



AOPA HIGH SCHOOL

# AVIATION STEM SYMPOSIUM '17

C.R. Smith Museum  
Fort Worth, TX



Presented By  
American Airlines



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### American Airlines (Presenting Sponsor)

American Airlines and American Eagle fly an average of 6,700 flights per day to approximately 250 destinations in more than 50 countries. The airline's nearly 15 thousand pilots are essential to this operation. To ensure the U.S. has a long-term supply of quality pilots, we intend to be the leader in raising up the next generation of aviators who will carry on our tradition of unequalled excellence in the profession. By collaborating with those engaged in the creative inspiration of young people, American Airlines works to build the foundation and a strong foothold for a lifetime journey of achievement and joy. [aa.com](http://aa.com)

### Blue Sky Educational Foundation (BSEF)

Founded by AOPA Foundation Board Member, Jim Thompson, the Blue Sky Educational Foundation (BSEF) provides promising students opportunities to experience aviation first hand through camp and flight scholarships, internships, university scholarships, and other programs focusing on STEM through aviation. The flagship in the classroom curricular program is the Aeronautical STEM Curriculum and Kit. This program provides 6 - 8 weeks of hands on project based learning for upper elementary students. The curriculum is correlated with the Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core Educational Standards. To date, BSEF has supported over 2,500 students and teachers. [blueskyfoundation.org](http://blueskyfoundation.org)

### California Aeronautical University (CAU)

With a world-class training facility located at an international airport in Southern California, California Aeronautical University (CAU) students live, eat, and breathe aviation. The University offers aviation-related degree programs and training for students seeking careers as professional pilots, mechanics, and aviation business professionals. In this immersive aviation environment, CAU students gain valuable experience you just can't get from off-airport or online instruction. Students also benefit from CAU's growing relationships with industry partners, which can provide a direct pathway to a professional aviation career. Financial aid and scholarships are available to those who qualify. [calaero.com](http://calaero.com)

### Charter College

Charter College is a private, independent institution of higher education that emphasizes a new direction for continuing education. Charter College is not a liberal arts college, university, or a vocational school. Instead, Charter College takes the best elements from each of these respected educational institutions to create a unique and innovative experience that meets its students' needs. Charter College Aviation blends online academic coursework with flight training to prepare students for an exciting career in aviation. Ground school and flight training are conducted at select FAA Part 141 fixed-wing and helicopter flight schools throughout the United States. [chartercollege.edu](http://chartercollege.edu)

### Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the world's largest, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace, is a nonprofit, independent institution offering more than 80 baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs in its colleges of Arts & Sciences, Aviation, Business, Engineering and Security & Intelligence. Embry-Riddle educates students at residential campuses in Daytona Beach, FL, and Prescott, AZ, through the Worldwide Campus with more than 125 locations in the U.S., Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and through online programs. The university is a major research center, seeking solutions to real-world problems in partnership with the aerospace industry, other universities, and government agencies. [erau.edu](http://erau.edu)

### Envoy

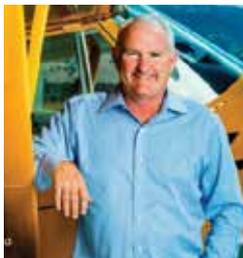
Envoy Air, wholly owned by American Airlines, has been the largest provider of American Eagle regional service for more than 30 years. Envoy operates more than 150 aircraft on 800 daily flights to 150 destinations throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. With our industry-leading flow-through to American, our pilots can upgrade to Captain in as little as a year and have a guaranteed job flying for American in about six years. With convenient bases shared with American in Dallas/Fort Worth, Chicago, New York and Miami, Envoy pilots enjoy an exceptional quality of life and starting pay of \$60,000+. [envoyair.com](http://envoyair.com)

### Redbird Flight Simulations

Redbird Flight Simulations of Austin, TX was established in 2006 with the purpose of making aviation more accessible to all by using modern technology and engineering. Redbird has delivered high-quality simulators, software, and aviation education content to K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and flight schools around the world. Dedicated to supporting K-12 STEM programs, Redbird continues to create products for our many primary and secondary education customers. With more than 1,800 devices in service worldwide, Redbird is the fastest growing and most innovative flight training solutions provider. [stem.redbirdflight.com](http://stem.redbirdflight.com)

### Unmanned Safety Institute (USI)

The Unmanned Safety Institute (USI) is the world's leading provider of flight safety education and training services to individuals, enterprises, and organizations for integrating and operating Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for civil or commercial purposes. USI is recognized as the industry's "best-in-class" flight safety provider and the only UAS safety organization in the world endorsed by aviation insurance, and accepted as an FAA training provider. USI's industry-leading flight safety program is the Small UAS Safety Certificate™ recognized by the Florida Department of Education, and has been provided to over 400 students in over 65 high schools since 2015. [unmannedsafetyinstitute.org](http://unmannedsafetyinstitute.org)



Welcome to the Third Annual AOPA High School Aviation STEM Symposium. Here you'll have the opportunity to network with educators from across the country, learning from and, I hope, inspiring one another.

This year we are fortunate to convene at the C.R. Smith Museum where we can trace the history of American Airlines and the story of aviation itself. We'll even have the chance to see modern aviation in action with tours of American Airlines and Ft. Worth Air Traffic Control facilities. These tours offer a unique opportunity to learn more about aviation industry needs from those working in the industry today.

We'll also hear from leaders who are building the future aviation and aerospace workforce as educators, trainers, and recruiters. And, for the first time this year, we'll be joined by exhibitors who offer information, products, and services to support your programs and your students' aviation and aerospace education and career ambitions.

I hope you'll take full advantage of this year's new, expanded format to attend more sessions and spend more time networking with speakers and fellow attendees.

I look forward to the energy, enthusiasm, and lively exchange of ideas that have consistently marked these symposiums. And I thank you for being an integral part of creating the next generation of aviation and aerospace leaders.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Baker  
President & CEO, AOPA

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 AOPA High School Aviation STEM Symposium.

American Airlines is dedicated to expanding horizons, and we feel certain none are more important than those of young people. We strongly believe by collaborating on the development of educational opportunities for our youth, we will not only inspire the next generation of aviators, but also improve the world in which they fly.

We are grateful to AOPA for their commitment to this initiative, and we are very excited to host a group of creative individuals sharing the same interest and same enthusiasm. Please enjoy your time at this unique event, and please take an opportunity to explore the C.R. Smith Museum, a showcase of forward thinking pioneers just like you. We cannot wait to see the ideas developed from this group of dedicated educators. Thank you for attending, and from all of us at American Airlines- "Welcome!"

