Prizes

The 2022 prize applications are closed. Please check back for the 2023 application window.

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DPS-Sponsored Prizes

The **Gerard P. Kuiper Prize** [1] honors outstanding contributions to the field of planetary science.

The **Claudia J. Alexander Prize** [2] recognizes outstanding achievement in planetary research by a mid-career scientist.

The **Harold C. Urey Prize** [3] recognizes outstanding achievement in planetary research by an early-career scientist.

The **Harold Masursky Award** [4] acknowledges outstanding service to planetary science and exploration.

The **Carl Sagan Medal** [5] recognizes and honors outstanding communication by an active planetary scientist to the general public.


Previous Winners

The DPS is a Division of the American Astronomical Society.

Send website questions, comments, updates to DPS.Webmaster@aas.org

Send graduate school and REU program updates to DPS.EdUpdate@aas.org
Prizes
Published on Division for Planetary Sciences
(https://dps.aas.org)

Kuiper Prize
Urey Prize
Masursky Award
Sagan Medal
Eberhart Award
Alexander Prize

2022
Bonnie Buratti
Juan Lora
Jim Green
Caleb Scharf
Michael Greshko
Martha Scott Gilmore

2021
Therese Encrenaz
Lynnae Quick
Mark Showalter
Nicolle Zellner
Camille Carlisle
Elizabeth Turtle

2020
Wing-Huen Ip
Rebekah Dawson
Heidi Hammel
Ray Jayawardhana
Christopher Crockett

2019
Maria Zuber
Kelsi Singer
Phil Nicholson
Carrie Nugent
Rebecca Boyle

2018
Julio Ángel Fernández Alves
Francesca DeMeo
Faith Vilas
Bonnie J. Buratti
Alexandra Witze

2017
Margaret Kivelson
Bethany Ehlmann
Louise Prockter
Megan Schwamb
Josh Sokol
Henry Throop

2016
Stanton Peale
Leigh Fletcher
Mark Sykes
Yong-Chun Zheng
Nadia Drake

2015
Yuk Yung
Geronimo Villanueva
Christina Richey
Dan Durda
Stephen Battersby

2014
Peter Gierasch
Matija Cuk
Athena Coustenis
Guy Consolmagno
James Oberg

2013
Joseph Veverka
Anders Johansen
Ronald Greeley
Donald K. Yeomans
Richard A. Kerr

2012
Darrell Strobel
Alberto Fairen
Susan Niebur
Patrick Michel
Michael Carroll

2011
William Ward
Eric B. Ford
Benton C. Clark III
James Bell
Emily Lakdawalla

2010
Jeffrey N. Cuzzi
Jonathan J. Fortney
Alan Tokunaga
Carolyn C. Porco
George Musser

2009
Tobias C. Owen
Sarah T. Stewart-Mukhopadhyay
no award
Steven W. Squyres
J. Kelly Beatty

2008
Michael A'Hearn
no award
Jon D. Giorgini
G. Jeffrey Taylor

2007
Andrew P. Ingersoll
Francis Nimmo
Tom Gehrels
no award

2006
Dale P. Cruikshank
Tristan Guillot
Gentry Lee
David H. Grinspoon

2005
William Hubbard
David Nesvorny
J. Kelly Beatty
Rosaly Lopes

2004
Carle M. Pieters
Jean-Luc Margot
Alexander Basilevsky
David Morrison

2003
Steven J. Ostro
Robin M. Canup
Reta F. Beebe
no award

2002
Eberhard Grün
Brett J. Gladman
no award
Heidi B. Hammel

2001
Bruce Hapke
Michael Brown
no award
Andre Brahic

2000
Conway B. Leovy
Alessandro Morbidelli
George E. Brown, Jr.
Larry A. Lebofsky

1999
Armand H. Delsemme
Douglas P. Hamilton
Wesley T. Huntress
Clark R. Chapman

1998
Nomination

The Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) of the American Astronomical Society awards its named prizes annually (or less frequently).

All DPS members are encouraged to submit nominations for DPS prizes.

For purposes of these prizes, planetary science shall be understood to refer to the multidisciplinary study of our Solar System, as well as other planetary systems, excluding work dealing primarily with the Sun, Earth, or other stars.

The final responsibility for determining the award frequency and for selecting the recipients lies with the DPS Committee.

Anyone (except DPS Officers, Committee members and Prize Subcommittee members, as defined in the DPS Bylaws) may submit a nomination.

DPS officers, DPS Committee members, and members of the DPS Prize Subcommittee may not submit nominations or supporting letters. Sitting members [30] of the DPS Prize Subcommittee are not eligible for awards. Such nominations will be considered submitted once that member has rotated off the Subcommittee.

The DPS expects that a candidate for nomination follows the AAS Code of Ethics [31] and actively
promotes AAS core values.

A complete nomination submitted by the deadline will be considered by the Prize Subcommittee for three (3) years (i.e. for this year's award, next year's award, and the year after that), or for the duration of a candidate's eligibility, whichever is less. Past nominees may be re-nominated after the expiration of a prior nomination.

Though DPS Prizes are primarily intended to honor living people, a posthumous nomination (except for the Sagan Medal) may be submitted within the nomination period containing the first anniversary of the date of death of the nominee, and will be considered for three years. In the case of the Urey Prize, the nominee will be considered for three years, or until the nominee would have reached the time limit following receipt of the Ph.D. as specified for living recipients, whichever is smaller. Posthumous nominations are not renewable. Only living nominees will be considered for the Sagan Medal.

In the case of a posthumous recipient, there generally will be no cash award, but reasonable travel expenses will be offered for an appropriate survivor to attend the DPS meeting and receive the prize certificate and citation.

Please fill out the nomination form [32], and it will be submitted to the Prize Subcommittee.

The Eberhart Award has different rules and procedures than the other DPS Prizes; please see its page [6] for more information.

Prize Subcommittee Rules and Procedures

Selection Procedure

The Prize Subcommittee assists the DPS Committee in selecting recipients by reviewing all nominations received, verifying eligibility, and preparing a slate of approximately three candidates for each award.

All the nominations and selection procedures will be carried out in a confidential manner.

Prior to the annual meeting of the DPS, the Prize Subcommittee shall provide the DPS Committee with an ordered slate of approximately three choices for each prize, unless there are fewer than two valid nominations for a prize, in which case all valid nominations shall be included in the slate. One of the choices may be a recommendation for no award, which may be placed in any order in the slate of choices. The Subcommittee shall also provide the DPS Committee with all documentation supporting each nominee on the slate.

Final selection - or the choice not to make an award - will be made by the DPS Committee. At an appropriate time, the prize and award recipients will be publicly announced through the DPS Press Officer.

The Eberhart Award [6] has different rules and procedures than the other DPS Prizes; please see its page for more information.
Prize Details

For Prize details, see individual listings ([Kuiper Prize](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/kuiper) [1], [Alexander Prize](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/alexander) [2], [Urey Prize](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/urey) [3], [Masursky Award](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/masursky) [4], [Sagan Medal](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/sagan) [5], [Eberhart Award](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/eberhart) [6]).

Prize Subcommittee Membership

The DPS Prize Subcommittee nominally consists of seven members. The procedure for appointing new subcommittee members and lists of current and past members can be found [here](https://dps.aas.org/prizes/2022) [30].

Footer

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Links
[1] https://dps.aas.org/prizes/kuiper
[3] https://dps.aas.org/prizes/urey
[12] https://dps.aas.org/prizes/2017
[16] https://dps.aas.org/prizes/2013