



**Women In Defense**  
**A National Security Organization**

Affiliate, National Defense Industrial  
Association

**Space Coast Chapter**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## SPACE COAST WOMEN IN DEFENSE

### Announces call for 2018 STEM Education Innovator Awards

Melbourne, FL, January 22, 2018 - Throughout the year, Space Coast Women In Defense (SCWID) observes special individuals and businesses that go above and beyond in their support to STEM in our community. It is important that we formally recognize those who contribute their time, effort, and resources to supporting youthful talent in our Space Coast community. Thus, the Space Coast STEM Council of SCWID is pleased to accept nominations to recognize individuals, organizations, and companies for their innovation supporting STEM using the below criteria in one or more of the following areas:

- **STEM Leadership Star of the Year:** Outstanding effort in supporting/promoting STEM within the community how it raised awareness or promoted STEM
- **STEM Business Innovator of the Year:** Work with or develop STEM-related projects by partnering with students (e.g., mentoring or participating in STEM events like the Robotics Showcase, a Golf Tournament, etc.) or by leading or developing a project that students used in some form that enhances STEM awareness
- **STEM Non-Profit Innovator of the Year:** Develop STEM-related curriculum within an education system (e.g., this could also be through a partnering project)
- **STEM Educator of the Year:** Increase the opportunities for students and teachers to get to know positive, real-life individuals in STEM careers by providing volunteers and/or funding in the form of grants or sponsorships to promote STEM projects and/or awareness in an educational setting
- **STEM Mentor of the Year:** Strengthen and/or expand opportunities for students to do and learn science in after-school settings

Nominations can be made by visiting: <http://scwid.org/stem-education-innovation-award-nomination/> or by sending nominations to [stem@scwid.org](mailto:stem@scwid.org) and include the following information:

- Name/Company nominated for respective award
- Nominee Contact Info: Name, email address, phone number
- A short, one paragraph nomination narrative describing the nominee's contributions
- Nominator's name, email address, and phone number

Awards will be presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> SCWID Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Melbourne-Viera located at 8298 N Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL 32940. Please visit [www.scwid.org](http://www.scwid.org) to register for this exciting event!

If you would like more information about these awards, please contact Jessica Coots at [stem@scwid.org](mailto:stem@scwid.org) or 321-729-3093. Nominations close March 9, 2018.