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For Immediate Release

Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Sponsors Six RedTail Flight Academy Scholarships for Underserved Aspiring Aviation Professionals

RedTail Flight Academy and Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. are collaborating to keep the legacy of Black airmen alive through scholarships, mentorships, training and more.

NEW YORK, July, 2021 – In a daunting forecast, by 2031, more than a half million U.S. pilots will be needed to accommodate the increased demand in domestic and international air travel. To help meet that pilot demand—and develop a lengthening pipeline of diverse aviators to answer it—[Tuskegee Airman Inc.](#) is teaming up with the newly launched [RedTail Flight Academy](#) to provide room and board scholarships for six underserved, aspiring aviation professionals who will be attending the inaugural Academy class this fall.

In 2020, the Stewart, New York-based chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. founded the RedTail Flight Academy under its Lee A. Archer Jr. Red Tail Youth Flying Program. Its vision is to create a state-of-the-art flight training academy that uses aviation as a developmental tool focusing on STEM, leadership development, and the legacy of the Tuskegee Airman.

Based at the New York Stewart International Airport in New Windsor, New York, the Academy will provide a 10-month curriculum, certifying students between the ages of 18-21 with a FAA Part 141 multi-engine commercial pilot license and an instrument rating.

Celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Tuskegee Airmen Experience, the legacy aviation organization’s partnership with the RedTail Flight Academy continues its tradition of collaborating with local chapters to develop future minority aviation leaders.

“TAI encourages innovative aviation programs—such as the RedTail Flight Academy—to create a bridge to the future for underserved and minority aviators,” noted Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Board President Jerry “Hawk” Burton. “This program is a great opportunity for eligible students across our 53 local chapters to be considered as candidates for the RedTail Flight Academy’s inaugural class.”

The RedTail Flight Academy’s world-class training program is made possible through generous corporate sponsorships and private donor support. To reach its goal of diversifying the aviation industry, it has established a campaign to raise \$500,000 in student scholarships during its first year and up to \$4 million for operational aircraft

equipment and classroom technology. In May, the RedTail Flight Academy ordered two Piper Pilot 100i single-engine trainers, as it prepares to launch its inaugural class this September. Funds for the trainers were obtained through a private donation.

Glen Fraser, Director, Red Tail Flight Academy, said of the partnership, “The Academy's alliance with Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. will bring about the vision shared by Tuskegee Airmen such as Dr. Roscoe Brown, who throughout his life cited his mantra, ‘Preparation, Persistence and Perseverance equals Excellence, 3Ps=E.’ The excellence of RedTail Flight Academy will be reassured by these ideals.”

To learn more about the RedTail Flight Academy and support the next generation of aspiring aviators by sponsoring a student, visit redtailflightacademy.org.

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RedTail Flight Academy

Based at the New York Stewart International Airport in New Windsor, New York, the RedTail Flight Academy (RFA) represents a major milestone toward bringing more diversity to aviation, principally by making world-class flight training accessible to young, aspiring minority aviators. This is achieved through scholarships funded by contributions from various corporate sponsorships, as well as public and private donations. A nonprofit program within the 501 (C)3-approved Lee A. Archer Red Tail Youth Flying Program, the RedTail Flight Academy supports a Part 141 flight training curriculum that spans 10 months and results in a multi-engine commercial pilot license with an instrument rating for candidates between the ages of 18 and 21.

Lee A. Archer, Jr., Red Tail Youth Flying Program

Established in 1991, the Major General Irene Trowell-Harris Chapter, based in Stewart, New York, began to use aviation ground and flight instruction as a vehicle to mentor, tutor and provide role models for young men and women to effect positive change in the community. In 2001, the chapter activated the Lee A. Archer, Jr., Red Tail Youth Flying Program as a 501 (C)3 nonprofit and has since impacted more than 860 youth via a diverse series of immersive, aviation-themed experiences and academic disciplines.

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Established June 1975, Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated (TAI) perpetuates the activities and achievements of those Americans who shared in the aspirations and frustrations of pioneering men and women in the Tuskegee Airmen Experience of the United States Army Air Corps. The not for profit 501(c)3 organization actively motivates youth to outstanding achievement and leadership in our democratic society with emphasis on the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).