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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Women and Men in Engineering and Technology Recognized for STEM Achievements & Community Contributions 3M's Jayshree Seth PhD Receives SWE's Highest Honor

**CHICAGO** (Aug. 27, 2020) – <u>The Society of Women Engineers</u> (SWE) announced today the recipients of its annual awards program, a nod to the industry leaders who are making significant contributions to the STEM community and the advancement of women in engineering. SWE award recipients include professionals and collegiate students from influential businesses, corporations, and universities across the globe.

"The men and women recognized have lived and learned through significant contributions to the engineering community, and they continue to lead in their careers and personal lives," said Heather Doty, president of SWE. "They are champions paving the way to empower and inspire future women engineers across the globe."

In addition to SWE's 19 annual awards, two new awards, the Diversity & Inclusion Program Award and the Patent Recognition Award, have been introduced this year.

The Diversity & Inclusion Program Award recognizes an individual or company who has pioneered a diversity & inclusion program within their organization.

The Patent Recognition Award recognizes SWE members who have been awarded a patent within the previous ten years from the award application deadline.

Jayshree Seth, PhD, from 3M Company in Minneapolis, Minn. earned the Achievement Award, the highest award given by the Society of Women Engineers, presented annually to an individual who has made significant and progressive technical contributions.

After graduating from Clarkson University with a PhD in Chemical Engineering, Seth joined 3M. In her 25-year career, she has witnessed firsthand how her work is making an impact in people's lives.

"In my current role as chief science advocate, I get to speak at many external and internal forums to various audiences," she says. "It is truly gratifying to hear positive feedback from people, especially when they say they feel inspired."

And Seth sees the products she's helped create make an impact, too.

"In previous roles, I worked on closures and fasteners to make diapers stay put on wiggly babies. And over the years, I have worked on everything from oil-control films for skin care to industrial tapes such as packaging and transfer tapes. Many of my projects have had a strong sustainability impact, which makes me very proud."

Beyond the products and patents, Jayshree is most proud of her role as a mentor to other women in STEM at 3M. "It is humbling to see the impact you can have," she says. "I think it is great for young girls to see women in STEM. I hope having a scientist for a mother has positively impacted Manashree's view of what women are capable of and able to succeed at."

Seth remembers the first time she saw her work making an impression on her daughter: "When she was asked to draw a scientist in elementary school, she was one of two students in that whole class who drew a female scientist!"

SWE will recognize over Seth and 291 award recipients during <u>WE20</u>, the world's largest conference and career fair for women engineers on Nov. 3-14, 2020.

To see the entire list of SWE award winners, visit https://alltogether.swe.org/2020/08/swe-announces-we20-award-winners/.

## **About SWE**

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), founded in 1950, is the world's largest advocate and catalyst for change for women in engineering and technology. The not-for-profit educational and service organization is the driving force that establishes engineering as a highly desirable career aspiration for women. To ensure SWE members reach their full potential as engineers and leaders, the Society offers unique opportunities to network, provides professional development, shapes public policy and provides recognition for the life-changing contributions and achievements of women engineers. As a champion of diversity, SWE empowers women to succeed and advance in their personal and professional lives. For more information about the Society, please visit www.swe.org or call 312.596.5223.

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