

Dear Tuskegee Airmen National Historical Museum Supporter,

Welcome to the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum email newsletter! We know your time is valuable, so we developed this as a quick 3-5 minute read to give you a snapshot of some of the great things happening at the museum.



In January, we kicked off 2023 strong with good attendance at our Thursday night Ground School Pilot training program. Steve Tupper captured this great photo of some of our students. They were excited to begin learning the basics and looking forward to achieving their goals of becoming pilots.

In February, we marked Black History Month with a special program led by Brian Smith, director of the museum, highlighting the history and contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen. Metro Detroiters gathered to hear our special guest, Lt. Colonel Harry Stewart, speak on perseverance. With remarkable courage and determination, Lt. Colonel Stewart persevered through WWII and became one of America's most decorated Tuskegee Airmen.

Other guests included representatives from: Detroit Pistons, Amazon, Google, Denso, Wayne State University, Microsoft, MDOT, White Construction, City of Detroit, Beecher Group and more. Our host was Dr. Sabrina Jackson (Fox 2 Mental Health Monday's expert). The event was attended by Congresswoman Rashida Talib, members of Detroit City Council, and members of the Detroit Public Schools Community District School Board. . Check out the video on our Facebook page here: <u>https://fb.watch/k6CiIUc8UF/</u>

The Department of Labor Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs Southeast Region presented "A Moment in Black History", featuring TANM and Retired Lieutenant Colonel Harry Stewart, Combat Pilot and Tuskegee Airmen. Dr. Brian Smith, president of TANM and Ramone Crowe Jr., director of the ACE Program, spoke about our upcoming summer camps that exposed youth to aviation careers. The camps are a highlight of the museum's youth programming for middle and high school students.

This program highlighted who the Tuskegee Airmen are, the role of the TANM, the programs offered, and the plethora of events throughout the year.

In March, we made news when we were awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to train young people to be pilots and drone pilots, as well as get them interested in careers in aerospace. Check out the video of the press conference on our Facebook Page here: https://fb.watch/k6C-fThlWW/

Check out the Detroit Free Press story here: <u>Detroit Tuskegee Airmen Museum</u> <u>gets grant to teach kids to fly (freep.com)</u>



Detroit Tuskegee Airmen Museum receives a hefty grant to teach kids to fly

The grant will give 30 Detroit students the opportunity to receive training at the Detroit City Airport starting May 18.

www.freep.com

We also launched an outreach program to get people interested in becoming air traffic controllers. We had a great response from the public and we are now working with several dozen people between the ages of 18-30 to help prepare them for the FAA's air traffic controller school later this year. Testing and selection opens up in June. Between now and then, we are helping prepare candidates for testing, assisting with their resumes, and keeping high hopes that they will be selected by the federal government for this amazing opportunity.

Check out the Detroit News story here:

https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2023/03/30/tuskegee-ai rmen-museum-hopes-to-route-interest-in-air-traffic-control-into-careers/70057163 007/

There were special awards in April. Museum Director Dr. Brian Smith and Shamalia Willis, Outreach & Engagement Coordinator, both received a Spirit of Detroit Award. Dr. Smith was also inducted into the Wayne State University College of Engineering. See photos below:



Spirit of Detroit Award Ceremony

Wayne State University College of Engineering Hall of Fame Ceremony

The FAA came to visit the Coleman A. Young International Airport after awarding the museum with a half-million dollar grant to continue the work of introducing and preparing youth for careers in aviation.

Our special guests were FAA's Assistant Administrator for Policy, International Affairs, and Environment; Laurence Wildgoose. Dr. William S. McClinton Ed.D. MBA Director, Human Resources Great Lakes Region, and Mr. Sean Doyle Deputy Regional Administrator, FAA Great Lakes Region

Recent Stories from wxyz.com:

Students like Lauren Billingsley talked about taking steps to train in the field. "I want to be a commercial pilot for Delta. It's my main goal, being up in the air. Feeling free is really exciting," she told 7 Action News.

"It allows someone like me who came from humble beginnings to have a dream to focus on, to stay focused and stay committed with community support around me, to encourage me along the way," said Laurence Wildgoose, an assistant administrator with the FAA.

https://www.wxyz.com/news/positively-detroit/tuskegee-airmen-museum-grant-pr eparing-detroit-students-for-aviation-careers We are pleased to note our 2023 summer camps are starting soon. See below for details.



Thank you for being a supporter of the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum. We've got more photos on our Facebook Page for you. Please share this email newsletter. To find out more about how you can enroll your young aspiring aviator in our programs and **make a donation supporting our efforts**, visit our website <u>Homepage - Tuskegee Airmen National Historical (tuskegeemuseum.org)</u>



Museum visitors learning about how to become air traffic controllers.

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Greg Bowens Bowens & Co.