

Asian American Most Promising Engineer of the Year Award

Tina Lim



Electronics Engineer Associate Manager *Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company*

In her short career, Ms. Lim has made significant contributions to the demanding field of aerospace engineering on projects where failure is not only frowned on, but can have catastrophic consequences.

Tina was only two when her family emigrated from Taiwan to the United States. She learned the importance of extra effort at a young age, watching her father work hard on computer classes in the evenings in order to get a good job. Today, through the steady application of training, intellect, and perseverance, she has distinguished herself in the demanding field of aerospace engineering on projects critical to global communications and national security.

Tina traces her interest in engineering to the 4th grade, when an aerospace engineer visited the class, bringing posters of astronauts and other planets. Enrolling at U.C. Berkeley, she studied Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, meanwhile receiving valuable encouragement from the Society of Women Engineers. She went on to serve as Treasurer, Secretary, then Vice President of that organization, and remains deeply involved in the society's programs for encouraging girls to enter the engineering field.

In 2002, Tina joined Lockheed Martin. She made an impact from the start, quickly advancing to systems engineer and making important contributions to the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) communications satellite program. She began evening classes that eventually led to an M.S. in Electrical Engineering, and became a leader in the company's Asian & Pacific Islander Leadership & Mentoring Association (ALMA).

In 2004, as systems engineer for the Atmospheric Imaging Assembly, she contributed to the important task of using space-based instruments to study how solar flares, a potential hazard to astronauts in space and terrestrial communications networks, are generated by solar activity.

From 2006 to the present, Tina has worked on the Fleet Ballistic Missile Program (FBM), the cornerstone of the nation's strategic deterrent. She assembled and led the Avionics team and led development of the missile's Avionics Computer, Interlocks Accelerometer, and Destruct Acceleration Switch—the latter device a critical component for range safety during missile flight tests. Her efforts have helped sustain the program's astonishing record of more than 150 test launches in the last two decades without a single failure. Through her achievements at work and in local schools, Tina has demonstrated to the next generations how to excel in engineering.

Tina is happily married and has one 4 year old son and due with a baby girl in June 2015. She enjoys volunteering, swimming, traveling, and trying out new restaurants, while spending quality time with family and friends.

