



PRESS RELEASE
09 November 2021

2021 FAI Awards winners honoured in livestream video

Lausanne, Switzerland, 09 November 2021 – **The 2021 FAI Awards winners were announced on 9 November 2021 in a live video shared at 19:00 UTC, in which tribute was paid to the many individuals and groups who have made exceptional performances, contributed to the development of aeronautics and astronautics, and created a lasting legacy through the promotion of air sports to new participants.**

The awards are a highlight in the aviation and air sports calendar and to recognise the contribution made by the award winners is a fundamental part of FAI's purpose, as noted by FAI President David Monks:

"Our 2021 award winners have made it their life's work to share the joy of flight with others, either through pushing the limits of their sport or through contributing to the promotion and development of aeronautics or astronautics.

At FAI, one of our most important roles is to recognise these outstanding performances and exceptional efforts made by individuals and groups, all of whom are part of the history, the present and the future of aviation.

Many congratulations to all tonight's winners, and thank you for sharing your dedication and passion with the world."

Manuel Roca Viaña from Spain is the winner of this year's prestigious FAI Silver Medal, awarded for his contribution to the promotion of international air sports competition through many years of eminent service and devoted leadership within the RFAE (Royal Spanish Aeronautical Federation). He commented:

"This recognition is a great honour for me, and I will always carry it with the greatest enthusiasm. This award fills me with joy; it is a morale boost which renews and encourages, at both a personal and institutional level, my excitement and my wish to continue to contribute with the ideas, knowledge and experience that may serve in the interest of the international development of aeronautics."

Lionel Adroit of France, winner of this year's Henri Miguet Diploma for his conception and creation of the Handi-Montgolfière, a two-seater hot air balloon whose innovative design encourages participation and promotes diversity in air sports, said:

"The Henri Miguet Diploma is an honour for me, one of the most significant recognitions that an amateur aircraft builder can receive for the research, the creation and the construction of an aircraft."

Winner of the Montgolfier Ballooning Diploma for Best Performance in Hot Air Ballooning is Kimberly Magee of the USA who shared the following statement:

"It is an honour to be recognised with a Montgolfier Diploma. I am grateful to be one of eight USA female pilots to earn the World's top ballooning honour. I hope my adventures breaking six World and nine National records at 28 years old empowers other young female pilots to embark on similar challenges and push to new heights never before achieved."

The annual FAI Awards takes place during the annual General Conference. This year the GC is taking place online between 9-11 November.

2021 FAI Award Winners:

2021 FAI General Award Winners

FAI Silver Medal

Manuel ROCA VIAÑA (Spain)

FAI Group Diplomas of Honour

Sports Aviation Federation (Australia)

Aeroklub Jaroměř (Czech Republic)

Aero Club Čuprija (Serbia)

Department of Aeronautical and Aviation Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong, China)

FAI Paul Tissandier Diploma

Miguel Angel TERZO from Argentina

Ruth WILSON from Australia

Graeme HENDERSON from Australia

Bernhard REIF from Austria

Jacques BERLO from Belgium

Dan COOK from Canada

Eugenio MARTINEZ from Chile

Jiří UNZEITIG from Czech Republic

Miloš RAMERT from Czech Republic

Kimmo PAULARANTA from Finland

Christian RAVEL from France

Joachim LENK from Germany

Vasilis KATINIOTIS from Greece

Paul GIANNIOTIS from Hong Kong, China

Sushil BAJPAI from India

Pietro FILIPPINI from Italy

Flavio TEBALDI from Italy

Daiju KOHGA from Japan

Kyung Yong CHOI from Korea

Moon Tae KIM from Korea

Alan BEARD from New Zealand

Ian BEGBIE from New Zealand

Alexander BESSONOV from Russia

Anatolii ULANOV from Russia

Vladimir MITIN from Russia

Nikola BOROVIĆ from Serbia

Bengt STENER from Sweden

Henry LINDHOLM from Sweden

Pekka HAVBRANDT from Sweden

Charles BACHMANN from Switzerland

Bruno SCHERRER from Switzerland

Daniela SCHMITTER from Switzerland

Matthew BOLSHAW from United Kingdom

Peggy RIEDINGER from USA

2021 FAI Award Winners for Individual Disciplines

Montgolfier Ballooning Diplomas:

Best Performance, Gas Ballooning

Krzysztof ZAPART (Poland) and Andy CAYTON (USA)

Best Performance, Hot Air Ballooning

Kimberly MAGEE (USA)

Lilienthal Gliding Medal

Eric MOZER (USA)

Leonardo Da Vinci Parachuting Diploma

Rina GALLO (Canada)

FAI Gold Parachuting Medal

Julia ANGELOVA (Bulgaria)

FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal

Bogdan WIERZBA (Poland)

Alphonse Pénaud Aeromodelling Diploma

Matthew HOYLAND (United Kingdom)

Antonov Aeromodelling Diploma

Karl-Heinz HELLING (Germany)

Frank Ehling Diploma

Mike COLLING (Sweden)

Ann Welch Diploma

Paramotor - Krzysztof ROMICKI and Wojciech STRZYKOWSKI (Poland)

Microflight - Colin FARGHER and Louis FARGHER (France)

FAI Gold Rotorcraft Medal

David MONKS (United Kingdom)

Leon Biancotto Aerobatics Diploma

Alan CASSIDY (United Kingdom)

Henri Mignet Diploma

Lionel ADROIT (France)

Editor's note

List of the recipients with the descriptions of their achievements:

- <https://fai.org/gc2021-awards>

Where to watch the awards announcement video:

- <https://fai.org/gc2021-awards>
- <https://youtu.be/z7qbdViCTCM>

About FAI

FAI, the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Balloons, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

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