Sincerely,

**American Airlines** 

American Airlines  
Pilot Recruiting & Development Team

7:15 - 8:00 a.m.	<b>Registration &amp; Breakfast</b> <i>Sponsored by Redbird Flight Simulations</i> Hangar
8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	<b>Opening General Session</b> Featuring “Living in the Age of Airplanes” filmmaker Brian Terwilliger Hangar <b>FACILITATOR: BILL HAMPTON</b> Managing Director, Aviation, Aerospace and Defense, GO! Experience Design
9:15 - 10:00 a.m.	<b>AOPA Resources for You and Your Students</b> Hangar
10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> <i>Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</i>

**10:15 - 11:15 a.m. | BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
*Sponsored by California Aeronautical University*

<b>Getting Started:</b> Launch Your Aviation Program (Hangar)	<b>Level Up:</b> Taking Your Aviation Program to the Next Level (Theater)	<b>Go Fly!</b> Building a Flight Training Program at Your School (Classroom)	<b>Career and Technical Education:</b> Federal Policy Update (History Hub)	<b>American Airlines Tour*</b> (Lobby)
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11:15 - 11:30 a.m.	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> <i>Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</i>
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**11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
*Sponsored by California Aeronautical University*

<b>AOPA's Aviation STEM Curriculum-</b> 9th Grade (Hangar)	<b>Creating an Aviation Program Through Community Collaboration</b> (Theater)	<b>Infusing Aviation into STEM Classes</b> (Classroom)	<b>Career and Technical Education:</b> Federal Policy Update (History Hub)	<b>American Airlines Tour*</b> (Lobby)
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<p>12:30 - 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> Sponsored by Alaska Airlines</p>			
<p>1:30 - 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>General Session</b> <b>Now Hiring: Growing Demand in Aviation Fields</b> Hangar</p> <p><b>MODERATOR:</b> BILL AYER Chairman &amp; CEO, Alaska Air Group (retired)</p> <p><b>PANELISTS:</b> DAVID TATUM – Director, Pilot Recruiting &amp; Development, American Airlines CARL DAVIS – Director, Air Crew Operations, Boeing Global Services DAVID HEFFLEY – Director, SpaceX Rocket Development Facility HOUSTON MILLS – Captain, Global Aviation &amp; Public Policy Director, UPS NICOLE STOTT – Astronaut (retired), NASA DEE TEMPLES – Senior Vice President, Air Operations, Envoy Air</p>			
<p>2:30 - 3:15 p.m.</p>	<p><b>General Session: Connect Event</b> Hangar</p>			
<p>3:15 - 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Networking Break</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</p>			
<p><b>3:30 - 4:30 p.m.   BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b> <i>Sponsored by California Aeronautical University</i></p>				
<p><b>Living in the Age of Airplanes</b> Movie Screening (Theater)</p>	<p><b>Aviation 101</b> (Classroom)</p>	<p><b>Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Program</b> (History Hub)</p>	<p><b>Fort Worth Air Traffic Control Center Tour*</b> (Lobby)</p>	<p><b>American Airlines Tour*</b> (Lobby)</p>
<p>4:30 - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Evening Reception</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i></p>			

AVIATION



presented by American Airlines

<p>8:00 - 8:45 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Breakfast</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> Sponsored by Envoy Air Hangar</p>			
<p>8:45 - 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Opening Remarks</b> Hangar</p>			
<p>9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>General Session:</b> <b>Where Do We Go From Here?</b> <b>Post-Secondary Opportunities in Aviation</b> Hangar</p> <p><b>MODERATOR:</b> <b>BOB RASKEY</b> Captain, United Airlines</p> <p><b>PANELISTS:</b> <b>FRED RITCHEY</b> – Dean, College of Aviation, LeTourneau University <b>DAVID STOCK</b> – Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army <b>V. CARSON PEARCE</b> – Division Director, Statewide Transportation, Texas State Technical College <b>DR. KEN BYRNES</b> – Assistant Dean, College of Aviation, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach campus</p>			
<p>10:00 - 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Networking Break</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i> Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</p>			
<p><b>10:30 - 11:30 a.m.   BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b> <i>Sponsored by California Aeronautical University</i></p>				
<p><b>Getting Started:</b> Launch Your Aviation Program (Theater)</p>	<p><b>Aviation 101</b>  (Hangar)</p>	<p><b>Go Fly!</b> Building a Flight Training Program at Your School (Classroom)</p>	<p><b>Aviation Exploring</b>  (History Hub)</p>	<p><b>American Airlines Tour*</b>  (lobby)</p>
<p>11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b> <i>(Exhibits open)</i></p>			

**12:30 - 1:30 p.m. | BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

*Sponsored by California Aeronautical University*

<b>Living in the Age of Airplanes</b> Movie Screening	<b>AOPA's Aviation STEM Curriculum-</b> 9th Grade	<b>Building an Airplane</b>	<b>Creating an Aviation Program Through Community Collaboration</b>	<b>American Airlines &amp; Fort Worth Air Traffic Control Center Tours*</b>
(Theater)	(Hangar)	(History Hub)	(Classroom)	(Lobby)

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>(Exhibits close at 2:00 p.m.)</i> <i>Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</i>
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	<b>General Session: Putting It Into Practice</b> Hangar <b>MODERATOR:</b> PAT CWAYNA CEO, West Michigan Aviation Academy, MI <b>PANELISTS:</b> LOU AMADEE – Aviation Instructor, East Valley Institute of Technology, AZ DAVID PURSER – Science Teacher, Karnes City High School, TX NANCY MCGEE – Director, K-12 STEM, Grand Prairie Independent School District, TX DR. MARK BALCH – Principal, North High School, CA
3:00 - 3:15 p.m.	<b>Closing</b> Hangar
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	<b>American Airlines &amp; Fort Worth ATC Center Tours*</b> Lobby

*\*American Airlines tours and Fort Worth ATC Center tours will be offered throughout the breakout sessions as well as after the symposium has concluded on Tuesday, November 7 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. 30 slots are available for each American Airlines tour. **For all tours, participants must be in the lobby 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.***

*For the Fort Worth ATC Center tours, a valid U.S. government issued ID (such as passport or driver's license) is required and require guests to be U.S. citizens. Sign up is available when you register for the symposium and not available onsite. 20 slots are available for each Fort Worth ATC Center tour.*

TUESDAY

presented by American Airlines 

**GENERAL SESSIONS****Monday, November 6****8:00 – 9:15 a.m.****Opening General Session Featuring “Living in the Age of Airplanes”****Presenter:**Brian Terwilliger - *Producer/Director, Terwilliger Productions***Facilitator:**Bill Hampton - *Managing Director, Aviation, Aerospace and Defense, GO! Experience Design*

Why does aviation matter? Filmmaker Brian Terwilliger traveled the globe to answer that question in his inspirational National Geographic documentary. Share in his profound discoveries about how aviation has changed the way we do just about everything as we launch the third annual AOPA High School Aviation STEM Symposium.

**9:15 – 10:00 a.m.****AOPA Resources for You and Your Students****Presenter:**Cindy Hasselbring - *Sr. Director, High School Aviation Initiative, AOPA*

We'll bring you up to date on the latest developments in AOPA's High School Initiative, including new aviation STEM curriculum that is available free of charge, and student flight training scholarships.

