



Welcome to AeroStar News

How We Celebrated Women's History Month!

Hello AeroStar Friends, Partners, and Supporters!

First, I apologize for the March newsletter being late. I was able to spend a week in Florence Italy sharing our work at the International Aerospace Engineering Conference. The need for highly qualified diverse talent is not just a domestic issue, the global economy is desperate to fill growing vacancies in nearly every job category in the aviation and space industries.

As we journeyed through another month of inspiring and educating the next generation of aviators and aerospace professionals, I found myself reflecting on the crucial role of diversity and inclusion within these sectors right here in the USA. In this issue, I want to shine a spotlight on the remarkable **women** who have not only pioneered but continue to make significant strides in aviation and space, industries traditionally dominated by men.



The path of aviation and aerospace has been illuminated by countless intrepid women who dared to dream and achieve. Women like Bessie Coleman, the first African American woman to hold a pilot license, broke barriers and paved the way for many after her. Amelia Earhart, a name synonymous with aviation, became the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, inspiring generations of women to pursue their dreams in the skies.

In the realm of space exploration, Sally Ride's journey aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger in 1983 marked her as the first American woman in space. Since then, women like Mae Jemison, the first African American woman to travel in space, and more recently, Christina Koch, who holds the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman, have continued to redefine what is possible.

Despite these monumental achievements, women remain underrepresented in aviation and aerospace. **Current statistics show that women account for only about 5% of commercial pilots worldwide and less than 16% of aerospace engineers.** While these numbers are slowly increasing, they highlight the ongoing need for programs and initiatives that encourage and support women and girls in pursuing careers in these fields.

The AeroStar Avion Institute stands at the forefront of this endeavor, dedicated to facilitating aviation and aerospace education for underrepresented youth. Through our programs, we aim not just to expose them to the industry, but to also educate, empower and help employ. We believe that by providing young women with role models from within these industries, we can ignite the spark of curiosity and ambition that leads to a fulfilling career.

March was a celebration of the achievements of women in aviation and space. Let us also commit to doing more. Together, we can close the gender gap in these industries and ensure that the next generation of leaders reflects the diversity and talent of our society.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission. Here's to soaring higher and reaching further, together. To donate, please click the link below.

Best,

Tammera L. Holmes AKA Dr. Tam
Founder & Board Chairman, The AeroStar Avion Institute NFP

#BoeingInspires #GoodLeadstheWay #AeroStarAvion #WingstoDreams

DONATE
TODAY



Spring Programs Continue!

During recent weekends, the AeroStar Student Program was relatively calm. These days saw a departure from the usual field trips and



special visits, allowing students to delve deeper into their studies within the classroom. Under the guidance of their instructors, participants explored the principles and physics of flight, engaging in hands-on activities such as constructing model planes to apply their newfound knowledge. The students had the opportunity to hone their flying abilities and reinforce their understanding through simulated flights on specialized equipment.



After spending three weeks of calm learning in the classroom, our kids were ready to go out! On March 23rd, our spring AeroStars went on a field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry. This was an exciting experience for the kids as they were dazzled by the different wonders of nature that they got to explore during this visit. Thank you to the hardworking people at the Museum of Science and Industry for having us!



REGISTER NOW



AEROSTAR
AVION INSTITUTE



AEROSTARS

SUMMER 24' PROGRAM

- Flight Simulators
- Drones
- Field trips
- Flight Lessons
- Aviation mentors
- ...and so much more!!!

\$50 per participant

4TH TO 8TH GRADERS

Mon - Thur

9 am - 1 pm

July 1st - August 8th

OLIVE HARVEY COLLEGE

10001 S WOODLAWN AVENUE

TDL BUILDING

EARLY BRID
SIGN UP

50% off

USE
PROMO
CODE:
SUMMER24

REGISTER NOW!
CLICK ON THE LINK



Register Now!

On The Radar

Highlighting the Women Who Broke Barriers



As we celebrate Women's History Month, we proudly recognize the remarkable contributions of female aviators and pioneers in STEM fields. We strive to honor the trailblazing women who have defied odds and shattered glass ceilings, inspiring generations to come. This month, we salute their achievements and reaffirm our commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion in aviation and STEM, empowering women to soar to new heights!



Ginger Evans is an aviation professional known for her leadership in airport management. She has served as Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. Evans is celebrated for her strategic vision, commitment to sustainability, and advocacy for diversity in the aviation industry, inspiring future leaders in STEM and aviation.



Angela Gittens is a prominent figure in the aviation industry, known for her leadership and expertise. She has held influential roles such as Director General of Airports Council International (ACI) World. Gittens is recognized for her strategic insights and advocacy for sustainable airport development, making significant contributions to the global aviation community. Her dedication to excellence and innovation continues to inspire professionals across the industry.



