



## Welcome to AeroStar News

### Spring Into Action! From Chicago To London



Happy Spring AeroStar Family and Friends!

It was truly an honor to be invited to keynote the Marshall Skills Academy Summit at Cranfield University just outside of London.

As I have spoken on hundreds of times, the Aviation, skilled workforce shortage is one that is of paramount importance to the economic infrastructure of our global air transportation system.

After speaking on my panel at the World Aviation Training Symposium (WATS) last year, an aircraft engineer came to the stage and said emphatically- "WE HAVE TO GET YOU TO THE UK!"

This was a convening of some of the top aerospace and engineering executives in Europe: Including the Royal Air Force, BAE Systems, Bombardier, The Royal Aeronautical Society, Parliament's leadership

on aerospace, Boeing, British Airways and the list goes on. I was the only person of color at the summit. And that's pretty normal, even often times here in the US.

As many of you know, I predicted for years this moment would come for America. I just did not know that it would be a global crisis threatening to unravel the air transport infrastructure, safety and national economies. From the US to St.Lucia, Nepal, Nairobi, and the UK, I have witnessed firsthand the gender, racial and wealth disparities in the immediate vicinity of access to unfilled high paying aviation industry jobs! It literally disgusts me. And it breaks my heart.

The premis of my message was the same as what we do at AEROSTAR AVION INSTITUTE; When leaders from across the globe ask me, "How are you finding so many highly qualified and talented underrepresented, Black and Brown youth that are interested in aviation?" My response is always... "We don't FIND them, we MAKE them!"

I was informed at the event that the "Arthur the Apprentice" sculpture was inspired by me. □□□□

My quote “We don’t find them, we make them” left an indelible impression on the Marshall team. They decided to build (make) this sculpture as a group activity with all of the Summit attendees riveting, assembling, then signing the sculpture. I signed the heart of Arthur with that quote and added “This is the heart of Aviation” It was an incredible moment!

The time is NOW to **SPRING INTO ACTION** and invest in our under resourced, disenfranchised youth. They are just as capable, intelligent, deserving and WORTHY!!! Even “bad” kids are intelligent, just misguided! Ask me how I know... ☐

I applaud Marshall for their vision to diversify through intentional collaboration, pooling resources and creating innovative pathways for youth in the UK! This is the way! ☐☐ it’s my hope that I left a bit of inspiration across the Pond. ✈️✈️✈️

Thank you to all of our amazing donors, partners, and supporters. Without your continued generosity, we would not be where we are today!

**To donate, in-kind services, and sponsorships click [HERE](#). Collaborate and volunteer** (click [HERE](#) to volunteer). **Support AeroStar and the future of aviation. Please contact me today at [Tholmes@aerostarcorp.com](mailto:Tholmes@aerostarcorp.com)** for branded sponsorship opportunities.

Thank you for Giving Wings to Dreams!

Tammera L. Holmes  
President & CEO, AeroStar Consulting Corporation  
Founder & CEO, AeroStar Avion Institute NFP

#BoeingInspires #GoodLeadstheWay #AeroStarAvion #WingstoDreams

# Welcome to Marshall Skills Summit 2023

#MarshallSkillSummit

MARSHALL





## UPCOMING AEROSTAR EVENTS

**NEW DATE**

**The 5th Annual AeroSTEM Expo**

**SUNDAY**

**June 25, 2023**



The 5th Annual AeroSTEM Expo is finally here!!!! This landmark event, in partnership with Illinois Tech, is a one-of-a-kind, hands-on aviation science technology engineering and math immersion for youth grades 5th through 12th in the Chicago Metropolitan area.

Participants in the expo will experience aviation/ space activities, learn about industry careers, hear from colleges and universities regarding post secondary programs and meet meet and receive mentoring from professionals within aviation and space industries.

The long-standing partnership with Illinois Tech serves as a model for public-private partnerships commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM education, and has made this event one of AeroStar's top recruitment activities for year-round programming.

**Please join us on Sunday, June 25th, 2023 at 9 AM, Illinois Institute of Technology, Hermann Hall**

**Get tickets [HERE](#)**

**TEENS.**  
**LEAD.**  
**CREATE.**  
**COLLABORATE.**  
**ADVOCATE.**



**Adler Planetarium Youth Leadership Council**



**BLACK HOLE: Teen Voices**" at the Adler is a two-hour event hosted by the Adler's Youth Leadership Council that consists of a series of informative, powerful, and insightful, seven-minute "presentations" that we call "BLACK HOLES". Each BLACK HOLE 'presentation' engages event guests in some way that is directly related to the event's theme and is presented in a variety of creative formats. FREE with an RSVP!

