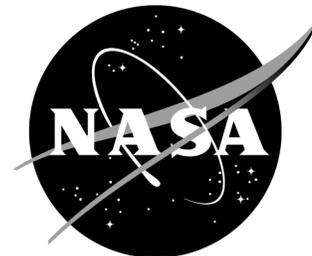


NewsRelease



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AWARDS RECOGNIZE REVOLUTIONARY VEHICLE CONCEPTS

Future forms of air travel will require a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted approach. Those who will design the next-generation of aircraft are in the nation's university and pre-college classrooms today. To stimulate this next generation of explorers, NASA has engaged these future professionals in a broad-based competition for both high school and college students.

NASA Langley Research Center's Aerospace Vehicle Systems Technology Office (AVSTO) will award three prizes recognizing revolutionary aerospace vehicle concepts at the Experimental Aircraft Association's AirVenture 2003 in Oshkosh, Wis., August 2, 2003.

- The top-scoring entry was submitted by a team of undergraduate students from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and their undergraduate partners from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom for a hydrogen-fuel-cell powered, all-electric personal air vehicle titled "Liberty."
- Second place will be awarded to a team of undergraduates from the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott Campus, for their box-wing, diesel engine personal air vehicle entry called "Defiant."
- A University of Kansas Industrial Design team of undergraduates won third place for an innovative interior design for an autonomously piloted general aviation aircraft.

Honorable mention awards will be presented to

- Simon Levine, a graduate student from Georgia Institute of Technology, for a turbofan engine concept
- A University of Virginia undergraduate team for a supersonic vehicle concept
- Henry Won, a Georgia Tech graduate student for a study of flapping wings
- A team of undergraduate engineering students from Montana State University for a rotorcraft concept vehicle
- A graduate and undergraduate team from Ohio University for a personal air vehicle concept

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The winning teams, and those that received honorable mention, will present overviews of their projects at the NASA forums on Saturday, August 2, at 8:30 a.m., at Air Venture 2003, Oshkosh, Wis. For additional information, call Bill Uher at 757/344-6811.

Winners were determined by a group of reviewers from NASA's Langley and Glenn Research Centers and Pratt & Whitney. The teams will receive awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 through Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Va.

The 2003 student competition, including the high school division, brought in participants from 19 different states and involved hundreds of students and teachers. Pratt & Whitney and NASA Glenn Research Center's Quiet, Green Aircraft Propulsion Project have committed to sponsoring a second competition with AVSTO this fall.

For more information about NASA's Design Competition, please contact Elizabeth Ward at 757/864-7638 or visit the website at:

http://avst.larc.nasa.gov/university_comp.html