

# Profiles

May is Asian-Pacific American Month



## Panna Amin

**Time at JSC:** 24 years

**Organization:** Space Vehicle and Mockup Facility

**Position title:** Space Shuttle Mockup Manager and Facility Manager

**Education:** Bachelor's of science in electrical engineering from City University of New York

**Place of birth:** Baroda, India

**Hobbies:** Reading, traveling, aerobics and spending time with my husband, children and grandson

**What does Asian-Pacific American Month mean to you?** It is a time to share one of the oldest cultures in the world and learn something from the new culture/generation.

**Favorite words of wisdom:** Work towards your goals and you will live the life of your dreams.



## Anh Huynh

**Time at JSC:** Almost 15 years

**Organization:** Extravehicular Activity (EVA) Project Office

**Position title:** EVA Process Control Lead

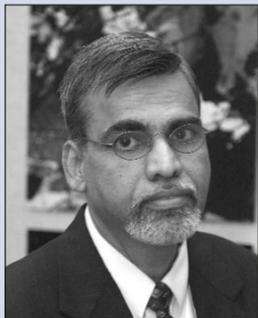
**Education:** Bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering and Master's of science in industrial engineering, both from the University of Houston

**Place of birth:** Saigon, Vietnam

**Hobbies:** Spending quality time with family and friends

**What does Asian-Pacific American Month mean to you?** Opportunities and responsibilities! This observance reminds me of the countless opportunities being offered by this great nation to the refugees and newcomers from southeast Asia. The greatest opportunity of all was to become a U.S. citizen, a representative of the brave and the free. Along with these precious opportunities are the responsibilities to serve and to protect this great nation. This observance is an opportunity for all Asian-Pacific Americans to reflect on their personal contribution and to renew their personal commitment to serve this great nation.

**Favorite words of wisdom:** Life is short, so live it to the fullest.



## Dr. Kamlesh Lulla

**Time at JSC:** 15 years

**Organization:** Space and Life Sciences

**Position title:** Chief Scientist for Earth Observations

**Education:** Bachelor's of science, Master's of science, Ph.D. in Earth Sciences and Ph.D. in Space Remote Sensing

**Place of birth:** India

**Hobbies:** Map collecting, writing for popular magazines, sciences, history

**What does Asian-Pacific American Month mean to you?** Celebrating the "diversity of the NASA team" is important for all of us. This is one of the ways to show that our "diversity" is our strength, and makes us a stronger NASA team.

**Favorite words of wisdom:** "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing. Security does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than exposure." – Helen Keller

"Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes." – Mahatma Gandhi

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." – John F. Kennedy



## Stacey T. Nakamura

**Time at JSC:** 22 years

**Organization:** Safety, Reliability and Quality Assurance Office

**Position title:** Chief, Safety and Test Operations Division

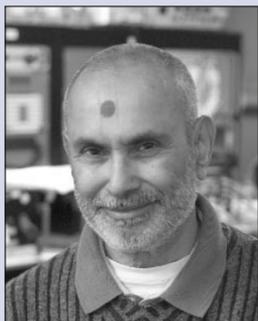
**Education:** Bachelor's of science in chemical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Place of birth:** Los Angeles, Calif.

**Hobbies:** Music (all categories), play keyboards for a local band, aquarium fanatic

**What does Asian-Pacific American Month mean to you?** It is a time to reflect on my family's heritage as well as appreciate and learn about the other Asian-Pacific American cultures. Although my heritage is Japanese-American, my parents were born and raised in Hawaii, which has a rich and diverse culture. I grew up enjoying Chinese, Polynesian, Portuguese, and Japanese foods and customs.

**Favorite words of wisdom:** Always remember that your employees are real people, with real needs and feelings: they can be much more than "items that are managed." They must be led and inspired.



## Suresh M. Patel

**Time at JSC:** 15 years

**Organization:** Aircraft Operations Division

**Position title:** Aerospace Engineer

**Education:** Master's degree

**Place of birth:** India

**Hobbies:** Volunteering for my temple in Stafford, Texas, and traveling

**What does Asian-Pacific American Month mean to you?** Awareness of ethnic diversity and understanding others' cultural values make us all better persons.

**Favorite words of wisdom:** Working as a team is a guarantee for success.

## SPACE CENTER Roundup

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