**1:30 – 2:30 p.m.****Now Hiring: Growing Demand in Aviation Fields****Moderator:**Bill Ayer - *Chairman and CEO, Alaska Air Group (retired)***Panelists:**Carl Davis - *Director, Air Crew Operations, Boeing Global Services*David Heffley - *Director, SpaceX Rocket Development Facility*Houston Mills - *Captain, Global Aviation & Public Policy Director, UPS*Nicole Stott - *Astronaut (retired), NASA*David Tatum - *Director, Pilot Recruiting and Development, American Airlines*Dee Temples - *Senior Vice President, Air Operations, Envoy Air*

Join aviation and aerospace industry leaders for a panel discussion about the growing demand for workers in a wide range of aviation-related fields. Learn what employers are looking for and find out how the expanding definition of aviation will create new opportunities for today's students.

## GENERAL SESSIONS

### Tuesday, November 7

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Where Do We Go From Here? Post-Secondary Opportunities in Aviation**

**Moderator:**

Bob Raskey - *Captain, United Airlines*

**Panelists:**

Fred Ritchey - *Dean, College of Aviation, LeTourneau University*

David Stock - *Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army*

V. Carson Pearce - *Division Director, Statewide Transportation, Texas State Technical College*

Dr. Ken Byrnes - *Assistant Dean, College of Aviation, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University*

Your students are discovering a passion for aviation in high school. What's next? Whether they're looking for a traditional four-year degree, a military career, or a technical education, your students have choices when it comes to launching their aviation careers.

**2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Putting It Into Practice**

**Moderator:**

Pat Cwayna - *CEO, West Michigan Aviation Academy*

**Panelists:**

Lou Amadee - *Aviation Instructor, East Valley Institute of Technology*

David Purser - *Science Teacher, Karnes City High School, TX*

Nancy McGee - *Director, K-12 STEM, Grand Prairie Independent School District, TX*

Dr. Mark Balch - *Principal, North High School*

Schools large and small, rural, and urban, are finding ways to make aviation a part of the classroom experience. Our diverse panel of experts will share their experiences and tips for bringing aviation programs of all types into high schools.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### AOPA'S AVIATION STEM CURRICULUM – 9th GRADE

Cindy Hasselbring - *Sr. Director, High School Aviation Initiative, AOPA*

Chris Moser - *Director, Flight Training Initiative, AOPA*

Schools nationwide are now field testing the first year of AOPA's Aviation STEM Curriculum. With the ninth-grade courses in classrooms for the first time, we'll share information about the topics, lessons, activities, and resources available through this program. You'll learn how your school can adopt the curriculum free of charge as soon as the 2018-2019 school year begins, and we'll give you an update on the development and content for the remaining three years of coursework.

### AVIATION 101

Pat Brown - *"Texas Triangle" Ambassador, AOPA*

You don't have to be a pilot to teach aviation in your school, but having a little insider knowledge can help. This session, taught by an FAA certified flight instructor, will cover aviation fundamentals, including what it takes to earn a pilot certificate, airplane design, and the physics of flight. We'll include examples of how students can put math and science skills to work to solve everyday aviation problems.

### AVIATION EXPLORING

Mark Wiesenbahn - *Vice President, Sporty's Pilot Shop*

Diane Thornton - *National Director, Learning for Life*

Did you know that more than 1,000 young men and women, ages 14 to 20, are connecting to aviation through local Aviation Exploring posts? Find out what Aviation Exploring, a STEM-focused national program, has to offer and how you can start or connect with a post near you.

### BUILDING AN AIRPLANE

Todd Curtis - *Aviation Instructor, McKinney Independent School District*

Nathan McAfee - *Aviation Instructor, McKinney Independent School District*

Looking to bring more hands-on learning into your aviation program? Building an airplane is a great way to do it! Learn how one school district has partnered with others to bring this experience to their students.

### CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION: FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE

Steve DeWitt - *Deputy Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)*

Get the latest news about federal policies affecting career and technical education (CTE) programs. A key topic of discussion will be the Carl D. Perkins CTE Act and federal education funding for CTE.

### CIVIL AIR PATROL AEROSPACE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Susan Mallett - *Coordinator, Youth Development and Air Force Association Programs, Civil Air Patrol*

As a U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Program offers more than 50 aviation STEM education products for teachers, including STEM kits that include a range of equipment for class work in rocketry, robotics, drone operations, weather observation, Raspberry Pi computer programming, astronomy, and more. Learn how your classroom can take advantage of these resources to enrich student learning.

### CREATING AN AVIATION PROGRAM THROUGH COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Mike Anderson - *Superintendent, Ada City Schools*

Paula Kedy - *Executive Director, Academics and Instruction, Ada City Schools*

Growing a successful aviation program is easier with the support of your community. Find out how something as simple as an essay contest supported by your local airport can set you on the path to creating community partnerships, earning grants, and developing an aviation program that reaches students across a school district.

### GETTING STARTED: LAUNCH YOUR AVIATION PROGRAM

Nancy McGee - *Director, K-12 STEM, Grande Prairie Independent School District*

Lee Siudzinski - *Executive Director, Blue Sky Educational Foundation*

A great aviation program starts with a solid plan for success. Get tips on how to determine the right focus for your program, obtain administration and peer support, and find the resources you'll need both in your school and your community. Learn about common pitfalls and find out what questions you'll need to ask, and answer, to get a new aviation program off to a strong start.

### GO FLY! BUILDING A FLIGHT TRAINING PROGRAM AT YOUR SCHOOL

George Pavey - *Dean of Aviation, West Michigan Aviation Academy*

David Sebuck - *Chief Flight Instructor and Director of Flight Operations, West Michigan Aviation Academy*

What could be cooler than learning about airplanes? Flying them, of course! Learn how your school can connect classroom learning to practical experience by getting your students into the air and working toward an FAA pilot certificate. We'll discuss designing ground school and flight science programs, legal requirements and regulations, and associated costs.

### INFUSING AVIATION INTO STEM CLASSES

David Purser - *Science Teacher, Karnes City Independent School District*

Worried that your school is too small or doesn't have enough resources to start an aviation STEM program? Why not start by integrating aviation topics into existing coursework? Attendees in this session will participate in hands-on activities one teacher has created to incorporate aviation into his physics classes.

### LEVEL UP: TAKING YOUR AVIATION PROGRAM TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Derek Rowe - *Aviation Teacher, McGavock High School*

Your school has an aviation program, but you believe it can be more. Learn how you can increase engagement, enhance content, and provide new learning opportunities for your students that will help take an established aviation program to the next level.

### LIVING IN THE AGE OF AIRPLANES SCREENING

Brian Terwilliger - *Producer/Director, Terwilliger Productions*

You've heard about the documentary from filmmaker Brian Terwilliger that chronicles the profound ways in which aviation has changed our world. Now watch this breathtaking movie filmed in 18 countries across all seven continents. Narrated by actor and pilot Harrison Ford and featuring an original score by Academy Award® winning composer James Horner (*Avatar*, *Titanic*), the film will renew your appreciation for the airplane.

## TOURS

### AMERICAN AIRLINES TOUR

Monday, November 6: 10:15 - 11:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 7: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Take a behind-the-scenes tour of American Airlines' world-class flight operations center and flight training facility. This is not an opportunity available to the public. Each tour is limited to 30. Sign up will be available onsite only if the tour has not reached capacity. Meet in the lobby 10 minutes prior to the start time for each tour.

### FORT WORTH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER TOUR

Monday, November 6: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 7: 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Tour a busy air traffic control center and learn about the technology that helps keep thousands of flights safe every day. Meet an air traffic controller and learn more about the career opportunities in this in-demand field. A valid U.S. government issued ID (such as a passport or driver's license) will be required. Additionally, Fort Worth ATC Center tours require guests to be U.S. citizens. Sign up is available with pre-registration only and not available onsite. Meet in the lobby 10 minutes prior to the start time for each tour.

# Today's kids are tomorrow's captains.

The children are our future. We want that future to be epic. That's why we invest in education and inspiration for our youth.

*Alaska*<sup>®</sup>  
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## Earn your wings.

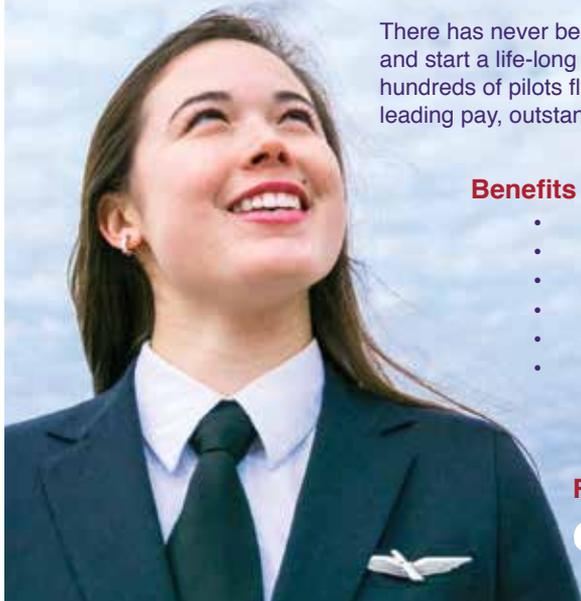
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[envoyair.com](http://envoyair.com)



**AMERICAN AIRLINES**

A lifetime journey of achievement begins with the creative inspiration of children. American Airlines intends to be the leader in raising up the next generation of aviators- those who will carry on our tradition of excellence in the profession.

[aa.com](http://aa.com)

**AV-STEM ALASKA**

Av-STEM Alaska's first year pre-requisite course "Introduction to Aviation" is appropriate for 7th-12th grades. It is all online, at your own time and pace. It consists of 10 aviation modules, 30 career pathway interviews, and 2 national competitions.

[av-stem.com](http://av-stem.com)

**AVIATION EXPLORING**

Aviation Exploring is a hands-on program open to young men and women from the 6th grade to 20 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the field of aviation.

[aviationexploring.org](http://aviationexploring.org)

**CALIFORNIA AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY**

California Aeronautical University, located in Southern California, offers aviation-related degrees preparing graduates as professional pilots, mechanics, and other aviation related professions. The University offers a focused, outcome oriented education where students live, eat and breathe aviation.

[calaero.com](http://calaero.com)

**CHARTER COLLEGE**

Charter College is a private, independent institution of higher education that emphasizes a new direction for continuing education. Charter College Aviation blends online academic coursework with flight training to prepare students for an exciting career in aviation.

[chartercollege.edu](http://chartercollege.edu)

**EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY**

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace, offering more than 80 baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs at residential campuses in Daytona Beach, Fla., and Prescott, Ariz., through the Worldwide Campus.

[erau.edu](http://erau.edu)

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Since 1980, Gleim has provided online study courses and training materials for pilots, including sport, private, instrument, commercial, flight instructor, airline transport, flight engineer, UAV remote pilot; aviation maintenance technicians, and inspection authorized mechanics.

[gleimaviation.com](http://gleimaviation.com)

**LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY**

LeTourneau University is the premier Christian polytechnic university, where educators engage students to nurture Christian virtue, develop competency and ingenuity in their professional fields, integrate faith and work, and serve the local and global community.

[letu.edu](http://letu.edu)

**NATIONAL FLIGHT ACADEMY**

Aviation Science and Technology are the heart of the NFA's quest to inspire 5th -12th grade student's interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in an aviation-themed adventure aboard a massive, land-locked aircraft carrier.

[nationalflightacademy.com](http://nationalflightacademy.com)

**REDBIRD FLIGHT**

Redbird Flight delivers simulators, software, and aviation education content to K-16 educational institutions and flight schools. With more than 1,800 devices in service worldwide, Redbird is the fastest growing and most innovative flight training solutions provider.

[simulators.redbirdflight.com/about](http://simulators.redbirdflight.com/about)

**SOUTHWEST AIRLINES**

The Campus Reach program at Southwest Airlines identifies and engages future Southwest Employees at an early age, hopefully inspiring an interest in a career in aviation! Campus Reach's efforts include: high school internships and partnerships!

[southwest.com/campusreach](http://southwest.com/campusreach)

**SPARTAN COLLEGE OF AERONAUTICS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Since 1928, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology has provided training to pilots and technicians between its Tulsa, Oklahoma, Los Angeles, California and most recently its Denver, Colorado based campuses.

[spartan.edu](http://spartan.edu)

**UNITED STATES ARMY**

U.S. Army Aviation will provide information on the Warrant Officer Flight Training (WOFT) program. WOFT, often called "High School to Flight School", selects U.S. Citizens ages 18-32 to enter a guaranteed flight track to become Army Aviators.

[goarmy.com](http://goarmy.com)

**UNMANNED SAFETY INSTITUTE**

USI is the leading provider of industry certifications to students interested in a career in the drone industry. Since 2015, USI programs have expanded to 100 schools across 8 states, impacting over 2,000 students.

[unmannedsafetyinstitute.org](http://unmannedsafetyinstitute.org)



**Lou Amadee**

*Aviation Instructor, East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT), Mesa, AZ*

Following graduation from college, Lou Amadee completed rotary wing flight school with the US Army, serving 11 years as an AeroScout section leader, aircraft maintenance officer, and maintenance test pilot. Later, he completed his SEL fixed-wing add-on, then went on to complete his CFI rating in R-22 helicopters while training employees for MD Helicopters. Following a layoff, Amadee found his second calling as a teacher with the East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT), where he has instructed for the past eight years. He also works part-time as an adjunct for the local community college teaching ground school for veterans, helping them utilize their VA benefits to achieve their helicopter ratings.



**Mike Anderson**

*Superintendent, Ada City Schools, Ada, OK*

Mike Anderson is the Superintendent of the Ada City School district in Ada, Oklahoma. In 2016-2017, Mike worked to develop a strong collaboration between the school district and community business leaders in the city of Ada to develop and implement a district-wide aviation program. The overwhelming community response to the new program has provided the district the opportunity to develop local, state, and national partnerships with key leaders within the aviation community and has allowed the school district to work toward building a strong foundation of aviation programming for students.



**Bill Ayer**

*Chairman & CEO (retired), Alaska Air Group, Seattle, WA*

Bill Ayer is the retired chairman and chief executive officer of Alaska Air Group, the parent company of Alaska Airlines and its sister carrier, Horizon Air. Bill began his career with Piper Aircraft Company and founded Air Olympia, a small commuter airline in Washington State. He joined Horizon Air in 1982, then Alaska Airlines in 1995 as vice president of marketing and planning, and subsequently held the posts of senior vice president; chief operating officer; and president. He became the carrier's chief executive officer in 2002 and was appointed chairman in 2003. Bill serves on many boards, including the University of Washington Board of Regents, the Honeywell Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees at the Museum of Flight, the Board of the National Air and Space Museum, and is Chair of the AOPA Foundation Board of Advisors. Bill owns a Piper Malibu, and holds commercial and flight instructor certificates with instrument and multi-engine ratings, with over 5,000 hours of flight time.



### **Mark R. Baker**

*President & CEO, AOPA, Frederick, MD*

Mark R. Baker is a longtime general aviation (GA) pilot and only the fifth president in the 78-year history of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the world's largest civil aviation organization.

A native Minnesotan, Mark earned his pilot certificate in his twenties and has logged more than 7,500 hours of flight time in aircraft ranging from light seaplanes to turbines and helicopters. He has welcomed numerous friends and family members, including his father, son, and two sons-in-law, into the pilot community. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mark has also served on numerous corporate boards, and has taken leadership roles with several nonprofit organizations.



### **Mark Balch, Ed.D.**

*Principal, North High School, Bakersfield, CA*

Mark Balch, Ed.D., is principal of North High School in Bakersfield, CA. A graduate of the University of La Verne, he is fortunate to serve as the principal of the high school from which he graduated.

Located just one mile from Bakersfield's Meadows Field airport as well as California Aeronautical University, North's aviation program is now in its second year. While the majority of North's students come from impoverished homes (78% received free or reduced-price lunch), North's 18 career pathways, including Aviation, provide graduates with a focus on preparation for life after high school.



### **Pat Brown**

*"Texas Triangle" Ambassador, AOPA*

You can find AOPA's "Texas Triangle" Ambassador Pat Brown flying around the state in "Woodstock," one of AOPA's bright yellow "Reimagined" 152s. Pat earned his Private Pilot license shortly after

his 17th birthday. Today, 8,000-plus hours later, he holds a Commercial Pilot certificate for Gliders, Single-Engine Land, and Multi-Engine Land aircraft and is a Gold Seal Flight Instructor for gliders, single and multi-engine aircraft, with nearly 6,000 hours of instruction given. Pat is the co-developer of AOPA's Rusty Pilot seminar, speaks nationally as a Safety Seminar Presenter for the AOPA Air Safety Institute, and has conducted Flight Instructor Refresher Clinics nationwide.

**Dr. Kenneth Byrnes**

*Assistant Dean of the College of Aviation, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL*

Dr. Kenneth Byrnes is the Assistant Dean of the College of Aviation, an Associate Professor of Aeronautical Science, and the Chairman of the Flight Training Department at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Daytona Beach campus. In his role as the Flight Department Chair, Dr. Byrnes is responsible for leading over 1,200 flight students, over 160 certified flight instructors, 30 A&P mechanics, and 25 additional support staff members. His academic teaching responsibilities include Instructional Design in Aviation, Aviation Legislation, Private Pilot Knowledge, and Commercial Pilot Knowledge courses. He holds a Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science, a Master's in Business Administration in Aviation, and a PhD in Business with a specialization in Management of Engineering and Technology.

**Todd Curtis**

*Aviation Instructor, McKinney Independent School District, McKinney, TX*

Todd Curtis has spent the last six years as an instructor for the McKinney ISD High School Aviation program in McKinney, Texas.

When Todd started, there was one course offering available and had an enrollment of 32 students. Todd has worked with individuals from municipalities, private industry, and universities to build connections to bring the best opportunities to the students of McKinney. Today the program has grown significantly through Todd's leadership and includes four course offerings and has an enrollment of over 220 students.

**Pat Cwayna**

*CEO, West Michigan Aviation Academy, Grand Rapids, MI*

Patrick J. Cwayna, Sr. is the founding CEO of West Michigan Aviation Academy (WMAA), a 9-12 grade high school located on the grounds of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. WMAA has enjoyed tremendous growth beginning with 80 students in September 2010 and now at full capacity with 600 students and a very long waiting list. At WMAA, students have the opportunity to earn their private pilot license as well as to get a rigorous STEM endorsement on their diplomas.

**Carlton Davis**

*Director of Air Crew Operations, Boeing Global Services*

As Director of Air Crew Operations, Capt. Davis leads over 100 employees in the Flight Technical and Safety, Flight Training-Airplane, Cabin Safety Training, Pilot Services, and the Electronic Checklist Team. He has also been Chief Pilot – Pilot Services and the 787 Fleet Manager for Boeing Flight Services, where he led pilot training operations on Boeing 787 Dreamliner simulators across five global campuses. He was also assistant chief pilot for Flight Crew Training, and was an instructor pilot on the Next-Generation 737, 747-400 and 777. Capt. Davis attended the U.S. Naval Academy and Indiana State University. He has a bachelor's degree in General Studies/Business from Schreiner University in Texas and is pursuing a Master of Science Degree in Leadership at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

**Stephen DeWitt**

*Deputy Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), Alexandria, VA*

Stephen DeWitt is the Deputy Executive Director for the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). His role includes developing strategic partnerships to advance the association's mission, and oversight of policy, advocacy, media, and research activities. He has 25+ years in the public policy arena. Prior to joining ACTE, Stephen directed government and public relations for the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and held positions with the State of Florida's Governor's office, Florida Department of Education, and APCO Worldwide. Stephen holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida Southern College.

**Cindy Hasselbring**

*Sr. Director, High School Aviation Initiative, AOPA, Frederick, MD*

Cindy serves as the Senior Director for Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association's High School Aviation Initiative. Cindy was a high school mathematics teacher in Michigan for 16 years and earned the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She served as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation in Washington, DC where she was the teacher representative on the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy STEM education committee. Cindy also worked at the Maryland State Department of Education, where she served as Special Assistant to the State Superintendent. In this role, she led STEM education in Maryland and created a five-year STEM education strategic plan for public schools in the state.



**David Heffley**

*Director, SpaceX Rocket Development Facility, McGregor, TX*

As the Director of the SpaceX Rocket Development Facility, David leads a team of over 500 people to design, build and operate rocket test systems at the 4,000-acre state-of-the-art rocket test facility in McGregor, TX. David began his career as an intern for SpaceX over 10 years ago. During his tenure, he has led a variety of teams in ground and flight-testing over a wide range of systems including Falcon 1, Falcon 9, Dragon, Falcon Heavy, Booster Reusability and Propulsion Components. Aside from SpaceX and rocket testing, David's passion is general aviation. He currently holds a private pilot license with an instrument rating and has been a long-time member of AOPA. David has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Baylor University.



