

AIP Names Writing Award Winners FREE

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PHYSICS TODAY

WE HEAR THAT

AIP Names Writing Award Winners

The American Institute of Physics has announced the recipients of its four writing awards for 2001.

Marcia Bartusiak is the winner of the AIP Science Writing Award to a Journalist, for a second time in her career, for her book *Einstein's Unfinished Symphony: Listening to the Sounds of Space-Time* (Joseph Henry Press, 2000). In 1982 she was the first woman to receive this honor. Bartusiak, who lives in Massachusetts, writes about science for a number of national publications.

Neil de Grasse Tyson, Charles Liu, and Robert Irion share the AIP Science Writing Award to a Scientist for their book *One Universe: At Home in the Cosmos* (Joseph Henry Press, 2000). Tyson is the Frederick P. Rose Director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, an associate astronomer in the museum's division of physical sciences, and a visiting research scientist at Princeton University, where he also teaches. Liu is an astrophysicist in the division of physical sciences at the American Museum of Natural History and a lecturer in physics and astronomy at Barnard College. Irion is a freelance science journalist who also teaches science writing at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The AIP Science Writing Award for Literature Intended for Children goes to **Cynthia Pratt Nicolson** for her book entitled *Exploring Space* (Kids Can Press, 2000). Nicolson is a writer and fifth-grade teacher at Bowen Island Community School in Vancouver, Canada.

Jonathan Palfreman, founder of Palfreman Film Group Inc in Lowell, Massachusetts, garners the AIP Science Writing Award for Broadcast Media for his *NOVA/Frontline* program "What's Up with the Weather?" which appeared on PBS.

AAS Division Awards Announced

Each year the divisions of the American Astronomical Society recognize the achievements of individuals who have made noteworthy contribu-

tions to astronomy. There were eight recipients for 2001.

Donald Osterbrock, a professor emeritus of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of California's Lick Observatory, received the LeRoy E. Doggett Prize from AAS's historical astronomy division. He will deliver the Doggett Prize Lecture entitled "The View from the Observatory: History Is Too Important to Be Left to the Historians" at the 199th meeting of AAS, to be held next month in Washington, DC.

The division of planetary sciences presented three awards this year. The Gerard P. Kuiper Prize went to **Bruce W. Hapke**, professor emeritus of planetary sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. The division honored Hapke for his research contributions in modeling electromagnetic radiation, which have "provided the foundation for interpreting planetary remote sensing data."

The Harold C. Urey Prize was presented to **Michael E. Brown**, an assistant professor of planetary astronomy at Caltech, for "various discoveries on Io, Titan, Ganymede, Europa, and Neried."

The Carl Sagan Medal, given for outstanding communication to the general public by an active planetary scientist, went to **André Brahic**, an astrophysicist at the University of Paris VII-Denis Diderot. Known as the "Carl Sagan of France," Brahic was honored for being "distinguished in his public communication by his joyous and enthusiastic style, but also by his rigorous attention to scientific accuracy."

The George Ellery Hale Prize, given by the solar physics division, went this year to **Alan M. Title** for his "exceptional leadership in developing multiple, innovative, high-resolution telescopes and interpreting their data to dramatically advance our understanding of the Sun" and his "generous public service on behalf of the solar and solar-terrestrial communities." Title is a senior member of the research laboratory and a senior staff consulting scientist in the solar and astrophysics department at Lockheed Missiles and Space Inc in Palo Alto, California. He is also codirector of the Stanford Lockheed Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research.

The solar physics division also presented its popular science writing

awards for 2001. **Curt Suplee**, director of the office of legislative and public affairs at NSF, received the division's journalist award for his article "Sun Studies May Shed Light on Global Warming," which appeared in the *Washington Post* on 9 October 2000.

The writing award to a scientist went to **Paul Bellan** for his article entitled "Simulating Solar Prominences in the Laboratory," which appeared in the March/April 2000 issue of *American Scientist*. Bellan is a professor of applied physics at Caltech.

Jack Wisdom, a professor in MIT's Earth, atmosphere, and planetary science department, garnered the Brouwer Award from AAS's dynamical astronomy division. Wisdom was honored for his "fundamental contributions and leadership in the field," including pioneering the application of modern nonlinear dynamics and the theory of Hamiltonian chaos in the field of Solar System dynamics.

Physicists Honored by APS

Several individuals received awards in 2001 from the American Physical Society in recognition of their contributions to physics.

David J. Wineland won the Arthur Schawlow Prize. APS commended him for his "extraordinary range of pioneering studies combining trapped ions and lasers." Wineland is a fellow and group leader of the ion storage group at NIST in Boulder, Colorado.

The Herbert P. Broida Prize was shared this year by **David W. Chandler** and **Paul L. Houston** for their "critical contributions to the investigation of vibrationally and rotationally resolved molecular photodissociation and reaction dynamics, in particular for the invention and development of the photofragment ion imaging method." Chandler is a senior scientist at Sandia National Laboratories and Houston is the Peter J. W. Debye Professor of Chemistry at Cornell University.

John Ernest Pask received the Nicholas Metropolis Award for his "contributions to computational physics that included the formulation and implementation of a new finite-element-based method for solving the equations of density functional theory." Pask is a