



RNASA
 ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD
 FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

For Immediate Release

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Marc Havican, Space City Films Founder, to receive the 2025 RNASA Space Communicator Award



Houston, Texas (February 24, 2025). The Rotary National Award for Space Achievement (RNASA) Foundation has selected Marc Havican, Space City Films Founder, to receive the prestigious 2025 Space Communicator Award.

Marc earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Television and Film Production from the University of Houston in 1987. After cutting his teeth with the NFL and a local NBC affiliate, Marc joined the NASA television production team in 1989. A talented writer, producer, director, and cinematographer, Marc created and directed many high-profile, award-

winning projects for NASA.

It didn’t take long for him to gain national recognition for his creative, innovative films. Several high-profile projects, such as a documentary for President Clinton’s U.S./Russia Summit trip, cemented his reputation as a talented space filmmaker. Thanks to the success of the Space Station documentary, Marc began receiving requests to produce space industry marketing films and trade show videos for private aerospace firms.

In 1995, with moral support from his wife Marie, Marc’s entrepreneurial spirit led him to leave NASA and start HavCam Productions, which was later rebranded as Space City Films. With modest savings, Marc bought a Macintosh II computer and began to write the script for his first independent film from his son’s bedroom at home.

Tim Kropp, Vice President of MRI Technologies, nominated Havican saying, “There are very few individuals who have dedicated as much to telling the story of human space exploration as Marc Havican. What started as one man’s desire to raise awareness of human space flight has become the foremost aerospace media and live event production company in the United States.”

For more than 35 years, Marc has used his creative chops and extraordinary storytelling ability to help NASA, its contracting partners, commercial space companies, science centers, museums, and advocacy groups inform, motivate, excite, and entertain audiences.

In 2016, Havican won a prestigious Emmy Award for his short film, *Soul of the Explorer*, a story that follows the life of Paige, a young girl who grows up to command the first human mission to Jupiter’s moon, Europa.

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Space City Films' 2018 documentary film *EVA 23* chronicled the story of Italian Astronaut Luca Parmitano's terrifying ordeal when water suddenly began to fill his helmet during a 2013 spacewalk. The film premiered at IMAX theaters at Space Center Houston and the Kennedy Space Center Visitor's Complex.

Marc's recent giant-screen films include *Artemis: Return to the Moon* (2022) and *Unveiling the Universe*, which premiered in October 2024.

Live event design, development, coordination, and production are just a few Havican specialties. Marc is an indispensable member of the team that coordinates and produces the annual RNASA Space Awards Gala. He also produces and directs Space Symposium in Colorado Springs and many other events around the country.

"I was flabbergasted to learn that RNASA chose to honor this old coot with the Space Communicator Award", Havican said. "It is hard to believe that I was even *considered* to receive an award that was presented to Neil DeGrasse Tyson, Bill Nye, William Shatner, Rob Navias, Bill Ingalls, Jeff Carr, Veronica McGregor, Gina Sunseri, Mark Carreau, and Chris Hadfield. This is an honor that I will truly cherish."

Marc and his wife Marie have been married for 32 years. His son Austin was a cinematographer and producer/director for Space City Films, and his daughter Christa, a talented sculptor, painter, and muralist, has worked as the Trophy Assistant and Stage Manager for the RNASA Space Awards Gala since 2004.

What began as a dream to raise awareness for human space exploration has grown and evolved into a nationally recognized digital cinema, live event, and motion picture production powerhouse.

The RNASA Space Communicator Award was created in 1997 in honor of KTRK, Houston Channel 13 space reporter and long-time RNASA Advisor Stephen Gouvain who was tragically killed in a car accident in 1996. The award is presented to an individual or team that makes exceptional contributions to public understanding and appreciation of space exploration. The previous recipients of the award are: William Harwood of CBS; Miles O'Brien, formerly of CNN; Elliot Pulham of the Space Foundation; the NASA-Contractor Communications team that responded to the Columbia accident; Mark Carreau, formerly of the Houston Chronicle; Neil deGrasse Tyson of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History; Veronica McGregor, Manager of News and Social Media at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Chris A. Hadfield, former Canadian Space Agency astronaut; Bill Nye (the science guy), CEO of the Planetary Society; Rob Navias, Public Affairs Officer (PAO) Mission commentator; William Shatner, actor, author, producer and director; ABC News Producer Gina Sunseri; and Bill Ingalls, senior NASA photographer.

Havican will be honored with the 2025 Space Communicator Award at RNASA's Space Awards Gala on April 25, 2025, at the Houston Hyatt Regency. Pamela Melroy, retired NASA Deputy Administrator, will receive the 2025 National Space Trophy. Please visit [rnasa.org](https://www.rnasa.org) to reserve your table, purchase tickets, or inquire about sponsorship opportunities. If you would like to reserve a room for the evening, please contact the Hyatt at 713-654-1234 and inquire about the RNASA group rate.