Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give - United Nations Declaration

Sudabeh Shoja – The 2005 Recipient of the Hoover Medal

I am announcing with great pleasure and pride that the Hoover Medal Board of Award has approved my nomination of Ms. Sudabeh Shoja for the Hoover Medal and as such, Ms. Shoja, an Iranian-American, is the second woman to receive this prestigious award in its 75-year history. She is recognized for her engineering expertise and humanitarian efforts.

Her name follows other recipients such as President Hoover in 1930, President Eisenhower in 1960 and President Carter in 1998 (Please see attached). This is the highest award given to an engineer who has made significant contributions to humanity. The award is given by unanimous selection of The American Society of Civil Engineers, The American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, The American Institute of Chemical Engineers, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

The Hoover Medal, founded in 1929, was established with the purpose of recognizing the public service of engineers who have gone outside their professional work to involve themselves in civic and humanitarian affairs. Ms. Shoja is a resident of Southern California and by coincidence the annual American Society of Civil Engineers’ (ASCE) Congress event will be held in Los Angeles in October 2005. The Hoover Gold Medal will be formally presented to Ms. Shoja at that Congress.

Sudabeh Shoja is the Secretary of the Board for International Orphan Care (highlighted in this letterhead). She is also the President of Children’s Hope International Literacy and Development (C.H.I.L.D.), an organization that she co-founded with board members and volunteers from Child Foundation after branching off from that organization in 2004.

She started her humanitarian work at the very young age of 12 as a girl scout by serving food in orphanages in Iran. Her tireless efforts ever since have helped improve the lives of thousands of children all over the world.

Sincerely,

Hasan Nouri, P.E. FASCE
Founder and Past Chairman of the Board
HOOVER MEDALISTS

The Medal has been awarded sixty-one times. Following is the list of recipients.

1930 Herbert Hoover
1936 Ambrose Swasey
1938 John Frank Stevens
1939 Gano Dunn
1941 D. Robert Yarnall
1942 Gerard Swope
1944 Ralph Edward Flanders
1945 William Henry Harrison
1946 Vannesson Bush
1948 Malcolm Pirnie
1949 Frank B. Jewett
1950 Karl T. Compton
1951 William Loren Batt
1952 Clarence D. Howe
1954 Alfred P. Sloan, Jr.
1955 Charles F. Kettering
1956 Herbert Hoover, Jr.
1957 Scott Turner
1958 Raymond A. Wheeler
1959 Henry T. Heald
1960 Dwight David Eisenhower
1961 Mason J. Kelly
1962 Walker Lee Cisler
1963 James R. Killian, Jr.
1964 John Alex McCona
1966 Lillian Moller Gilbreth
1967 Lucius D. Clay
1968 Sir Harold Hartley
1969 Edgar F. Kaiser
1970 John Erik Jonsson
1971 Luis A. Ferri
1972 Frederick R. Kappel
1973 William J. Hedley
1974 David Packard
1975 James Boyd
1976 James B. Fisk
1977 Peter C. Goldmark
1978 Donald C. Burnham
1979 Charles M. Brinckerhoff
1981 Arnold O. Beckman
1982 Michel T. Halbouty
1983 Joseph J. Jacobs
1984 Kenneth A. Roe
1985 Robert C. West
1986 Lawrence P. Grayson
1987 Martin Gordan
1988 William R. Gianelli
1989 John J. McKetta
1990 Joseph M. Rodgers
1991 Halvor F. Tovse
1992 Roland W. Schmitt
1993 Mario G. Salvadori
1994 William J. Carroll
1995 Dean Kamen
1996 M. Hasan Nouri
1997 Otto J. Helwig
1998 James Earl Carter, Jr.
2001 Richard H. Stanley
2002 Charles H. Thornton
2003 Barry K. Thacker

THE HOOVER MEDAL

The Hoover Medal, founded in 1929, was established to recognize great, unselfish, non-technical services by engineers to humanity. The inspiration to establish the award was supplied by the devotion and ability of Herbert Hoover and a group of engineering associates who sought to solve the problems of the nation from the beginning of World War I to the reestablishment of the injured nations. On April 8, 1930 the name of the Medal and the first recipient were chosen. The first Hoover Medal was awarded to President Hoover, then President of the United States, in commemoration of his civic and humanitarian achievements and was presented at the ASME Fiftieth Anniversary Dinner in Washington, D.C.

To honor engineers whose preeminent services have advanced the well-being of humanity and whose talents have been devoted to the development of a richer and more enduring civilization, the engineering societies award the Hoover Medal in recognition and appreciation of civic and humanitarian achievements.

The trust fund creating the Hoover Medal was the gift of Conrad N. Lauer, established on August 1, 1929. It is held by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and is administered by the Board of Award consisting of representatives of the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The Medal was executed by John Flanagan.

The Medal was presented to Barry K. Thacker by Beatrice E. Hunt, chair of the 2004 Hoover Medal Board of Award, during the Honorary Members Luncheon on November 15, 2003 at the American Society of Civil Engineers Annual Conference at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee.