



# the Daily

Thursday, March 21, 2024



## UPDATES

### Room Change

Today's Professional Development Seminars 1 (*Elevate. Empower. Excel.: The Executive Woman's Guide to Strategic Communication* 8:30-10:30 a.m.) and 2 (*Empowering Women in the Aviation Industry: The Role and Impact of ERGs*) have moved to **Crystal H**. Professional Development 3: *Internships and Co-Ops: Start Gaining More Insight of Opportunities in the Aviation Sector* 2-4 p.m. will be held in **Magnolia 20**.

### Download the #WAI2024 App

Sponsored by American Airlines

[www.bit.ly/WAI2024App](http://www.bit.ly/WAI2024App)



**Login instructions for the app:**  
Once you have uploaded the app, enter your email and badge ID login credentials to access the My Planner functionality, including communication with speakers, exhibitors, and other attendees.

### Join the Conversation

Help share the excitement of attending the 35th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference by using these hashtags on social media.

- #WAI2024
- #IamWAI #WeAreWAI
- #WomeninAviation
- #WomeninAviationInternational



### Watch WAI On Air

Sponsored by Envoy

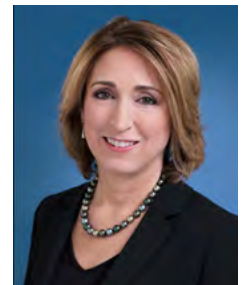


## It's Time To Take Off!

**G**et ready to recharge your batteries, renew friendships, and make new ones during our annual three-day gathering this week. After a year of planning, WAI is thrilled to kick off the 35th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference in Orlando, Florida, with a record number of attendees and exhibitors. Our schedule features inspiring keynote speakers, 35 education sessions, professional development seminars and workshops, scholarship awards, and an array of opportunities to mentor, network, and socialize during WAI's unique opportunity to connect, engage, inspire. Are you a member of a WAI chapter or thinking about starting one in your area? Check the schedule of chapter events on Page 15 and learn about all the WAI resources. Each issue of *The Daily* will bring you news and highlights of #WAI2024 each morning.

Meet Lynda Coffman, WAI's new CEO, this week and learn about her strategic vision to bring our organization to new heights with a lifetime of programs!

Here's to a successful #WAI2024 for all of us and enjoy this week's special WAI flight!



Lynda Coffman, WAI 69332

### TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Enjoy the WAI Jazz with Wings Band performance during the Exhibit Hall Ribbon Cutting Ceremony today at 12:50 p.m. Visit over 200 exhibitors in the **Palms** and **Cypress Ballrooms** from 1-5:30 p.m.

ANDREW ZABACK



Attend the Annual WAI Membership Meeting tomorrow Friday, March 22, during the Opening General Session 9-10:30 a.m. in **Cypress Ballroom 2**. Hear about the board election results and highlights of our WAI organization from WAI CEO Lynda Coffman.

### Have questions? Chat with SKYE bot!

Meet WAI's exclusive Skye Chatbot available on the WAI website ([www.WAI.org](http://www.WAI.org)) and the official WAI2024 conference app. She can answer questions about this week's events, registration, directions, weather, Wi-Fi, and more!



This issue of *The Daily* sponsored by:



# Christy Bares Joins WAI Staff as Director of Conferences and Events

Women in Aviation International has hired Christy Bares, CMP, as our organization's new director of conferences and events, effective March 11. Meet her this week at #WAI2024.

Christy comes to WAI with a wealth of experience in event planning and execution for large events across the globe. Prior to joining WAI, she held the position of director, event operations and services for ISACA, a professional membership organization with over 170,000 members. In her role at ISACA, she managed all team operations, including budget management, contract negotiations, vendor management, reporting, and team development. She also led the organization's first hybrid conferences in both North America and Europe.

Christy will be responsible for the design, planning, and execution of all WAI events, most notably our annual conference which is growing every year.

"We welcome Christy to our team as she will work closely with WAI staff to ensure seamless execution and inspiring, unforgettable experiences for our members," WAI CEO Lynda Coffman says. "In addition to her experience, Christy is passionate about fostering a culture of collaboration and ongoing innovation, and we will tap into her experience and innovative ideas to bring our events to new heights of success."



