

# DCMA Science, Math and Technology Role Models Honored

by Ms. Carol LaVigueur, Administrative Contracting Officer, DCMA BAE Systems

**W**ith President George W. Bush's proclamation of March 2006 as Women's History Month, the Department of Defense (DoD) celebrated by honoring 121 military and civilian female role models working in science, math and technology (STEM) disciplines within several DoD agencies. Of the 121 DoD women selected for this honor, 17 were from the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA). The ceremony took place on March 21, 2006, at the Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

Each of the honored STEM role models was first nominated by her respective command and then selected by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Equal Opportunity). The nomination and subsequent selection of these role models reinforced this year's Women's History Month

theme, "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams," and was based on demonstration of unparalleled leadership and excellence that set the standard for the DoD workforce. Each role model received a commemorative coin to mark the occasion.

The keynote speakers for the event are accomplished role models themselves who have served as inspiration to many DoD women. These distinguished guests included Army Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, principal deputy director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service; Air Force Brig. Gen. K. C. McClain, commander, Sexual Assault, Prevention and Response Office; and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Advanced Systems & Concepts) Ms. Sue C. Payton, Office of Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics).

A reception followed the ceremony, which included over 300 middle and high school students from the Close-Up Foundation's Youth group. The students attended the reception as part of a one-week visit to our Nation's capital to network and interface with the STEM role models and to learn about and discuss career, recruitment and employment options within DoD. Those honored at the ceremony were not only chosen as role models within their respective commands but also were afforded the unique opportunity to serve as a source of inspiration and guidance to the students. Congratulations to these worthy role models!



**(Above)** Award recipients, front row from left: Ms. Grace Kawonczyk; Ms. Lisa Maenza; Ms. Lam B. Ta; Ms. Rebecca Davies; Ms. Kim Pham; Ms. Stephanie Rocha; Ms. Armeda Ryder; Ms. Cathy C. Siefert; and Ms. Lisa Pagliocchini; back row, from left: Ms. Annette M. Love; Ms. Debbie Murray; Ms. Julie A. Nesbit; Ms. Martha Walker; Ms. Sharron Watts-Shepard; Air Force Lt. Col. Latishie L. Wodetzki; and Air Force Maj. Jocelyn R. Swayze (DCMA staff photo) Not pictured: Ms. Angel Perez

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The award recipients from DCMA were as follows:

*Ms. Grace Kawonczyk*

DCMA BAE Systems, Nashua, N.H.

*Ms. Yvonne Kimball*

DCMA APO – Pratt and Whitney,  
East Hartford, Conn.

*Ms. Ellen Leidy*

DCMA Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio

*Ms. Annette M. Love*

DCMA Lockheed Martin Space Systems,  
Sunnyvale, Calif.

*Ms. Lisa Maenza*

DCMA AIMO – Bethpage, Bethpage, Fla.

*Ms. Debbie Murray*

DCMA Southern Europe, Wiesbaden, Germany

*Ms. Julie A. Nesbit*

DCMA Virginia, Manassas, Va.

*Ms. Lisa Pagliocchini*

DCMA Virginia, Manassas, Va.

*Ms. Angel Perez*

DCMA Raytheon Tucson, Tucson, Ariz.

*Ms. Kim Pham*

DCMA Boeing Space & Communications,  
Seal Beach, Calif.

*Ms. Stephanie Rocha*

DCMA Boeing Long Beach, Long Beach, Calif.

*Ms. Armeda Ryder*

DCMA Virginia, Manassas, Va.

*Ms. Cathy C. Siefert*

DCMA Lockheed Martin Fort Worth,  
Fort Worth, Texas

*Air Force Maj. Jocelyn R. Swayze*

DCMA Palmdale, El Segundo, Calif.

*Ms. Lam B. Ta*

DCMA Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.

*Ms. Martha Walker*

DCMA Virginia, Manassas, Va.

*Air Force Lt. Col. Latishie L. Wodetzki*

DCMA Palmdale, Palmdale, Calif.



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*(Right from top to bottom)* Ms. Yvonne Kimball; Ms. Ellen Leidy (DCMA staff photos)

# DCMA AIMO – Birmingham Lends a Helping Hand

by Tech. Sgt. Rafael Him, U.S. Air Force, Test Flight Systems Evaluator and KC-135 Boom Operator, DCMA AIMO – Birmingham

**H**urricane Katrina was one of the largest natural disasters in American history. Thousands of families were displaced and their homes and belongings lost. Among the many Americans who quickly came to the aid of the Katrina victims were the employees of the Defense

Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Aircraft Integrated Maintenance Operations (AIMO) – Birmingham in Alabama. The DCMA AIMO – Birmingham Sunshine Committee partnered with the Birmingham Baptist Association to provide assistance to one of the displaced families. The Beach family, who