



Welcome to AeroStar News!

Flight Log 2021: AeroStar's Year-End Highlights



Dear AeroStar Family and Friends,

Pilots rely on Enhanced Flight Vision Systems (EFVS) to provide an accurate view of their aerial surroundings. For AeroStar, the end of the year is the perfect EFVS to review our accomplishments in 2021. In this issue, we'll look at some of our proudest moments, but first, I'd like to acknowledge the support we received this year from our all-important funding partners.

Funding for nonprofit organizations is always a priority, and this year, AeroStar was blessed to continue to work with global industry leaders. The Boeing Company has made an incredible investment in the future aviation workforce through AeroStar, and our work together has grown to impact thousands of youth, not only in Chicago, but in Gary, Indiana. We are honored to share that for the fifth year in a row, Boeing invested in our Aerospace Education Talent Pipeline Project. For the 4th year, United Airlines continues to partner with cash donations as well as sponsored flights for us as the Official Airline of the AeroStar Avion Institute. These global giants' commitment to AeroStar's mission and confidence in our capacity will, without a doubt, help us "gain altitude" in 2022!

We were also blessed with new funding partners this year: Verizon, Footlocker, LISC, and The Lumina Foundation. Their generous support will increase our impact, meet the need for critical operating costs, expand our resources, and help us execute our 2022 strategic goals in four key areas: (1) Program Enhancements, (2) Marketing and Advocacy, (3) Fund/Partnership Development, and (4) Operations.

In-Kind Donations

The following in-kind donations made a tremendous impact on our bottom line this year:

- The DuSable Museum of African American History hosted our successful Bessie Coleman event in June.
- American Airlines graciously provided tours for AeroStar students at O'Hare Airport.
- Thanks to the University of Chicago's Law Project and [Catchafire.org](https://www.catchafire.org), we received more than \$35,000 in professional legal, marketing, technical, and management services free of charge.
- Struggle Beard Bakery provided delicious cookies for AeroStar events and Activity Days.

- United Airlines donated the cash value of \$39,000 in flight vouchers.

Update: FAA Youth in Aviation Task Force

In 2020, I was appointed to the Youth Access to American Jobs in Aviation Task Force and assigned to the Funding Subcommittee by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Chartered in August 2020 by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the purpose of the Task Force is "to provide strategies and recommendations encouraging youth to pursue a career in the field of aviation and to promote organizations and programs that provide education, training, mentorship, outreach, and recruitment of youth in the aviation industry."

Early next year, we will compile our findings and offer our official recommendations to Congress. In my work with the Task Force, I've received confirmation time and again that AeroStar's school-to-work pipeline is seen as a successful national model for helping youth gain access to the aviation workforce. We are showing the industry that training STEM talent from underrepresented communities makes good business sense. As we work together to rescue an industry that is suffering critical labor shortages, our Aerospace Education Talent Pipeline project, in partnership with Boeing, strategically prepares students and connects them directly to jobs at airlines, private contractors, and the military!

DONATE! Gratitude to Altitude Campaign

During this holiday season, we're raising \$100,000 to support our mission to train worthy students who are passionate about pursuing careers in aviation and aerospace. **We have already secured \$233,000** toward our 2022 annual operating budget of \$390,000. This year-end campaign will help us get closer to our goal in advance of spring and summer programs. **WITH YOUR GENEROUS DONATION, OUR PROGRAMS WILL CONTINUE TO RUN FOR FREE** for all of our Chicago and Gary, Indiana, students. Please donate today! When you donate to AeroStar, you're investing in the next generation of aviation and STEM professionals!

Have a happy and safe holiday!

Giving Wings to Dreams!

