



Welcome to AeroStar News!

Our Gratitude Gives Us Altitude!



Dear AeroStar Family and Friends,

I am a firm believer in that old saying: ***"An attitude of gratitude will determine the altitude at which you are able to soar."*** So I would like to take time to thank everyone who has kept our organization aloft for the past 13 years: our students, families, funders, sponsors, private donors, industry training partners, and Team AeroStar! Your dedication and generosity inspire me, our Board Members, staff, contractors, interns, and volunteers to give our all for our AeroStars.

This year has been a year of recovery from the pandemic. We've seen both progress and continuing challenges in the fight against COVID-19, yet, to slightly paraphrase Maya Angelou, "And still **WE** rise." AeroStar has emerged stronger and more determined than ever to fulfill our Mission:

To increase the public's awareness —especially among African Americans, Latinos, and females—about careers in aviation and aerospace; to deliver innovative K–12 STEM training and experiential activities that maximize academic achievement and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) both inside and outside of the classroom.

While our Mission gives us our daily flight plans, our Vision inspires us to shoot for the stars. We are not just preparing students for careers in the industry, we are training them, creating access for them, advocating for them, and positioning them for long-term success. Our Aviation Talent Pipeline Project, in partnership with Boeing, connects students directly to jobs and other post-secondary opportunities as we collaboratively work to rescue an industry that is suffering critical labor shortages. Our Vision is to:

Inspire, train, and launch the next generation of STEM professionals into aerospace careers, literally "Giving Wings to Dreams"; become a leading supplier of highly qualified, diverse talent for the aviation community.

Since 2008, we have impacted more than 10,000 underrepresented students by raising awareness of aviation and aerospace careers, delivering training and mentoring, and

connecting students to internships, apprenticeships, university programs, scholarships, and ultimately, to employers.

Currently, we are enhancing our curriculum, revamping our program delivery models, developing our leadership team, executing our strategic plan for expansion, and actively shaping the national conversation on creating youth access to aviation jobs. In addition to traditional classes, we are planning exciting field trips, designing projects, planning events and more that will boost student engagement in STEM subjects, aviation, and aerospace. Without a doubt, 2022 will be a banner year for us, drawing more first-time AeroStars to programming than ever before!

It Takes A Crew!

Giving season has officially launched at AeroStar! For full transparency, I'd like to share our operating costs so that you'll understand why donor support is so critical to our Mission and Vision. Our overall 2022 operating budget is \$390,000. Of that amount, so far this year we've raised \$222,00. Year after year, our overhead costs remain low as approximately 85% of funds go directly to program delivery. With that said, we have a shortfall of unrestricted funds, which are critical to our business development, marketing, strategic planning and, most importantly, personnel expenses.

For our year-end **Fall Gratitude Campaign**, our goal is to raise an additional \$100,000. With your help, we can reach that altitude!!! FL \$100K. Every dollar you donate to our Mission will help us train brilliant students who are passionate about pursuing careers in aviation and aerospace. **Please donate today!** For giving levels, please see the infographic below.

We are grateful for your support!

Giving Wings to Dreams!

