in his three positions until 1967 when he was named NASA's Associate Administrator for Organization and Management responsible for all of NASA's management functions including budget, contracts, personnel, and university and technology application programs.

Since Mr. Finger retired, he has continued to be involved in all the fields of his past experience. He has been a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration since 1970 and has served on its Board and many of its Panels. He is a life-time Trustee of the Board of the National Housing Conference. He served on the Technical Advisory Committee of the DOE's Solar Energy Research Institute. He received many honors and awards including NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal. He is an honorary member of the American Institute of Architects, has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the AIAA and received its James H. Wyld Propulsion Award. He is a member of the American Nuclear Society, the

American Society for Public Administration, the American Astronautical Society and the Planetary Society. He has received the Society of Automotive Engineers' Manley Memorial Award, the Schreiber-Spence Award of the University of New Mexico for contributions to space nuclear power and propulsion, and was elected a member of the Cosmos Club in 1975.

Dr. Mark Lewis

Dr Lewis is a senior American aerospace executive with special expertise in hypersonics. He is currently the Executive Director of the NDIA Emerging Technologies Institute, following recent roles as acting US Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and Director of Defense Research and Engineering for Modernization.

Dr Lewis has been a technical leader, teacher, and forward thinker with supreme influence in diverse arenas that support U.S. Leadership in Aeronautics. His work and influence spans the aerospace flight spectrum, from a analysis of conventional jet engines to entry into planetary atmospheres at hypervelocity speeds. His research activities have contributed directly to NASA and DOD programs in the areas of high-speed vehicle and spacecraft design.

He was USAF Chief Scientist from 2004 to 2008 (the longest-serving Chief Scientist in AF history). He served as chief scientific adviser to the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the AF, and provided assessments on scientific and technical issues affecting the AF mission. He identified and analyzed technical issues and brought them to the attention of AF leaders. His primary areas of focus included energy, sustainment, long-range strike technologies, advanced propulsion systems, and workforce development.

He interacted with other services and the OSD on issues affecting AF in-house technical enterprise. He served on the Steering Committee and Senior Review Group of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board and was the principal AF science and technology representative to the civilian scientific and engineering community and the public at large. He is currently a member of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board and Director of the Science and Technology Policy Institute.

Dr. Lewis joined the faculty of the Aerospace Engineering department of the Clark School at the University of Maryland in College Park in 1988. He has conducted basic and applied research in and taught many aspects of hypersonic aerodynamics, advanced propulsion, and space vehicle design and optimization.

Dr. Lewis was formerly the Willis Young Jr. Professor and Chair of the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland at College Park. He is a former AIAA president. He is author of >280 technical publications and has served as research advisor to >60 graduate students. He is active in national and international professional societies, with responsibilities for research and educational policy and support. He has served on various AF and DOD advisory boards. He is currently on leave from the University of Maryland, while he directs the Science and Technology Policy Institute in the Institute for Defense Analysis.

At MIT, Lewis received two BS degrees (in aeronautics and astronautics and in earth and planetary science), a MS and Doctor of Science degrees in aeronautics and astronautics. He is a fellow of the AIAA and the ASME, a President's Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and was named an aerospace Laureate by the editors of Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine for his pioneering efforts in promoting research and development of high-speed flight.

Gen. Lester Lyles

General Lester L. Lyles is a former USAF general, USAF Vice Chief of Staff, and Commander of AF Materiel Command.

He has figured prominently in US space and astronautics with significant contributions in rocket engineering, human spaceflight, and missile defense. He has served in leadership in the areas of US Space Exploration policy, US spaceflight plans, defense science, and national security and intelligence. Several of these roles were presidential appointments.

Select assignments during his career include his first uniform assignment at the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles AFB as a rocket scientist engineer. He returned to Los Angeles AFB to lead the Space Launch Recovery Program following the 1986 Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

He was asked to run the Strategic Defense Initiative started by President Ronald Reagan; he served as Director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. As a four-star general he was Vice Chief of Staff at U.S. Air Force Headquarters in WDC and he later commanded the AF Materiel Command. He retired from the AF in October 2003.

After retirement, Lyles served on President George W. Bush's Commission on Implementation of US Space Exploration Policy exploring development of the human exploration program. He chaired the "Rationale and Goals of the US Civil Space Program" committee of the US National Academies, was named a member of the Review of US Human Space Flight Plans Committee, and was appointed to the Defense Science Board, a committee of civilian experts who advised the US Department of Defense on scientific and technical matters. General Lyles was appointed to the President's Intelligence Advisory Board by the White House.