**Saturday, May 13, 2023**

11:00 am–1:00 pm and 2:00 pm–4:00 pm

at Adler Planetarium | 1300 S. DuSable Lake Shore Dr. 60605

[Click to RSVP](#)

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**Mental Health Awareness in the World of Aviation: Is It About Time We Start Taking It**

## Seriously?



Mental Health Awareness Month is next month, and this issue has affected all people---including pilots. Did you know that 78.6% of pilots avoid expressing concern about their mental health? Mental illness—and the stigma carried with it—is a big problem for pilots. Many pilots fear that using their healthcare benefits and receiving mental health treatment can lead to their wings being clipped. The fear of losing their profession leads to 72% of pilots avoiding mental health care in the United States. This issue is particularly common amongst male pilots, due to men being more likely to ignore mental health problems. This article goes into depth about mental health stigmas affecting pilots, the reasons because of it, and how the situation can be resolved in the future.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)

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## Overcoming Obstacles: Meet the Blind Pilots Who Are Doing the Impossible



Piloting a plane is usually a vision-oriented task. But does that mean a blind person cannot pilot their own aircraft? This article showcases two blind individuals with their own aspirations to become pilots. With a verbal aid from a professional copilot, they finally receive the opportunity to realize that dream. These two individuals overcame their odds and did the impossible in despite of their disability.

[Read the Full Article HERE](#)

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## **Honeywell Aerospace, Mesa public schools look to spark STEM education**



Honeywell Aerospace has partnered with Mesa public schools to teach kids about STEM and Aerospace technology. The purpose of this initiative is to familiarize children with the world of STEM, and how it can be applied to the real world. The kids were tasked to do specific projects—such as building a sustainable outdoor classroom. Honeywell has also established a graduation plus model to encourage students to be involved in their community post-graduation. Honeywell is one of the largest aerospace companies in the world, and programs such as this help foster the next generation of STEM talent.

[Read the Full Article HERE](#)

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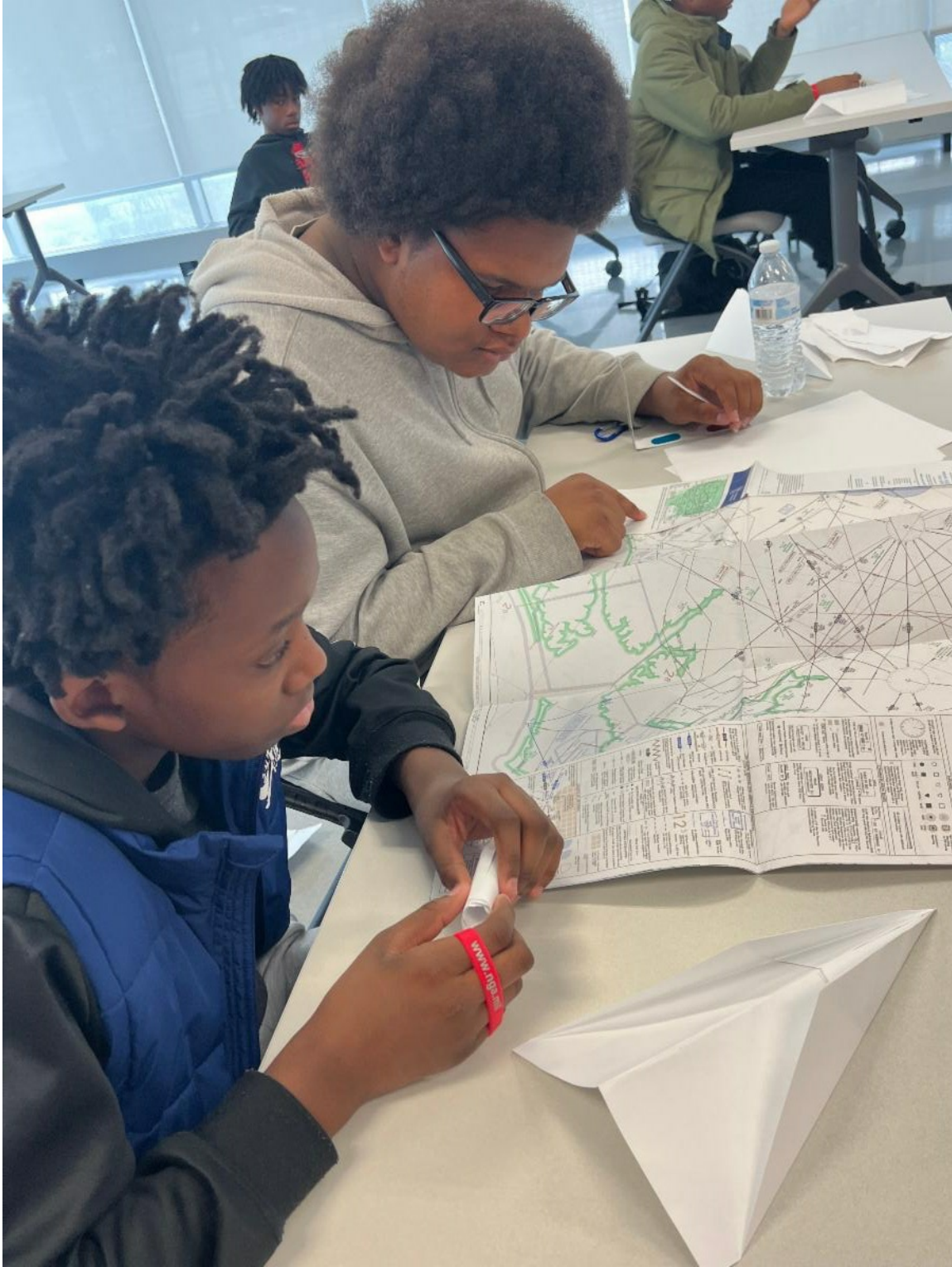
**Meet the Leaders For Tomorrow  
Male Mentoring Program!**





