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## HONORING EXCELLENCE

2024 Army Acquisition Executive's Excellence in Leadership Awards.

*by Rachel M. Longarzo*

The exceptional achievements of the Army Acquisition Workforce were recognized at the 2024 Army Acquisition Executive's Excellence in Leadership Awards Ceremony on Jan. 10, 2025, at the Pentagon.

The annual awards honor individuals and teams whose dedication, innovation and leadership provide the Army with the cutting-edge capabilities needed to stay ahead in an ever-changing landscape. The Hon. Douglas R. Bush, then assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, hosted the event.

For more information, go to <https://asc.army.mil/web/acquisition-awards>.

### ARMY ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Celebrating the remarkable individuals and teams honored at the 2024 AAE Excellence in Leadership Awards.



## 2024 AAE AWARD WINNERS

### ACQUISITION CAREER SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Adam R. Hall, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

### BUSINESS OPERATIONS PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Matthew Seaman, Joint Program Executive Office for Armaments and Ammunition (JPEO A&A)

### DEFENSE EXPORT AND COOPERATION JOURNEYMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Michael Suhy, Army Contracting Command (ACC) - Detroit Arsenal

### DEFENSE EXPORT AND COOPERATION PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Brandi Martin, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation

### LOGISTICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Craig Carson, Program Executive Office for Ground Combat Systems (PEO GCS)

### PRODUCT MANAGEMENT/PRODUCT DIRECTOR OFFICE PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD (O-5 LEVEL)

Lt. Col. Edwin Kolen, Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense (JPEO-CBRND)

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT/PROJECT DIRECTOR OFFICE PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD (O-6 LEVEL)

Col. Andrew Lunoff, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space

### CONTRACTING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Michele Boardwine, JPEO-CBRND

### BARBARA C. HEALD (DEPLOYED CONTRACTING CIVILIAN) AWARD

Sarah Keebaugh, ACC, Theater Contracting Center

### OUTSTANDING GRANTS OR AGREEMENTS PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jason C. Tatom, Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (PEO IEW&S)

### CONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACTING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Katherine Younts, USACE - New Orleans District

### TEST AND EVALUATION PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Steven Drake, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Data, Engineering and Software

### ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Steve Dawson, PEO GCS

### DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Kelly Modlin, ACC - Aberdeen Proving Ground

### INNOVATION IN CONTRACTING STRATEGIES INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION AWARD

Robotic Combat Vehicle Product Management Office, PEO GCS

### PRODUCT MANAGEMENT/PRODUCT DIRECTOR OFFICE TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD (O-5 LEVEL)

Product Manager for Soldier Weapons, Program Executive Office for Soldier

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT/PROJECT DIRECTOR OFFICE TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD (O-6 LEVEL)

Project Manager (PM) for Intelligence Systems and Analytics, PEO IEW&S

### TEST ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site - Technical Center, Space and Missile Defense Command

### CONTRACTING TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD

Maui Wildfire Debris Removal Team, USACE, Honolulu District

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR UKRAINE SUPPORT

**Smokejumpers:** Jim Stocks, Col. Rachel Hoagland, Col. Matthew Johnson, Col. Steve Adcock, Col. Anthony Rogers, Col. Michelle Lewis, Lt. Col. Patrick Horvat, Lt. Col. Ryan Ressler, Lt. Col. Donald Bell, Maj. Dan Ferenczy, Maj. Paul Kilgore, Mary Lu, Ron Boisvert, Gabriela Contreras, Maj. Greg Wetmore, Tony Bullock, Wally Nichols, Maj. Porter Riley, Ray Colon, Omar Ray, Sarah Ragan, Brian Ellis, Mark Kopp.

## CONTRACTING

- **Field Support Directorate:** Col. Michelle Lewis, Brad Freeman, Lt. Col. Eric Stangle
- **ACC-Headquarters:** Randall Morris, Rodney Smith, Jennifer Morgan
- **ACC-Rhode Island:** Brandon Garnica, Warren Stropes
- **ACC-Detroit Arsenal:** Magdalena Conner
- **ACC-New Jersey:** Tim Bakto, Polia Quiles, Stephanie Kless, Paul Giovannoli, Tim Cassidy, Mariah Hanko, Sean Kelly
- **ACC-Redstone Arsenal:** Michael Lawson, Roland Carter, Andrea Dixon, Jazmyne Williams, Treka House, Lisa Ledbetter

## JOINT PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ARMAMENTS AND AMMUNITION

- **Headquarters:** Grace Burgin, Brian Meierdiercks, Tabitha Sawicz
- **PM Cannon Artillery Systems:** Ken Schulters
- **M777 and M119 Teams:** Ben Cooper

## PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR GROUND COMBAT SYSTEMS

- **Headquarters:** Harmony Hunsanger, James Thorpe
- **PM Mounted Armored Vehicles:** Heather Molitoris, Lauren Gehbauer
- **PM Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems:** James Sawyer
- **PM Stryker Brigade Combat Team:** Kelly McMahon

## PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR MISSILES AND SPACE

- **PM Integrated Fires Mission Command:** Cierra Odom Nhaji
- **PM STORM:** James Elliot
- **PM Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions:** Barry Thrower
- **PM SHIELD:** Douglas Patterson Jr.

## 2024 MAJOR GENERAL HAROLD J. "HARRY" GREENE WRITING AWARD WINNERS

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology sponsors the 2024 Major General Harold J. "Harry" Greene Awards for Acquisition Writing to encourage critical writing focused on Army acquisition challenges and successful efforts to overcome them.

To read the winners' entries, see the 2024 Maj. Gen. Greene awards booklet insert, or go to <https://asc.army.mil/web/publications/army-alt-magazine>.

## ACQUISITION REFORM

**Winning Piece:** "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy: An Imperative Competency."

**Author:** Maj. Mathew Henderson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology

**Honorable Mention:** "Mini Portfolio Prioritization Sprints with Overarching Integrated Product Teams (O-IPTs) – Adapting to Changes within the DOD Decision-Making System."

**Author:** Elizabeth Smith, JPEO-CBRND

## FUTURE OPERATIONS

**Winning Piece:** "Human-Machine Integration and Future Operations."

**Author:** Lt. Col. Christian Abney, Program Executive Office for Aviation

**Winning Piece:** "Software Independent Verification and Validation at the Speed of Relevance."

**Authors:** Megan Buford and Rebecca Hennessy, Ph.D., U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, U.S. Army Futures Command

**Honorable Mention:** "Learning to Expand the Aperture: Translating Emergence to Capability in Medical Evacuation and Other Operational Domains."

**Author:** Capt. Mahdi Al-Husseini, U.S. Army Department of Aviation Medicine

## INNOVATION

**Winning Piece:** "Driving Innovation: Propelling the U.S. Department of Defense's Acquisition of Hybrid-Electric Tactical Vehicles to Win the Wars of Tomorrow."

**Author:** Maj. Curtis N. Cranston, The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School

**Honorable Mention:** "Bridging the Gap and the Path to Real-time Intelligence: Advancing A-ISR Through Acquisition and Innovation."

**Authors:** Eric Braun, Susan Tyndall, Lauren Scicchitano and Michael Amabile, Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors

## LESSONS LEARNED

**Winning Piece:** "Enhancing Army Acquisition Through Collaborative Communication."

**Author:** Mark T. Rashford, Jr., U.S. Army North G-4

**Honorable Mention:** "Rethinking the Role of C2 in Army Acquisition: Lessons from FCS and DCGS-A."

**Author:** Col. Matthew Paul, Program Executive Office for Enterprise