Today Lyles is a Director for KBR Corp and a Trustee of Analytic Services and a managing partner of Four Seasons Ventures, LLC.

Lyles served on the National Space Council Users' Advisory, the NASA Advisory Council and the Augustine Space Committee. As a member of the State Department's International Security Advisory Board, he's been an adviser on national security and intelligence issues.

He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Howard University and a master's degree in mechanical/nuclear engineering (and honorary doctors of laws) from NM State University and Urbana University.

His awards are many. In 1990, he was named Astronautics Engineer of the Year by the National Space Club (WDC) and his contributions since then deserve our acknowledgement today.

Distinguished Science Award

Dr. Laurie Leshin

Dr. Laurie Leshin, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory since May 2022, is a distinguished geochemist and space scientist with extensive leadership experience in academia and government, including senior NASA positions. Dr. Leshin is the first woman to serve as JPL director, a role that also includes serving as Vice President at Caltech, which manages JPL for NASA. Leshin is also a Bren Professor of Geochemistry and Planetary Science at Caltech and continues as co-investigator for two instruments on NASA's Mars Curiosity rover. Dr. Leshin's scientific endeavors are focused on deciphering the record of water on objects in our solar system, including Mars, the Earth's Moon, and comets. Dr. Leshin served as a member of the Mars Science Laboratory science team that analyzed data collected by the Curiosity rover to find evidence of water on the surface of Mars. She has also been involved in planning and advocating for Mars Sample Return missions for more than two decades. Leshin served as the first female President of Worcester Polytechnic Institute from 2014 to 2022 and previously served as Dean of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute School of Science. In 2010, Leshin assumed the role of Deputy Associate Administrator of the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA headquarters, where her work involved the oversight of the future human spaceflight program, including efforts to establish commercial crew capabilities and elements of what is now the Artemis program. In 2005, Dr. Leshin assumed the role of director of science and exploration at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and in 2008, she was promoted to Goddard's deputy director for science and technology, where she and colleagues were responsible for the strategy, planning, and implementation of more than 50 Earth and space flight projects. Before leaving for NASA, Dr. Leshin served as the Deane and John Whiteman Dean's Distinguished Professor of Geological Sciences at Arizona State University and Director of its Center for Meteorite Studies, which housed the largest university-based meteorite collection in the world. While at ASU, she also led the formation of ASU's pathbreaking School of Earth and Space Exploration. Her numerous honors include NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal and Distinguished Public Service Medal, and the Meteoritical Society's Nier Prize for outstanding research by a scientist under the age of 35. The International Astronomical Union named asteroid 4922 Leshin to honor her planetary science contributions. Leshin advised President George W. Bush on space policy, and Barack Obama appointed her to the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum advisory board. Leshin holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Arizona State University, and master's and doctoral degrees in geochemistry from Caltech.

Dr. Gary Zank

Dr. Gary Zank received his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Natal in South Africa in 1987. Gary is an Eminent Scholar and Distinguished Professor, Director of the Center for Space Plasma and Aeronomic Research (CSPAR), and Chair of the Department of Space Science at The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Gary has been recognized in his field through the receipt of numerous honors and awards throughout his career. In 2017, he was named the University of Alabama Board of Trustees Trustee Professor, the first and only University of Alabama System faculty member to achieve this position. In 2016 Dr. Zank was elected as a Member of the prestigious U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the only person in Alabama to be a member of this body at the time. He was recognized internationally in 2015 with the AOGS Axford Medal, the highest honor given by the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS). Other awards include his being named a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, the American Physical Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2017, he was also elected an AOGS Honorary Member and was chosen by the International Space Science Institute (ISSI) to be the 2017 Johannes Geiss Fellow. Dr. Gary Zank received the NASA Silver Achievement Medal, in recognition of his role on the Parker Solar Probe team in November, 2019. Dr. Zank was awarded the Zeldovich Medal in 1996, and the NSF's Presidential Young Investigator Award in 1994. Zank has authored or co-authored over 400 scientific journal publications. One of his publications has been recognized as one of the twelve "classic papers" ever published in the Journal of Plasma Physics. Dr. Zank served as one of two Co-Chairs of the 2020 National Academies Decadal Review for Plasma Physics. Prior to arriving at UAH, Dr. Zank was a Chancellor's Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of California, Riverside, and Director of the University of California, Riverside, Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics. Gary Zank's

research interests extend across space physics, plasma astrophysics, and plasma physics. Although his research is related primarily to theory, modeling, and simulations, Zank is involved in numerous experimental and observational programs. His work underpins the scattering of charged particles and the heating and driving of the corona and solar wind throughout the heliosphere, making the broader implications of his research substantial.