On April 29th, 2023, AeroStar hosted the Leaders of Tomorrow, Theta Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated male mentoring program. Theta Mu Lambda is committed to providing community and educational support for Black male students. Their initiative is driven to help Black male youth excel in academics, as well as foster a supportive environment outside of their immediate families.

Pictured above is our guest speaker for the young men, Mr. Henry Norris, a former AeroStar instructor, now Specialist for the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. Below is a snapshot of two young men checking out a declassified aerial sectional map.



We cannot thank Theta Mu Lambda enough for this collaboration. It was a golden opportunity to speak with Chicago youth, and give young boys of color the resources and information they need to be academically successful. We look forward to more events and programs in the future. Thank you all who we able to attend as well!



## Hear From the First Black Woman to Pilot the U-2



In 2004, **U.S. Air Force Col. Merryl Tengesdal (Ret.)** made history as the first Black woman to fly the Lockheed U-2 reconnaissance aircraft – joining a program that very few women or Black pilots had participated in.

Join Tengesdal as she discusses the challenges she overcame and the resilient mindset she developed to set herself up for success and make history flying one of the most iconic aircraft still in operation.

This program will be presented in-person at the National Air and Space Museum in DC and will be streamed live on YouTube. Registration is required for in person attendance and encouraged for online viewing.

[Click This Link to RSVP](#)

**Scholarship & Internships in**

**ILLINOIS TECH** Applied Mathematics



Summer 2023 5/22-7/28  
**Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) in Data Science and Computational Math**

Students will gain insight into some hot topics with hands-on research experience as they interact with graduate students and faculty while learning how to work as a team member and understand how to conduct real-world research.

**Participants will receive a stipend of \$550 per week.**

The applicants are required to have a *foundational background in mathematics* (calculus, differential equations, and linear algebra) and some *programming skills*. All applications received by **March 15th** will receive full consideration. Applications will be received until the positions are filled. The SURE program anticipates funding from the National Science Foundation, which is gratefully acknowledged.

Apply Scan



## Speedier Simulations

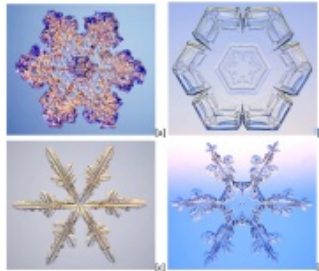
Advisers: *Dr. Sou-Cheng Choi*  
and *Dr. Fred Hickernell*

Monte Carlo methods are used to solve problems involving uncertainty, such as financial risk and geophysical problems whose parameters are not known precisely. The speedy simulations research group develops and implements algorithms in an open-source Python package called QMCPy that speeds up Monte Carlo simulations. By joining the speedy simulations research group, students will experience teamwork, learn to identify and solve research problems, follow good practices in technical software development, and hone their communication skills.

## From the formation of snowflakes to crystal growth

Adviser: *Dr. Shuwang Li*

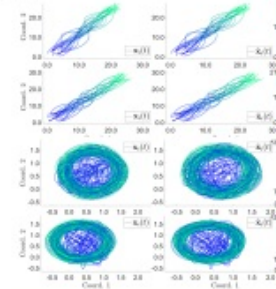
In this project, students will learn the underlying physics of snowflake formation and evolution. In particular, students will be exposed to the general concepts of mathematical modeling and hands-on scientific computing.



## Learning and modeling collective behaviors

Advisers: *Dr. Yubin Lu*  
and *Dr. Ming Zhong*

In this project, students will learn how to model collective behaviors with the help of proper machine-learning tools and possibly validate the learning method on experimental data.



If you have any questions, feel free to email [yding2@iit.edu](mailto:yding2@iit.edu)



## STUDENTS FOR ENERGY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT SEED

Chain Reaction Innovations (CRI), the entrepreneurship program at Argonne National Laboratory, offers an internship program to empower Chicago area college students attending a Minority Serving Institution\* to develop skills in science and technology entrepreneurship.

The SEED program provides an exciting way for students to combat climate change through internships with CRI's clean energy and climate technology startup companies. SEED supports a robust pipeline for students so they can make an impact through business and science careers with a focus on entrepreneurship.

### OVERVIEW

- Chicago-based students who attend an accredited Minority Serving Institution\*
- Academic year spring/fall
- Collaborative partnerships between CRI, Argonne, and clean energy startup companies
- Career development

### BENEFITS

- Paid internship
- Entrepreneurial experience
- Skill building
- Inclusive support
- Mentorship
- Professional networking
- Flexible work schedule

\* [www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/assets/PDF/2020\\_Minority\\_Serving\\_Institutions.pdf](http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/assets/PDF/2020_Minority_Serving_Institutions.pdf)

The goal is to SEED and grow STEM skills beyond the classroom and into the career realm.

### LEARN MORE

Chain Reaction Innovations  
Email: [chainreaction@anl.gov](mailto:chainreaction@anl.gov)  
[chainreaction.anl.gov/seed-internship](http://chainreaction.anl.gov/seed-internship)



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

Argonne National Laboratory is a U.S. Department of Energy laboratory managed by UChicago Argonne, LLC.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING OFFICE

January 2023

To apply, click [HERE](#)

## Aviation Job Opportunities

AeroStar is seeking new and dedicated people to join our team. Your support will help the AeroStar Avion Institute train and prepare students to pursue the aviation and aerospace careers of their dreams!

## AEROSTAR IS HIRING

# PROGRAM SPECIALIST!

The **Program Specialist** is to manage and coordinate programs that align with AAI's mission and strategic goals; for example: program implementation, recruitment, fundraising, partnership development and assisting with the planning of outreach strategies. The

Program Manager works alongside the Chief Operating Officer to accomplish these goals. Other responsibilities include: assisting with scheduling and staffing volunteers for events; leading group volunteer experiences in AAI; delivering orientation and guiding volunteers at program locations; managing AAI'S event calendar and ensuring opportunities are posted on multiple Chicago volunteer sites, and more.

Submit resume and cover letter to [HR@avioninstitute.org](mailto:HR@avioninstitute.org) with the respective subject line, "Program Specialist Applicant."



**WE WANT YOU!**  
**WE ARE HIRING**

**SUMMER INSTRUCTOR**  
Link to the application : <https://rb.gy/xi1sb>

**HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER INSTRUCTOR**  
Link to the application : <https://rb.gy/mqtqf>

**PROGRAM SPECIALIST**  
Link to the application : <https://rb.gy/y9wd0>

**SEND YOUR RESUME TO**  
[hr@avioninstitute.org](mailto:hr@avioninstitute.org)



**Be ATC**  
Challenge Yourself

[www.faa.gov/be-atc](http://www.faa.gov/be-atc)

Don't miss your chance to apply to be an FAA air traffic controller! The application window for 2023 will be from May 5-8.

If you think you have what it takes to keep thousands of flights moving safely every day, go to [faa.gov/be-ATC](http://faa.gov/be-ATC) to confirm your eligibility and review the application requirements. Air traffic controllers are crucial to maintaining a safe airspace, and we make sure you have all the training necessary to succeed. If you think you're up for the challenge, go to [faa.gov/be-ATC](http://faa.gov/be-ATC) for information about how to start preparing your application materials today, and follow the [FAA's social media channels](#) for updates about the hiring window.

## Donate Today!

### YOUR CONTRIBUTION CAN CHANGE LIVES!

You can help expand our mission to train and employ youth in this exciting industry. Now 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...the future of aviation...DONATE NOW!***

## CREDITS



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