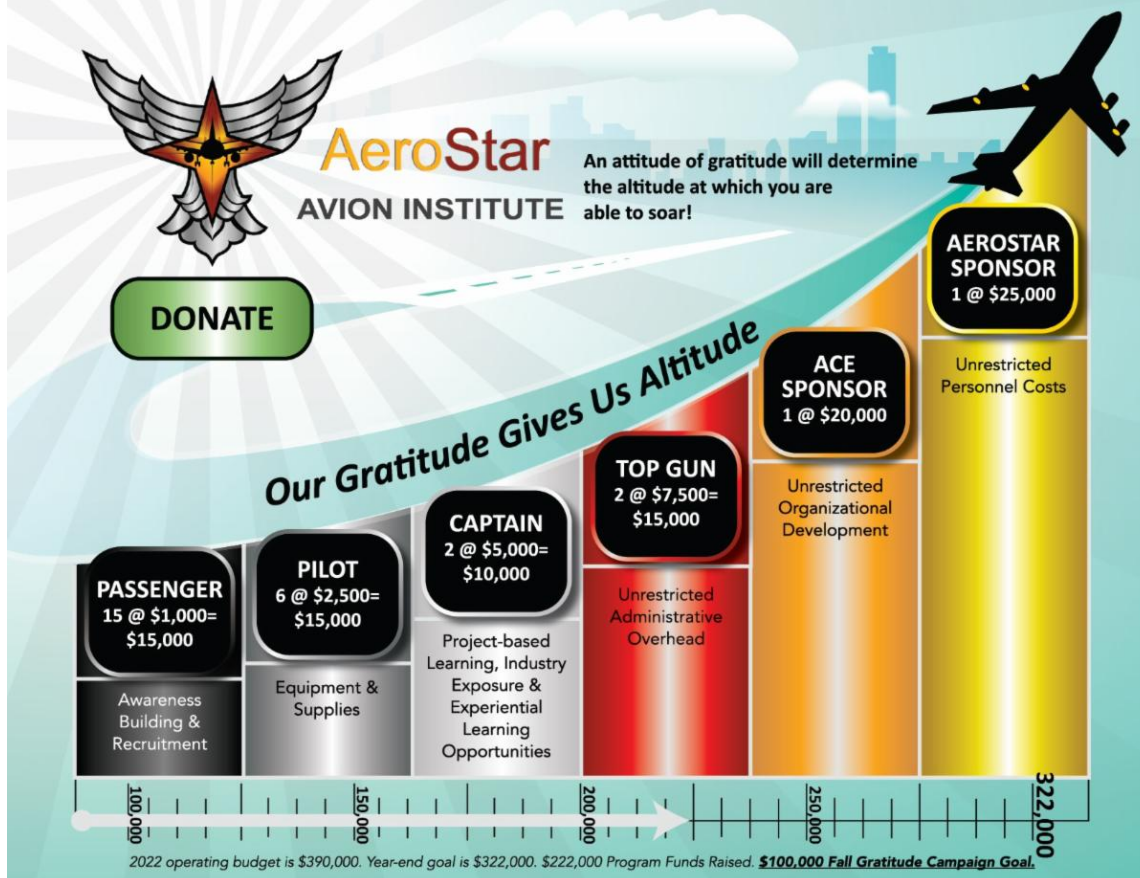
Tammera L. Holmes

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

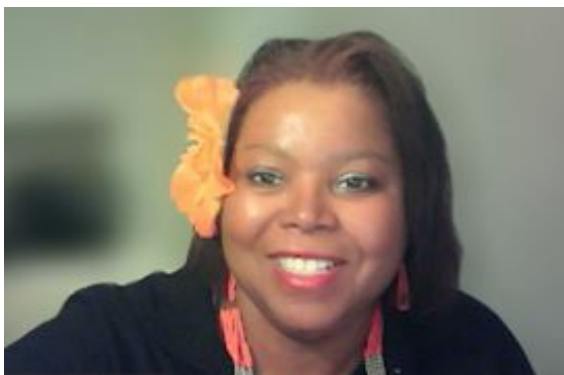
#wingstodreams
#BC100

~ FALL GRATITUDE CAMPAIGN ~ **Countdown to \$100,000!**

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



Meet AeroStar Instructor, Erica Okogun



Erica Okogun is a retired IBEW Local 176 Electrician and HVAC Certified. She is a wife, mom, and sibling.

As an instructor for the AeroStar Avion Institute and After School Matters, Erica is motivated and dedicated to teaching youth aviation and STEAM-related subjects.

"I enjoy making hard things simple and understandable. I am interested in knowledge, collaborations, and being resourceful and reliable," says Erica. "I am, unfortunately, a victim of imposter syndrome but am determined to overcome all negativity. I choose Joy!"

Meet Binod Neupane, AeroStar Fellow

This year, AeroStar was fortunate to work with Binod Neupane, a fellow from the IREX/Community Solutions Program (CSP). CSP is a year-long professional leadership development program for people who are working to improve their communities by addressing issues related to the environment, peace and conflict resolution, transparency and accountability, and women and gender.

Hailing from the nation of Nepal, Binod's social justice



mission aligned perfectly with AeroStar's. He helped us develop a case study template, which will enhance our ability to tell our students' powerful stories.

My Story **By Binod Neupane**

I was born and raised in a remote village in Syangja District of Western Nepal. I am currently working as a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer at Right4Children, a non-government organization, in Pokhara. I possess more than ten years of professional experience in community and social development, which is something I was always passionate about and really enjoy. I have experience working with community-based project cycles as well as in the preparation of M&E plans, frameworks, checklists, data analysis, and management.

I have worked with various structures over the years to establish strong coordination, teamwork, and leadership fundamentals. My expertise is in women and gender issues, child protection, social inclusion, education, livelihood development, vocational skills development, and increasing employment opportunities for underserved communities.

My goal is to support vulnerable out-of-school children and young people, especially girls, by developing their confidence and preparing them for the world of work through vocational training with a guaranteed job after graduation. I also desire to support their efforts to establish micro-business opportunities.

Activity Days At Olive-Harvey!



ALL students (K-12) are invited to attend our weekly Activity Days held Saturdays at the TDL Center at Olive-Harvey College (Room T150 B, 10001 S. Woodlawn Ave.). Meet like-minded peers who are serious about education and their future careers, and have fun in the process! K-4 sessions are 9:40am to noon; grades 5-12 are 12:40-3:00pm. (Register onsite at Olive-Harvey!) For more information, contact us at programs@avioninstitute.org.

Remaining Saturday dates include:

- November 13: 1:00-3:00pm
- December 4: 1:00-3:00pm
- December 11: 1:00-3:00pm
- December 18: 1:00-3:00pm

We're taking a break for the holidays! Classes will not be in session November 20-27.

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



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

Aviation Maintenance for High School Juniors



**FREE
PROGRAM!
EARN COLLEGE
CREDIT!**

Aviation Career **TAKEOFF**

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:

November 6th • 1pm-3pm

November 17th • 4pm-7pm

December 11th • 1pm-3pm

December 15th • 4pm-7pm

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

- **SAVE TIME AND MONEY.** Earn college credit while still in high school, without paying college tuition.
- You can start training for a high-demand career, helping you get a job right out of college.

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



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Holly Washington (Thrash), M.ED.
at **773.291.6478** or hthrash@ccc.edu

Help Wanted!

United Airlines is hiring part-time and full-time Ramp Agents at O'Hare Airport! Starting pay and benefits are competitive in the industry. United is even offering sign-on bonuses! To apply for part-time jobs, click [HERE](#). For full-time, click [HERE](#).

Have you ever wondered what a Ramp Agent does at O'Hare? Watch the following video.



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!

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

Violet Takes Flight

By: Benjette Scott
Illustrated By: Michelle Valente



owned NFP that teaches underrepresented youth in underserved neighborhoods about aviation STEM careers.

Buy your copy of ***Violet Takes Flight*** **HERE** today!

#thevioletbookseries
#wingstodreams

Have A Safe And Joyful Thanksgiving!



CREDITS



BOEING

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