

THE CITY OF CUPERTINO PRESENTS THE 2020...



CUPERTINO

# NASA SPEAKER SERIES

The City of Cupertino has teamed up with current and former NASA employees for a year-long educational, motivational, and entertaining speaker series. The second event will be held in February.

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FEBRUARY 19  
4:00 TO 6:00 PM  
COMMUNITY HALL  
10350 TORRE AVE



**Guest Speaker**  
Dr. Wendy A. Okolo

## Controlling the Uncontrollable

The state of the art for entry spacecraft, such as the Apollo capsule, utilizes Reaction Control System (RCS) thrusters for steering. These thrusters are typically mounted on the backshells of the spacecraft to maneuver them during atmospheric entry. Deployable Entry Vehicles (DEVs), a new class of entry spacecraft, have no backshell. Thus, mounting RCS thrusters is a non-trivial challenge.

Dr. Wendy A. Okolo, an aerospace research engineer at NASA Ames Research Center, will present her efforts on the "Pterodactyl" project to develop the control techniques that will make maneuvering and precision landing of DEVs a reality.