**Paula Kedy**

*Executive Director, Academics and Instruction, Ada City Schools, Ada, OK*

Paula Kedy is a career educator who is currently serving as the Executive Director of Academics and Instruction for Ada City Schools in Ada, OK. Paula is currently working in collaboration with the City of Ada, the Ada Regional Airport, and members of EAA Chapter 1005 to develop and implement an aviation program for the Ada City School District. In addition to the aviation awareness program that was launched in 2016-2017, the school district plans to field test the new AOPA High School Curriculum and will offer Introduction to Aviation as an elective course. Paula is also a member of the AOPA High School Aviation Steering Committee.



**Susan Mallett**

*Coordinator, Youth Development and Air Force Association Programs, Civil Air Patrol, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL*

Susan Broderick Mallett is a retired teacher, principal, and university instructor with an educational tenure of 31 years in Alabama schools. As a public school principal, she led a nationally and internationally-recognized elementary school that integrated the aerospace theme throughout the curriculum. Since 2006 she has served as the Youth Development and Air Force Association (AFA) Programs Coordinator at the National HQ of the Civil Air Patrol at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. Susan serves as the Vice President/Aerospace Education for the Air Force Association at the chapter, state, and region levels, and is a member of the national AFA's Aerospace Education Council.

**Nathan McAfee**

*Aviation Instructor, McKinney Independent School District, McKinney, TX*

Nathan McAfee is a high school Aviation and Advanced Robotics instructor for McKinney ISD. He is a certified commercial drone pilot, 3D printing enthusiast, and is continually working to find new ways to spark a love of aviation in his students. He has a passion for advancing opportunities to bring females into aviation. He is a part of the McKinney ISD Aviation Academy which has over 220 students.

**Nancy McGee**

*Director, K-12 STEM, Grand Prairie Independent School District, Grand Prairie, TX*

Educator Nancy McGee has lived a life of adventure and diversity. In a career spanning 32 years, she has served as classroom teacher, coach, campus and district-level administrator. Nancy is currently the Director of Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) K-12 in the Grand Prairie Independent School District. In her spare time, Nancy is an explorer and filmmaker. The Explorers Club recognized her with a Fellowship for contributions to scientific knowledge in the field of geographical exploration. Her credits include NBC, Universal Studios and Discovery. Nancy is the first female to pilot the Exosuit, and was inducted into the Women Divers Hall of Fame.

**Captain Houston Mills**

*Director, Global Aviation & Public Policy, UPS*

As Global Aviation Strategy & Public Policy Director for UPS, Houston is responsible for aggregating all aviation strategy issues under one umbrella. He also advocates for federal aviation policy and collaborates with domestic and international industry groups to harmonize aviation safety standards and sustainability rules.

Previously, he served as UPS's director of airline safety and compliance. Under his leadership, UPS became one of the first U.S. airlines to have a certified Safety Management System (SMS). He also served as the UPS International Chief Pilot. Houston began his aviation career in 1985 as a Marine Corps officer and F/A-18 fighter pilot, serving in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Restore Hope and Southern Watch. In step with UPS's commitment to the community, Houston serves on the national Board of Directors of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.



**Chris Moser**

*Director, Flight Training Initiative, AOPA, Frederick, MD*

Chris Moser is Director of the Flight Training Initiative at AOPA. As part of the You Can Fly team, he manages and supports AOPA's programs, events, and initiatives related to growing and strengthening the pilot population. This includes the Rusty Pilots program and Flight Training Experience Survey & Awards in addition to developing programs to support and enhance flight training operations. Chris has been a professional educator for over 20 years including being a high school teacher, flight instructor, and freight pilot.



**George Pavey**

*Dean of Aviation, West Michigan Aviation Academy, Grand Rapids, MI*

George Pavey is the Dean of Aviation at West Michigan Aviation Academy, in Grand Rapids, MI. George completed naval aviation flight training before his first tour with VMFA-251 flying the F/A-19 Hornet during which he completed two overseas carrier deployments. Between deployments, he graduated from TOPGUN. George was selected as an Air Force F-16 Exchange Pilot and assigned to the 308th FS. Returning to the F/A-18 Hornet, he was assigned to VMFA-212 in Iwakuni, Japan. He was selected to participate in the Marine Corps Advance Degree Program and completed a Master's Degree in Education prior to an assignment with Marine Corps University.



**V. Carson Pearce**

*Division Director, Statewide Transportation,  
Texas State Technical College, Waco, TX*

V. Carson Pearce is a retired U.S. Army aviator and aviation safety officer. After a career of flying both rotary-wing and fixed-wing aircraft, with over 5,000 hours in the Alaskan environment, Carson moved into aerospace education at Texas State Technical College (TSTC). He has served as an academic instructor, Department Chair, Aerospace Division Director, and is now the Statewide Transportation Division Director for TSTC. Along with flight programs, Carson leads Air Traffic Control, Aviation Maintenance, Aircraft Dispatch and Avionics degree programs. He holds a Master's degree in Executive Leadership and a Bachelor's degree in Aviation Leadership.

**David Purser**

*Science Teacher, Karnes City High School, Karnes City, TX*

David Purser is a secondary science teacher for the Karnes City Independent School District. His role includes Honors Physics, Conceptual Physics, and Aviation Science. He has been a Texas certified composite science teacher for over 10 years. In addition to teaching, David is currently a student pilot. He and his wife also own a private chemical company. Prior to teaching, David worked 16 years in Scientific Services for the HEB Grocery Company. David holds a B.S. and an M.S. degree from Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

**Bob Raskey**

*Captain, B-737, United Airlines*

Bob Raskey is a United Airlines Captain and “Line Check Airman” on the B-737 in Newark. He serves on the Board of Directors of the United Airlines “We Care-Employee Assistance Fund” and “United 4 Veterans” business resource group. A retired USAF Lt. Col., Bob has flown over 20 years including combat flight operations. He serves in various leadership roles as a member of AABI (Aviation Accreditation Board International), UAA (University Aviation Alliance), AOPA, and EAA, and is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Bob holds degrees in M.B.A, M.A. in International Relations, B.S. in Aeronautical Science, and an A.S. in Computer Science.

**Fred Ritchey**

*Dean of the College of Aviation & Aeronautical Science,  
LeTourneau University, Longview, TX*

Fred Ritchey is a Professor and the inaugural Dean of the College of Aviation & Aeronautical Science at LeTourneau University. He earned his B.S. from LeTourneau University and his M.S. from the University of Texas, Tyler. He also holds an Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic Certificate with Inspection Authorization and served as an FAA Designated Mechanic Examiner from 1993 to 2004. Since joining LeTourneau in 1985, Fred has written and taught numerous technical courses and is currently leading the College of Aviation in the development and implementation of new academic programs and remote educational centers.



**Derek Rowe**

*Aviation Teacher, McGavock High School, Nashville, TN*

Derek Rowe is the aviation teacher at McGavock High School, a National Career Academy Coalition school in Nashville, TN, where three CTE pathway courses are required for graduation. An aviation professional for over 30 years, Derek transformed McGavock's once failing aviation program into an effective learning environment with graduates pursuing careers in aviation. Under his leadership, the program enjoys support from partnerships with industry, universities, and individuals, benefiting the students with: university credits, internships, and financial aid for equipment, training, and real-life experience. The Aviation and Transportation Academy is now one of the top performing academies in the district.