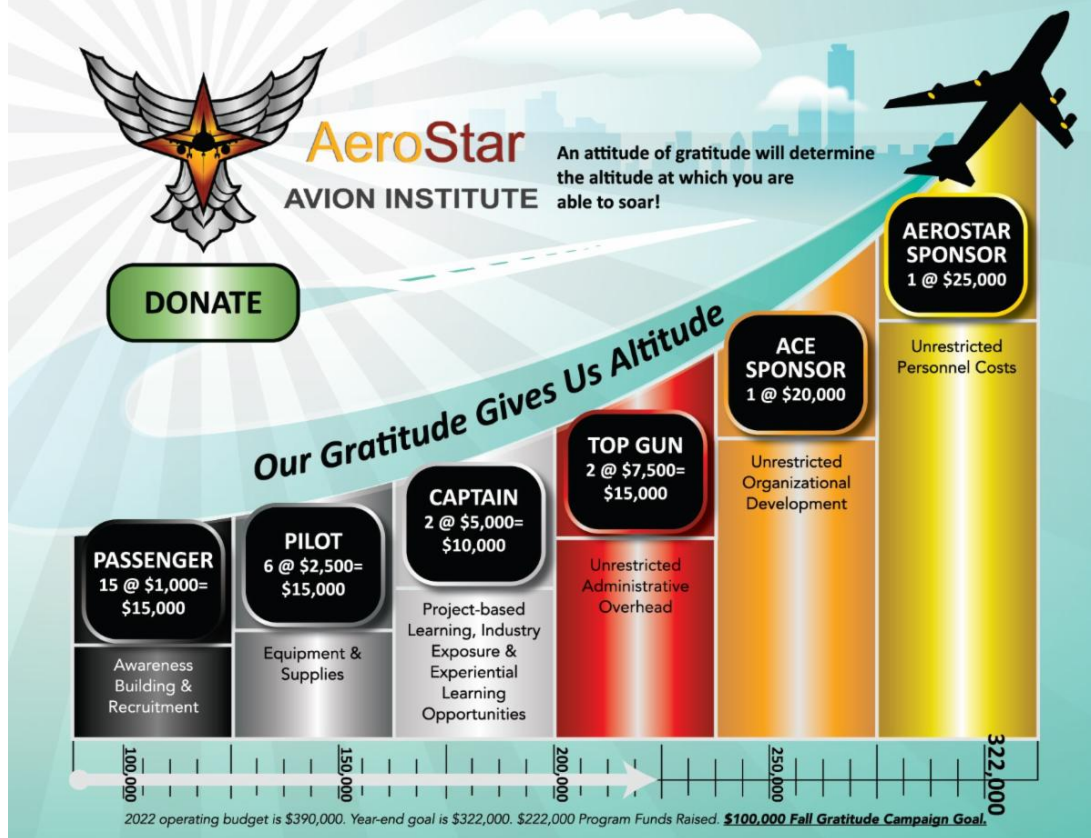
Tammera L. Holmes

President & CEO, AeroStar Consulting Corporation
Founder & CEO, AeroStar Avion Institute NFP

#BoeingInspires #BoeingPartner #AeroStarAvion #WingstoDreams

Countdown to \$100,000: Make Your Tax Deductible Donation Today!

'Tis the season to help our AeroStars soar! Make your tax deductible gift [HERE](#) today!



SAVE THE DATE!



Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 26, 2022, when AeroStar will host the AeroSTEM Expo and Propel Gala at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Watch this space for details!

AeroStars Show Off Airport Designs



The future of airport design is in good hands, thanks to our AeroStars! AeroStar's core aviation curriculum includes lessons on basic airport design standards. For their final project, students create three-dimensional dioramas that illustrate their understanding of terminals, runways, air traffic control towers, and other behind-the-scenes airport operations.

AeroStar's 2021 Year-End Highlights

This year, Team AeroStar was laser focused on program delivery during the era of COVID variants. Planning was, and continues to be, a challenge, but we successfully implemented a hybrid model that integrates the AeroVerse, our E-Learning Academy, with in-person Activity Days at Olive-Harvey College. By the end of December, we will have hosted 10 in-person Activity Days for AeroVerse students in grades K-12!

Student Successes

Amber Scott (7) was selected to participate in NASA's Million Girls Moonshot. Jorge Toledo (17) received a scholarship to attend the Advanced Space Academy, a hands-on, in-depth summer camp that trains teens like astronauts. And just this month, Mya Coley received her commercial pilot's license!

AeroStar students worked hard this year, and we are proud of their successes.

- 5 students received their private pilot's license.
- 3 students entered the military.
- 5 students graduated from college with aviation, business, and computer science degrees.
- 6 students graduated from 8th grade and high school.
- 1 student was awarded an aviation internship.
- 4 interns and 1 fellow supported AeroStar's programming, marketing/media, fundraising, and management operations.

School-to-Work Pipeline Partners

Olive-Harvey College joined as our newest program partner with a free Aviation Maintenance Tech class for CPS high school juniors. Upon completion, students receive a basic certificate—their ticket to begin working in aviation right away!

In 2021, we said a sad farewell to the Community Programs Accelerator (CPA) at the University of Chicago. Their assistance was indispensable in strengthening our management systems, building organizational capacity, and implementing our strategic plan.

Our program partners in Chicago and Northwest Indiana expanded our network and resources, helped us build capacity, and extended our reach into underrepresented communities. In 2021, we continued to work with the following organizations:

- Gary Girls & Boys Club and the Gary Area Career Center (funded by Boeing)
- Chicago Public Schools
- Wendell Phillips Academy High School
- Air Force Academy High School
- Tuskegee Next
- Afterschool Matters
- Chicago Housing Authority
- Society House
- Urban Alliance
- IREX/CSP
- Illinois Institute of Technology

In addition, we worked with our industry partners to enhance our curriculum and increase access to jobs:

- Federal Aviation Administration
- Chicago Department of Aviation
- AAR Corp.
- ARSOME Technology

2021 Events

Select AeroStar high school and college students, interns, and staff participated in Boeing's Virtual Mentoring Event on July 20th. Aviation and aerospace professionals offered one-on-one mentoring and college and career guidance.

This year, AeroStar hosted two memorable, star-studded events:

- **BAE Day 2021**, February 26th: Hundreds of students from Chicago and Northwest Indiana attended AeroStar's online Black History Month Salute to Black Aviation Excellence. African American experts and leaders from across the industry shared their wisdom and experiences.