Shirley Tyus made history as the first African American female pilot to soar with United Airlines, breaking barriers and inspiring generations. Her journey in aviation symbolizes resilience, determination, and the courage to pursue one's dreams against all odds. Tyus's trailblazing achievements serve as a beacon of empowerment, highlighting the importance of diversity and representation in the skies and beyond.

Japan looks to revive commercial aircraft development dreams



The Japanese government is pursuing a new strategic plan aimed at enhancing development capabilities through international collaboration and stronger public-private partnerships. Media reports suggest a commercial aircraft program may launch by 2035, powered by alternative energy sources such as hydrogen. Tokyo has assembled a working group comprising aerospace and energy industry executives to spearhead this initiative, with plans to invest approximately Y5 trillion (\$33 billion) into the venture.

[Learn More!](#)

Funding for Thomas University's Aviation Maintenance Program to support underserved students



Thanks to federal funding from U.S. Senators Reverend Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff, Thomas University students will benefit from improved career prospects. With nearly \$500,000 allocated, the university will establish an aviation maintenance technician program targeting 50 students from underserved areas, aiming to fill high-paying positions in the industry. Senators Warnock and Ossoff emphasized the importance of addressing workforce shortages in aviation and ensuring opportunities for passionate individuals to pursue careers in this vital sector for Georgia's economy and national security.

[Learn More!](#)

Aviation Opportunities

INTERNSHIPS | SCHOLARSHIPS | JOBS



REACH FOR THE SKY
in this week-long,
high-altitude
ballooning
summer camp!

MISSION NEAR SPACE

FREE
for Selected
Participants!

For 7th & 8th Graders

Session 1: June 10 -14

Session 2: June 17-21

Session 3: June 24-28

**Apply
Today!**



For more info:

Mission Near Space is a summer program like no other!

7th and 8th graders become part of a unique team of engineers, educators, and astronomers. They prepare, launch, track, and retrieve a scientific payload sent to the stratosphere aboard a high-altitude balloon. The week ends with a showcase where participants present their exploration results to family members.

Accepted applicants will receive a full scholarship for one week-long program session (a \$500 value). They are also eligible to receive a 7-day CTA pass. Participants who complete the week-long program will receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card.

Session Dates:

- Session One: June 10, 2024–June 14, 2024
- Session Two: June 17, 2024–June 21, 2024
- Session Three: June 24, 2024–June 28, 2024

Apply Now!



AIR CAMP EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN 2024



Air Camp is a hands-on, educational adventure in aviation and aeronautics. We inspire students at the intermediate and middle school levels, as well as teachers and educational leaders across all grades, to learn more about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) using aviation and aerospace as our medium while promoting the values of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

Air Camp is the vision of Dayton-area leaders who want to help young people nationwide achieve their potential, develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, and pursue further education and future careers in STEM-related fields, aviation, and aeronautics.

[Apply Now!](#)



The City of Chicago Department of Aviation are currently hiring for various positions. If you are passionate about making a difference in the aviation industry and possess the skills and expertise needed to excel in these positions, we encourage you to apply.

To learn more about these exciting opportunities and to apply, please visit their website by clicking the button below.

[Apply Now!](#)

Southwest® Careers



Calling all aviation enthusiasts and families! Come see us at the 50th Annual SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo. This event features hundreds of aircraft, hands-on workshops, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) activities, and more. Check out the details below:

- Dates: April 9-14, 2024
- Times: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. ET (Please note: The expo runs until 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Saturday)
- Location: Lakeland, Fla.

[Learn More!](#)

Southwest believes educated communities are empowered communities, and that every student should have the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams. The Southwest Airlines Community Scholarship benefits students who are pursuing higher education and have career interests in the airline industry. Recipients can receive up to \$20,000 over four years, and applications are open until April 2, 2024.

[Learn More!](#)

The Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP) is now accepting applications for their Aerospace Career Education (ACE) Academies this summer! These week-long summer academies provide middle and high school youth with exposure to opportunities in aerospace. There are over 40 camps available this summer, and application deadlines vary based on camp dates. (Please note: Academy registration may close prior to the published date if academy capacity is met.)

[Apply Now!](#)

College For Every Student (CFES) is hosting a six-hour professional development session where participants will learn how Artificial Intelligence and other forces are transforming the college and career readiness landscape. The session will feature leading experts, including Southwest Airlines' Managing Director of Talent Acquisition, Greg Muccio. Participants will receive six hours of professional development and a certificate from

- Date: Monday, April 22, 2024
- Time: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET
- Location: Essex, N.Y.

Learn More!



The Kibo Robot Programming Challenge invites teams of students from around the world to create programs to move free-flying robots known as Astrobees on the International Space Station. The competition presents tasks/obstacles for students to solve using the space station's Kibo module as a game space. Preliminary rounds will be held in multiple countries using ground-based simulations. The winning U.S. team could potentially travel to Tsukuba Space Center in Japan in November 2024 for the International Final Round.

Audience: U.S. high school and undergraduate student teams

Registration Deadline: May 13

Contact: jsc-kiborpc@mail.nasa.gov

[Click here](#) to review eligibility requirements and register for this opportunity.

Apply To Become an Astronaut!



Are you an educator looking for an opportunity that is out of this world? Former middle school educator turned current Chief Astronaut Joe Acabá is sharing his story and inviting educators who meet the qualification requirements to apply for the next class of astronauts.

Applications are due **Tuesday, April 2**. [Click here](#) for astronaut qualifications, frequently asked questions, and application information.



Zero Robotics is a 5-week coding program in which middle school students (rising 5th graders through rising 9th graders) learn to program robotic satellites aboard the International Space Station (ISS). This program is FREE of charge and all educators & mentors receive a free coding curriculum, free teacher training and free technical assistance. All you need to do to get started is (1) register your school/program/team by

completing this application, (2) identify a mentor or teacher to lead your team, (3) create a team of 7-20 students (4) make sure everyone has access to computers with internet access, and (5) create accounts to start writing code for satellites!

The competition starts online, where teams program the Astrobee Satellites to solve an annual challenge.

After several phases of virtual competition in a simulation environment that mimics the real Astrobee, finalists are selected to compete in a live championship aboard the ISS. An astronaut conducts the championship competition in microgravity with a live broadcast to your school or community based organization.

Apply Now!



Disciplined, tough-minded, meticulous and driven — these are characteristics of the exceptional men and women who provide the safe and orderly flow of air traffic at airports and in our skies.

The FAA will give you the training and encouragement you need to keep our air traffic system running smoothly as an air traffic control specialist. Qualifying is challenging, but the support and satisfaction you will receive make this career worthwhile.

QUALIFICATIONS

To be considered for a position as an air traffic controller, you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Start the FAA Academy no later than your 31st birthday.
- Be willing to relocate to an air traffic facility based on the FAA's highest needs at the time.
- Have three years of progressively responsible work experience, or a Bachelor's degree, or a combination of post-secondary education and work experience that totals three years.
 - Most types of paid or unpaid employment will provide progressively responsible experience, as you learn about the organization, gain knowledge about the work, and demonstrate responsibility.

If you intend to use any post-secondary education as part of your eligibility, you must submit official transcripts with your application.

Selected applicants must also:

- Pass the FAA pre-employment tests.
- Pass a medical examination.
- Pass a security investigation.
- Demonstrate ability to speak English clearly enough to be understood over communications equipment.

Most applicants selected for employment will attend the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City for approximately three months to receive specialized training. For more information, visit www.faa.gov/jobs



The FAA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of political affiliation, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability or any other characteristic not bearing on job performance.



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS

Engineering Technicians in the Technical Operations division at the FAA are responsible for maintaining, modifying and sustaining infrastructure throughout FAA operations. As an Engineering Technician, you will work in a support role at Systems Support Centers using a variety of general and specialized trade skills, including:

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Welding
- Painting
- Drywall
- Concrete

You will be responsible for developing supply estimates for various projects, gathering technical data, evaluating and formulating safety procedures, and determining resource needs (manpower, materials and fiscal requirements) for assigned projects. At times, you may assist project coordinators in planning, cost estimating, designing, developing, and completing local projects.

As an Engineering Technician, you must be able to learn airport layouts and navigate safely throughout Airport Operations Areas. You should also have a working knowledge of laws, policies, and procedures related to construction work environments, such as:

- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- Facility, system, and equipment security
- Environmental Compliance Assessment Protocol (ECAP)
- National Electrical Code (NEC)

You will apply electrical, mechanical, and structural knowledge to perform your assigned duties, and you will periodically have to interpret construction and building blue prints. You will also use your experience and detailed technical construction knowledge to plan and complete assignments throughout the National Airspace System.



Maintenance of the structure surrounding a facility, such as the landscaping, fences, and gates can also fall within your duties.

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for this position, you must have one year of specialized experience, consisting of particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the fundamentals of Engineering Technician work. This experience must include using a variety of trade skills, such as electrical, carpentry, painting, concrete, plumbing, welding and drywall; interpreting diagrams, specifications, manuals, and supply/cost estimates.

To find out more about the FAA and our outstanding career opportunities and benefits, visit our Career website at www.faa.gov/jobs



The FAA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of political affiliation, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability or any other characteristic not bearing on job performance.



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

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!

Give Wings to Dreams!

CREDITS



The Official Airline of the AeroStar Avion Institute



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Publisher: Team AeroStar
Editor: Kazual Campbell



AeroStar Avion Institute | 122 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1390, Chicago, IL 60603

[Unsubscribe aai@avioninstitute.org](mailto:unsubscribe@aiaivoninstitute.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by media@avioninstitute.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!