**Dave Sebuck**

*Chief Flight Instructor & Director of Flight Operations, West Michigan Aviation Academy, Grand Rapids, MI*

Dave Sebuck is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management and Technology. He obtained a Master of Science degree in Education from Old Dominion University and is an ATP and CFI/II. He served 22 years in the United States Marine Corps as an F/A-18 pilot prior to accepting his current position at West Michigan Aviation Academy in Grand Rapids, MI.



**Lee Siudzinski**

*Executive Director, Blue Sky Educational Foundation, Dallas, TX*

Lee Siudzinski serves as Executive Director of the Blue Sky Educational Foundation in Dallas, TX. Before joining Blue Sky, Lee served as Vice President of Education with the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) in Oshkosh, WI. He has also served 21 years as a public school superintendent in two school districts in Wisconsin and currently serves on the AOPA High School Steering Committee. The focus of Blue Sky is to use the excitement of aviation to engage students in STEM. The flagship program is the Aeronautical STEM curriculum and kit which Blue Sky has successfully implemented in all 5th grades in the Grand Prairie Independent School District.

**David Stock**

*Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army*

Chief Warrant Officer Dave Stock is a combat experienced Master Army Aviator with over 19 years of active duty military service. He is a qualified Aviation Safety Officer, Instructor Pilot, and Maintenance Test Pilot for the Army's UH-60 Blackhawk and currently serves as Army Aviation's Personnel Proponent. Dave is responsible for the aviation career lifecycle model that includes annual aviator training requirements and the aviator application and selection process. Dave has been an AOPA member since 2004, has years of Piper Archer ownership experience, and will highlight the Army's "High School to Flight School" program during this year's symposium.

**Nicole Stott**

*Astronaut (retired), NASA*

Nicole Stott is a veteran NASA astronaut with two spaceflights and 104 days living and working in space on both the Space Shuttle and the International Space Station (ISS). She is also a NASA Aquanaut and holds the Women's World Record for saturation diving following her 18-day mission with the NEEMO9 crew on the Aquarius undersea habitat.

Always an artist, Stott brought a small watercolor kit with her on her mission to the ISS. She is the first NASA astronaut to paint in space. After 28 years with NASA, she has begun her next adventure as a full-time Artist and SciArt Education Advocate. Through her artwork, she uniquely shares the awesome beauty she was blessed to experience through the windows of her spacecraft, and will continue to promote the amazing things we're doing every day in space that benefit us all right here on Earth. You can find more information at [www.theartisticastronaut.com](http://www.theartisticastronaut.com).

**David Tatum**

*Chief Pilot, Director of Pilot Recruiting & Development and Captain on Airbus 319/321, American Airlines*

David Tatum is Chief Pilot/Director of Pilot Recruiting & Development and a Captain on the Airbus 319/321 for American Airlines. He oversees long-term pilot recruiting strategy and career development, and the day to day operations of mainline pilot selection. In his 19th year at American, David was a Chief Pilot in the DFW crew base prior to his current role. He has also flown for American Eagle's wholly owned regional (now Envoy), where he also participated in pilot recruiting efforts. A pilot since high school, David stays active in general aviation and has a passion for introducing others to the freedom of flying.



**Dee Temples**

*Senior Vice President, Air Operations, Envoy Air, Irving, TX*

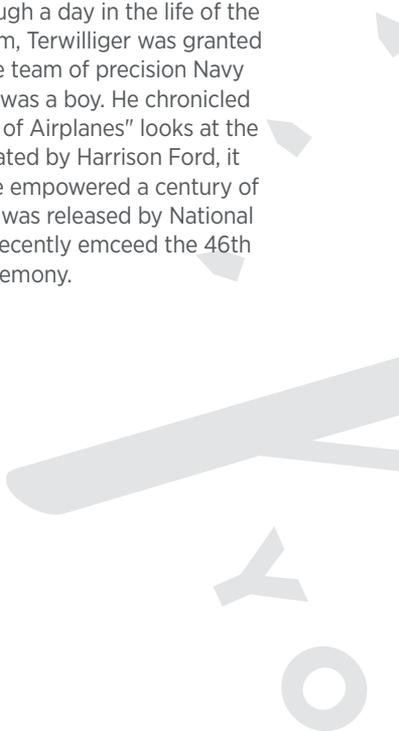
Dee Temples is Senior Vice President – Air Operations for American Eagle carrier Envoy Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Airlines Group based in Irving, TX. Dee is responsible for Envoy’s more than 5,000 pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, dispatchers, and engineers. He has 19 years of experience with American Airlines Group and its predecessor companies AMR Corporation and Trans World Airlines (TWA), working in finance, network planning, and operations over the course of his career. Dee has been a licensed private pilot since he was 18 and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Clemson University and a Master of Business Administration in Aviation from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona).



**Brian J. Terwilliger**

*Producer/Director, Terwilliger Productions, Los Angeles, CA*

Brian J. Terwilliger is a filmmaker whose unrelenting pursuit of excellence has taken him to all seven continents in search of compelling stories and stunning imagery. A licensed pilot captivated by flight since childhood, Brian has produced, directed and secured the financing for three documentaries, each looking at aviation from a different perspective. "One Six Right" focuses on the romance of flight as seen through a day in the life of the Van Nuys Airport in Los Angeles, CA. Because of that film, Terwilliger was granted the rare opportunity to fly with the Blue Angels, the elite team of precision Navy jet pilots that first sparked his interest in flying when he was a boy. He chronicled that experience in "Flying Full Circle." "Living in the Age of Airplanes" looks at the dramatic ways aviation has transformed the world. Narrated by Harrison Ford, it was shot in 18 countries to illuminate how airplanes have empowered a century of global connectedness. Beginning April 10, 2015, the film was released by National Geographic in museum cinemas worldwide. Terwilliger recently emceed the 46th Annual National Aviation Hall of Fame enshrinement ceremony.



**Diane Thornton**

*National Director, Learning for Life, Irving, TX*

Dr. Diane E. Thornton is the national director of the Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life program, where she oversees the in-school Learning for Life program which provides character education curriculum to schools nationwide. She also leads the Exploring program, including Aviation Exploring, which provides exciting activities and one-on-one mentoring for girls and boys through age 20. Dr. Thornton brings to her role years of experience as both a classroom teacher and university professor as well as various positions in academic management and curriculum development. She earned her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Sarasota.

**Mark Wiesenbahn**

*Vice President, Sporty's Pilot Shop, Batavia, OH*

Mark Wiesenbahn is a vice president at Sporty's Pilot Shop, where he has worked for the past 28 years. In addition to his administrative duties managing Sporty's dealers and vendors, and directing media relations and trade show participation, Mark works closely with Sporty's partnerships within the industry including AOPA and EAA. Mark is actively involved in promoting Aviation Exploring and has been an Exploring advisor for more than 20 years. He serves on the Executive Committee of Learning for Life Organization as the Exploring Chair. Mark is a recreational pilot.