IXPE Team – PI (Weisskopf) to accept on behalf of program

NASA's Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE) was proposed by Marshall Space Flight Center to the Astrophysics Small Explorers Opportunity and selected competitively by NASA HQ. Launched in Dec. 2021, IXPE only recently saw First Light in Feb. 2022, and builds on the discoveries of NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory by being NASA's first mission to study the polarization of X-rays from many different types of celestial objects. Measuring the polarization of X-rays traces the story of where this light came from, including the geometry and inner workings of its cosmic source. The IXPE mission studies exotic astronomical objects and permits mapping of the magnetic fields of black holes, neutron stars, pulsars, supernova remnants, magnetars, quasars, and active galactic nuclei. IXPE's two-year baseline mission, which has recently been extended by NASA HQ, is measuring the x-ray polarization of these cosmic sources, using three identical telescopes, each comprising an x-ray mirror assembly and a state-of-the-art polarization-sensitive detector. The mission, a collaboration between NASA and the Italian Space Agency (ASI), is led by the Principal Investigator, Dr. Martin Weisskopf at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC). MSFC manages the project and is responsible for the x-ray optics and the Science Operations Center (SOC). Italy's National Institute for Astrophysics (INAF) and National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) are responsible for the x-ray instrument. Ball Aerospace is the primary industry partner, responsible for the spacecraft, integration, and testing, as well as managing the Mission Operations Center (MOC) at the University of Colorado's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP). In addition to funding the instrument at INAF, INFN, and industrial partner OHB-Italia, ASI provides IXPE use of its Malindi ground station and software support by its Space Science Data Center (SSDC). The SOC will archive IXPE science data products at the High-Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center (HEASARC) at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), for release to the international scientific community. Initial results from IXPE are exciting. Recent IXPE results helped researchers determine that Sagittarius A, the supermassive black hole at the core of the Milky Way galaxy, underwent an outburst approximately 200 years ago. IXPE's new perspective of Centaurus A, a supermassive black hole in the center of a galaxy, indicate that the large jets of material spewing out of the galaxy are not composed of electrons, but of higher-mass particles such as protons. IXPE observations have also enabled international researchers to uncover new information about the Tycho supernova remnant, an exploded star in the constellation Cassiopeia, the light from which was first seen on Earth in 1572. The IXPE results offer new clues about how shock waves created by these titanic stellar explosions accelerate particles to nearly the speed of light, and reveal, for the first time, the geometry of the magnetic fields close to the supernova's blast wave. With NASA's recent extension of IXPE's mission, many more exciting discoveries about our Universe's most exotic cosmic objects are on the horizon.

Jack Lee Service Award

Andy Johnston

Andy Johnston manages the Science and Technology Group for Jacobs on the Engineering Services and Science Capability Augmentation (ESSCA) contract. He is currently the Co-Chair of the National Space Club – Huntsville Education Committee. He has served on the board since 2017 and as co-chair of the Education committee since 2020. This role requires a significant amount of personal time, frequently impacting the normal workday, evenings, and weekends.

With Andy as co-chair, the Education committee manages the NSC-H scholarship program. During Mr. Johnston's service on the Education Committee, the scholarship budget saw an increase from \$39,000 to \$76,000, along with a significant increase in the effort required to direct this program.

- \$76,000 in scholarships awarded by NSC-H in 2023
- 5 partner institutions
- 25 student recipients

Mr. Johnston fosters relationships with, encourages, and advocates for partner institutions, sponsored clubs, teams, and STEM event organizers. This includes attending partner school events recognizing our scholarship winners, meeting with sponsored teams, attending planning meetings for STEM outreach events, and maintaining contact with sponsored event organizers.

The overall \$190,000 budget for the Education Committee in 2023 is predicted to impact approximately 10,000 students this year alone. Andy leads by example. He works tirelessly behind the scenes and then shows up to manage and work STEM outreach events.

Dr. Joe Fitzgerald

Joe is an aerospace business leader with engagement across the space and defense community.

Here is a selection from his long and diverse volunteer engagement and leadership in our community over the past >25 years.

