

aloft



Volume 38, Number 6

November | December 2016

THE MUSEUM OF FLIGHT
MAGAZINE

ACES SAY THE DARNDDEST THINGS

DIGITIZING THE AFAA
ORAL HISTORIES

PAGE 16

THE CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN MAKING
TREMENDOUS CHANGES SINCE 2013

BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO COMPLETE IT!

ACT NOW AND YOUR SUPPORT WILL HAVE
DOUBLE THE IMPACT!

A MATCHING POOL HAS BEEN CREATED
TO STRETCH EVERY DOLLAR FURTHER!

IGNITE THE SPARK OF INSPIRATION
BY GIVING TODAY!

InspirationBeginsHere.org

Inspiration begins here ✨
THE MUSEUM OF FLIGHT CAMPAIGN

BY: LOUISA GAYLORD, CAMPAIGN COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Taking Leadership by Storm

The Seattle Storm WNBA team knows a thing or two about hard work, determination and setting an example for young women everywhere. The Storm Foundation, led by the team's co-owners Dawn Trudeau, Lisa Brummel and Ginny Gilder, hosts a summer program where middle school girls can meet women in leadership roles, are taught how to live healthy lives and learn how to embrace their full potential. The Museum's goal is to inspire the next generation of innovators, so it's not surprising that the Storm Foundation chose the Museum as a location for one of their leadership workshops.

This summer, the Storm Foundation partnered with the Museum and Alaska Airlines, who supports both organizations, to provide young women from Seattle-area Boys & Girls Clubs with a day they'll never forget. "The Museum provides incredible access for girls to learn about aviation and to begin visualizing themselves as future pilots, mechanics, accountants, engineers and human resource professionals," says Storm Foundation program director Angie Buysse.

After some hands-on learning in the Aviation Learning Center and a tour led by Museum docents, the young women had a chance to sit down with several influential businesswomen at Alaska Airlines: Sandy Stelling, Laurie Davies and Shawn Magin. The panel discussed the obstacles they face in their male-dominated industry, their mentors who helped guide them through their lives, and the academic paths they took to reach their career goals. "My favorite part was how women can be brave and achieve their dreams," says program participant NiAnni. Elizabeth, another participant, adds "I liked it when the Alaska Airlines ladies talked, because it helped me want to be a leader."

A 2015 study found that although women make up half of the college-educated workforce in the United States, they only represent 29% of the science and technology workforce. The Museum's *Inspiration Begins Here!* Campaign aims to increase the number of women and minorities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)—demographics that are largely underrepresented in these careers. By increasing the available education programs for kids of all ages, the Museum makes it possible for even more students to aim for the stars.

The Museum offers programs like Amelia's Aero Club for young women, and the Michael P. Anderson Memorial Aerospace Program for students of color. In addition to nearly doubling the education department and programming over the next several years, the *Inspiration Begins Here!* Campaign is also involved with Museum events like Spacefest 2016: Ladies Who Launch, which celebrates the achievements of the women who pioneered the aerospace industry.

The opportunity to have genuine interactions with role models is a fantastic way to spark someone's imagination and ambitions. "My favorite part of the visit is understanding more about how to fly a plane," says Storm Foundation participant Tionna, "It's not too hard!" Although the achievements of our heroes can be intimidating, it helps to remember that everyone started somewhere and worked their way up. The Museum's wide variety of education programs, including the panel discussion with the leaders at Alaska Airlines, are stepping stones to the aerospace careers of the future.

museumofflight.org



My BOEING CONNECTION

"I am alive today because of Boeing! My grandfather worked at Boeing and so did my dad. My dad needed a place to live and my grandparents had a big house and were renting out rooms. My dad came to see the room and saw my mom, and the rest is history. After they married in Wichita they moved to Seattle and worked at Boeing too."

"My dad and stepdad both work as a Boeing pilot. I wish to one day follow their footsteps."

- Matilda, 15 years old

"THANK YOU BOEING FOR KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON IN SEATTLE! ♥ U!"

- T. MURF (BOEING FAMILY)

"My dad worked for Boeing for 40 years. So thank you Boeing for clothing me, feeding me, educating me and straightening my teeth!"

"Over the past 35 years I flew the 727, 757, 767 and 777. Thanks Boeing for your amazing product."

- Capt. Dave Griswold, AAL

"Umm, skool brot mee too learnt about Boeing."

"MY NAME IS KHALIFA. I'M FROM DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. I'M A FIRST OFFICER FLYING A BOEING 777 FOR EMIRATES AIRLINE. I ♥ BOEING."

"My mother worked at Boeing all during WWII. My dad was in the Army stationed at Boeing protecting factory and field. They met through Boeing. My mother would wave at my dad on guard duty on Plant 2 roof!"

Aloft September | October 2016 9