### About AOPA

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is the largest community of pilots and aviation enthusiasts in the world.

AOPA members take to the skies for many reasons, and are driven by motivations as varied as they are. Some relish the exhilaration and beauty that come with experiencing the world from a different perspective and others fly for the convenience and flexibility they need to meet their business travel demands.

Operating out of offices in Frederick, Maryland; Washington, DC; and Wichita, Kansas; AOPA exists to protect and grow general aviation. We educate the public about the fun and utility that aircraft provide, offer resources and training material to enhance the skills of pilots, and advocate for aviation within government agencies. AOPA's job is to maintain the strength and vitality of the flying community.

### About You Can Fly

You Can Fly is a collection of practical, rigorous, and engaging initiatives designed to help build a bigger, stronger, and more vibrant pilot community.

Through extensive research and real-world experience, AOPA has developed initiatives to support flying clubs, encourage best practices in flight training, get lapsed pilots back in the air, share AOPA's resources and expertise to pilot groups across the country, and invite high school students to learn more about careers in aviation and aerospace.

What makes You Can Fly so special is not just the variety of initiatives it encompasses, but also the rigor with which they're managed and evaluated. We want to tangibly move the needle, and to do that, we are measuring our progress so we focus our resources on what works.

### About AOPA's High School Aviation Initiative

The High School Aviation Initiative is about growing and implementing aviation STEM programs in high schools across the country.

AOPA has identified a gap in high school aviation education that no other organization is filling. AOPA has become a convener of aviation educators and leaders across the country and hosts an annual high school aviation STEM symposium to share best practices, network, and provide support. It is also developing high school aviation STEM curriculum that fits within three career and technical education pathways.

These full-year courses will include all-teacher resources and teachers will have the opportunity to participate in teacher professional development. AOPA will work with schools as they implement these pathways and expand their programming in this area. AOPA also offers high school students scholarships for flight training for their pursuit in initial certification.

## AOPA High School Aviation Initiative Steering Committee

**Carolina L. Anderson, Ph.D. Aviation  
(shared seat)**

*Associate Professor of Aeronautical Science,  
College of Aviation*

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University**  
Daytona Beach, FL

**Jim Brough**

*National STEM-AVSED Program Manager*

**FAA**  
Burlington, MA

**Colleen Conklin (shared seat)**

*Director, Gaetz Aerospace Institute  
Assistant Professor of Aeronautical Science*

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University**  
Daytona Beach, FL

**Stephen DeWitt**

*Deputy Executive Director*

**Association for Career and  
Technical Education**

**Rick Garcia**

*President, Central Florida  
Aerospace Academy Foundation*

**Gulf Coast Avionics Corp.**  
Lakeland, FL

**Reba Gilman**

*Vice President, Education,  
Founder, Raisbeck Aviation High School*

**Museum of Flight**  
Seattle, WA

**Mark Harrell**

*Engineering Consultant, Director KYSTA*  
**Kentucky Department of Education**

**Paula Kedy**

*Executive Director, Academies  
and Instruction*

**Ada City Schools**  
Ada, OK

**Nancy McGee**

*K-12 STEM Director*

**Grand Prairie Independent School District,**  
Grand Prairie, TX

**Allison McKay**

*Vice President,  
Helicopter Association International*  
Alexandria, VA

**Bob Raskey**

*Captain*  
**United Airlines**  
Port Orange, FL

**Dave Robertson**

*AOPA Foundation Board of Advisors*  
Ray, MI

**Lee Siudzinski, Ed.D**

*Executive Director*  
**Blue Sky Educational Foundation**  
Three Lakes, WI

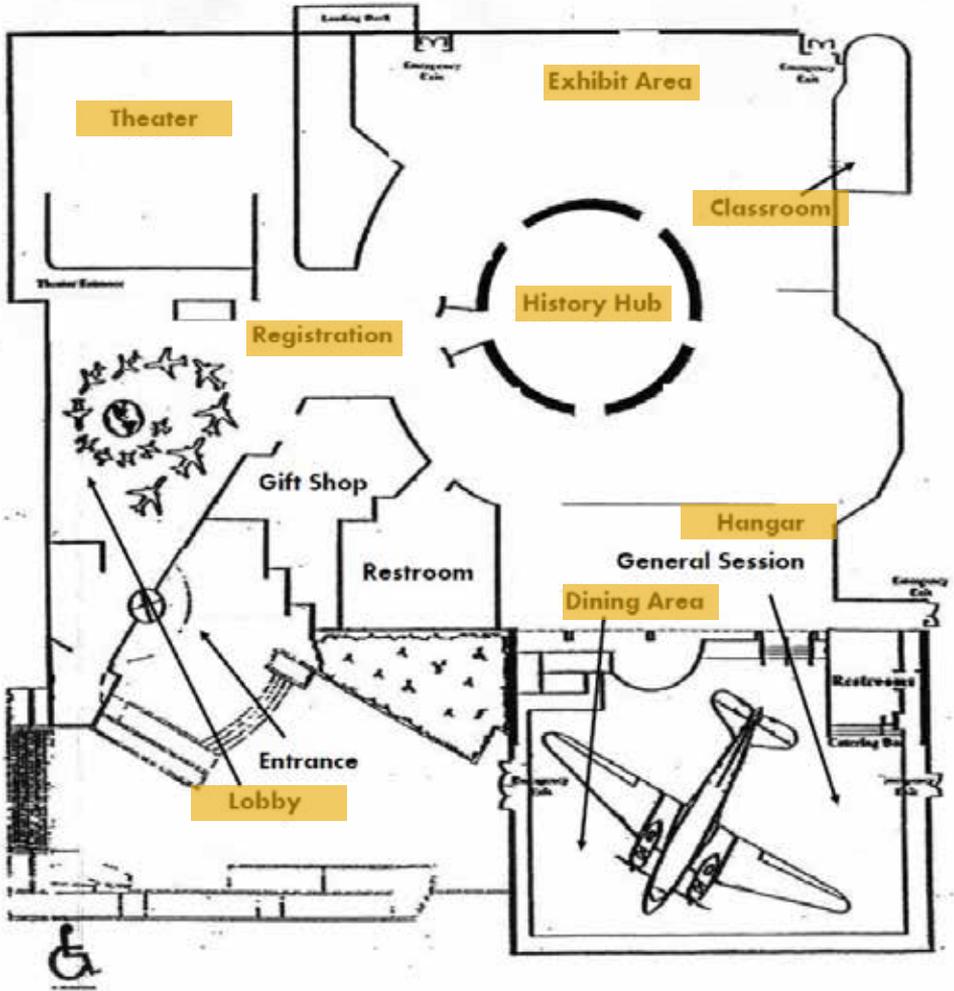
**Nicole P. Stott**

*Artist & Astronaut, (retired)*  
**NASA**  
Tampa, FL





# CR SMITH MUSEUM



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Fort Worth, Texas 76155

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American Airlines 



# EVERYONE NEEDS A GOOD WINGMAN.

*American Airlines is proud to sponsor the  
AOPA High School Aviation STEM Symposium.*