- **#BC100**, June 15th: Bessie Coleman's 100th Anniversary Celebration was held at the DuSable Museum of African American History. 5 AeroStars received awards and 2 received scholarships; 3 celebrities received awards; and 1 posthumous award was given to Robert Sengstacke Abbott for his support of Bessie in the Chicago Defender newspaper (received by Myiti Sengstacke-Rice, President/CEO, Chicago Defender Charities).

2021 Field Trips

AeroStar hosted 5 Summer/Fall field trips:

- American Airlines Tour at O'Hare Airport (14 students).
- EEA AirVenture Air Show in Oshkosh, WI, with travel provided by United Airlines (19 students).
- Bud Billiken Day Parade with United Airlines (8 students).
- Chicago Bears Training Camp in Lake Forest, IL (10 students).
- Girls in Aviation Day at O'Hare Airport, hosted by United Airlines (15 students).

In Memory of Jessica Crenshaw



With great sadness we announce the passing of our beloved coworker and friend, Jessica Crenshaw. Jessica worked in our Marketing department, coordinating events and creating stunning graphics for our promotions. She was a beautiful, talented, creative soul, and we will miss her laughter and wisdom. We offer our sincerest condolences to her family and friends.

Activity Day at Olive-Harvey College!

Saturday, December 18th is the final Activity Day for 2021, and ALL students (K-12) are invited to attend. (Secret: We're having fun with rockets!)

Join us at Olive-Harvey College (10001 S. Woodlawn Ave., Room T150-B). K-4 sessions are 9:40am to noon; grades 5-12 are 12:40-3:00pm. For more information, contact us at programs@avioninstitute.org.

The safety of students is our #1 priority. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will alert you to any changes to the schedule.



The poster features a dark blue background with white circular patterns. In the top left corner is the AeroStar Avion Institute logo, which includes a stylized star and wings. In the top center is a white silhouette of an airplane. In the top right corner is a yellow star with the word "FREE" in white. The main title "AeroStar Aviation Activity Days" is written in a large, orange, cursive font. Below the title, "SATURDAYS AT OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE" is written in white, all-caps, sans-serif font. Underneath that, "10001 S. Woodlawn Avenue - TDL Center" is written in orange, sans-serif font, followed by "Classroom number: T150 B" in white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there are two columns of text: "GRADES K-4" and "9:40am-12:00pm" on the left, and "GRADES 5-12" and "12:40pm-3:00pm" on the right, all in white, sans-serif font.

AeroStar
AVION INSTITUTE

FREE

AeroStar Aviation Activity Days

SATURDAYS AT OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE

10001 S. Woodlawn Avenue - TDL Center
Classroom number: T150 B

GRADES K-4
9:40am-12:00pm

GRADES 5-12
12:40pm-3:00pm

We Need Your Feedback!

We are updating our program schedule and want to hear your feedback! Please participate in our brief survey. Your answers will help us create a more accessible program schedule. Click [HERE](#).

Olive-Harvey Facilities Tour: Aviation Maintenance for High School Juniors



Aviation Career **TAKEOFF**

**FREE
PROGRAM!
EARN COLLEGE
CREDIT!**

Prepare for an exciting career in AVIATION.

High school juniors can start to earn a basic certificate
in Aviation Maintenance Tech.

COME AND TOUR OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES:

December 11th • 1pm-3pm January 8th • 1pm-3pm
December 15th • 4pm-7pm January 12th • 4pm-7pm

RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/r/P4Qp6LkxTK>



CITY COLLEGES of CHICAGO
Olive-Harvey

Olive-Harvey College | TDL Center
10001 S. Woodlawn Ave.

Donate Today!

One person *can* make a difference. Your generosity will help the AeroStar Avion Institute train and prepare students—K-12, college, and beyond—to pursue the aviation and aerospace careers of their dreams!

Please donate!

We're fired up about our mission to train and employ youth in this exciting industry, and we need your help more than ever before. To give, click **HERE**. Your donation is tax deductible, and 100% of your gift goes toward training the next generation of aviation and aerospace professionals.

Invest in the passion ... the mission ... DONATE NOW!

Give Wings to Dreams!

Book Teaches Kids to Fly Through Fear

What if you were afraid to fly? Authors Kenyatta Scott and Tamera L. Holmes join forces to show girls and boys how to face their fears!

**Tamera L. Holmes Teaches Violet
How to Fly Through Fear!**

Violet Takes Flight



By: Benjett Scott
Illustrated By: Michelle Valente



Follow along as ***Violet Takes Flight*** for the first time! Daddy teaches her and her brother Derek the true meaning of "doing it afraid." Follow along as Pilot Holmes makes her literary debut as Violet's flight teacher!

30% of all book sales support AeroStar Avion Institute, NFP, a female, minority owned NFP that teaches underrepresented youth in underserved neighborhoods about aviation STEM careers.

Buy your copy of ***Violet Takes Flight*** [HERE](#) today!

#thevioletbookseries
#wingstodreams



CREDITS



BOEING

Publisher: Team AeroStar
Editor: Donna M. Williams
Social Media Coordinator: Alexis Brownlow
Consultant: Kristy Farrakhan