- Served as the North Alabama Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army from 2013-2023. CASAs are Special Government Employees who agree to serve as representatives of the Secretary of the Army without salary, wages or related benefits, and are afforded a 3-star protocol status. Each CASA is committed to supporting all Department of Army Civilians, Soldiers and their Families. In particular, CASAs partner with the Soldier for Life program to assist Soldiers as they transition from the Army.
- Offered extensive community involvement including TN Valley BRAC Committee for BRAC 1995 and BRAC 2005
- Was President and Founder of Honor Flight Tennessee Valley active from 2006-2011
- Served as President of AUSA Redstone-Huntsville Chapter from 2004 - 2007
- Served as President of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition from 2004 – 2006
- Served as President of the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies (HATS) from 2000-2001 and as a member of the Board of Directors from 1974-84 and 1988-2001
- Served as Chair of the National Space Club of Huntsville from 1998 – 1999. He has participated in and supported our mission and events ever since.
- Served as President of the Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association (HAMA) from 1995 – 1996 and on the Founding Board of Directors in 1990 - as Special Projects Director. He held every position on the Board including Treasurer, prior to accepting the role as HAMA President.

- Served as President of the UAH Alumni Association from 1980 – 1981
- Is currently active in the effort to Save the Saturn 1B.

Jack Stokes

Jack Stokes retired from a 47-year career with the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) as a Human Factors Engineer. Jack worked on Lunar Rover concepts, Skylab onboard experiments, early Spacelab definition and the creation and development of the ISS.

Since retiring, Jack has dedicated himself to service in the space and broader community. Mr. Stokes's space community service includes:

- Board of Directors for the Marshall Retirees Association
- Docent at the US Space & Rocket Center (USSRC).
- Heavily involved in the creation and conduct of 38 historical panel discussions within the community about the history of NASA, MSFC, the Redstone Arsenal, and NASA manned and unmanned missions
- Judge for the Alabama Science & Engineering Fair at the state level. Representing the USSCR he is responsible for awarding two USSCR scholarships.
- Outside the space community, Jack is heavily involved with several organizations serving the less fortunate of our community, including:
- Director's Board of First Stop, Inc., a local ministry for moving homeless persons back into housing while caring for those still on the street
- Board of Directors for Wheels 4 Working, a local organization which provides various modes of transportation to employed low-income persons from home to work
- CASA: Organizes volunteer events such as home winterization, distribution of CASA Garden vegetables, ramp building
- Meals on Wheels active volunteer

Communications Award

Jeffrey Kluger

Jeffrey Kluger, editor at large, oversees TIME's science and technology reporting. He has written or co-written more than 40 cover stories for the magazine and regularly contributes articles and commentary on science, behavior, and health. Kluger is the co-author, with astronaut Jim Lovell, of *Lost Moon: The Perilous Voyage of Apollo 13*, which was the basis of the *Apollo 13* movie released in 1995. He has written several articles on current space travel including SLS. He also wrote articles covering the Mars Pathfinder landing and the Columbia disaster. His video narrations are recognizable by his iconic voice. Kluger, who is also an attorney, has taught science journalism at New York University. Some links: <https://time.com/5948446/sls-rocket-assembly/>; [Jeffrey Kluger - Wikipedia](#); [NASA's Hot New Spacecraft for 2014 | Time](#)

Lee Roop

Lee Roop is a journalist with AL.com with more than four decades of experience in leading reporting on Huntsville, Alabama's aerospace, military and scientific sectors. Those include Redstone Arsenal, a federal center of excellence, and its major military tenants and programs including hypersonic missiles. He covers NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and America's government and commercial space programs including major local operations by United Launch Alliance and Blue Origin. He also writes regularly about genetic research at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in the city's Cummings Research Park. He self identifies as loving space, science, and telling stories. Link: [Lee Roop | lroop@al.com](#); [lee roop \(@leeroop\) / Twitter](#)

Scott Manley

Scott Manly is a popular gamer, programmer, astrophysicist and YouTube personality with 1.6M followers. On his YouTube channel he gives executive summaries a couple times a week on global space-related topics and news. He explains much of the science/technology involved so that normal people can understand the impact of the new technologies, discoveries, and challenges. He frequently creates complex animation to support his tutorial reporting. Scott's positive, unbiased coverage, and education of the public on the significance of technologies and discoveries resulting from the global space program have made him an ambassador between the space program and the public. In recognition for his work as a popular science communicator, asteroid [33434 Scottmanley](#) was named after him. Links: [Artemis 1 Launches, Asteroid Crashes, ESA Gets New Astronauts - Deep Space Update November 23rd - YouTube](#); <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FWO1Pvbhg4>; [What Makes Lagrange Points Special Locations In Space - YouTube](#)