Christy Bares, CMP, WAI 139360

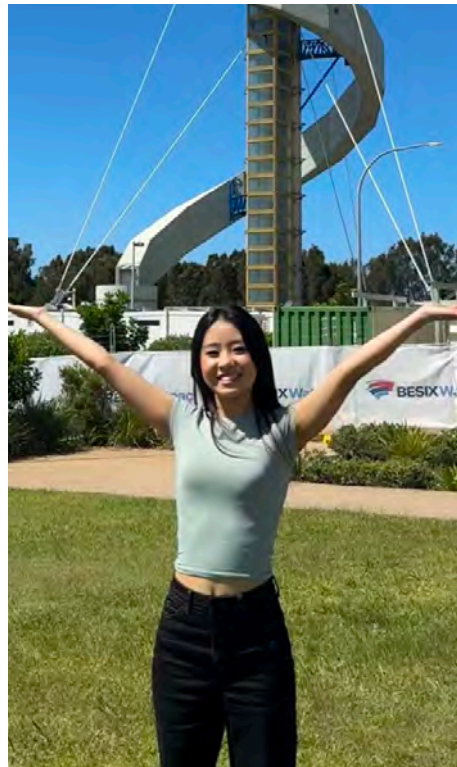
# Welcome from Down Under!

WAI International Scholarship recipient

**Amy Jeong**, WAI 138619, is one of the University of New South Wales scholarship recipients, and shares her thoughts with our *Daily* readers.

"This scholarship has taken off the financial burden and has allowed me to primarily focus on my academic studies and to work hard toward internships and future employment in the aviation industry. Furthermore, through this scholarship, I have been able to find inspiration from women who excel in the aviation industry."

From Amy's experience she encourages WAI members to consistently research scholarship opportunities. "In your application, make sure to show your passion and how you can make a positive impact if chosen. It's all about standing out and showing your genuine enthusiasm," Amy says. "Moreover, it is important to show who you truly are and let your love for aviation shine through. I'm looking forward to learning more about the aviation industry and meeting women with similar interests and passions at the WAI2024 conference."



Amy Jeong is visiting Orlando this week from Sydney, Australia.

*The Daily* is a publication of Women in Aviation International, published during the annual conference.

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WAI On Air:

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**Proud sponsor of WAI2024 – visit us at booth 613**

# Comedy in the Sky

We recently had the pleasure of introducing actress and comedian Zainab Johnson to the friendly skies of general aviation.

Fresh off her comedy special at the Tempe Improv in Arizona, we found ourselves face-to-face with the comedian and of course, couldn't resist telling her that we were pilots immediately after meeting her.

Royal Shoen offered to take Zainab flying in her Cirrus SR22T, and in a surprising twist, Zainab bravely agreed to fly with two complete strangers.

The next day, armed with equal parts courage and comedy, Zainab embarked on an aerial tour of Sedona's majestic red rocks. During the flight, Royal helped her navigate the skies with the finesse of a seasoned pilot while Abby helped her with her comms and speaking with ATC. Between bouts of laughter and light chop, Zainab calmly navigated the flight, and we returned safely back to our home airport.

It was truly a pleasure to share the gift of aviation with Zainab. This experience with her is yet another inspiring example of how aviation brings together and empowers women; showcasing their courage, camaraderie, and shared passion for taking flight.

—Abby Awosanya, WAI 99847, and Royal Shoen, WAI 65011

Follow Abby and Royal on Instagram @abbytheaviator and @royalair.



(L to R) Abby, Royal, Zainab

If you're an exhibitor, speaker, or represent a group that has appropriate news for us, come tell *The Daily* staff in the WAI Media Center, sponsored by Gulfstream, located in **Magnolia 4**.

Or email Amy Laboda  
([alaboda13@icloud.com](mailto:alaboda13@icloud.com)).

If you have a press kit, please bring one to us and supply additional copies for other media covering the conference.

There are two more issues of *The Daily*: Friday (deadline noon on Thursday) and Saturday (deadline noon on Friday).

## Media Center Hours

*Sponsored by Gulfstream*

### Magnolia 5

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

2-4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

# FLY LIKE A GIRL

For everyone who dreams of flight and wishes to inspire others,  
we're with you.



  
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# Sim Time!

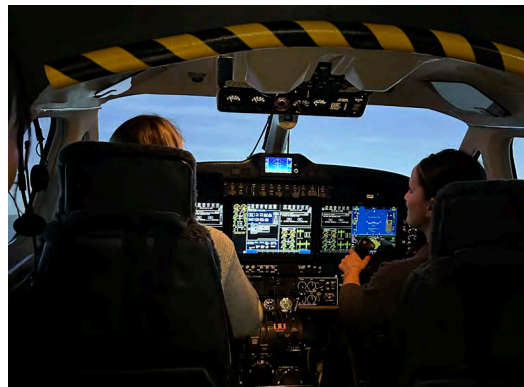
CAE is a leading training facility for civil aviation through simulation and modeling technologies. The Canadian manufacturer has 63 locations across the world spanning from North America to Spain to the United Arab Emirates, and more. During Women in Aviation Week (March 4-10, 2024), the CAE branch in Morristown, New Jersey, hosted prospective female pilots and 99s New Jersey chapter members.

Maria Choi, a CAE flight instructor and event organizer, shared her aviation journey and how welcoming CAE has been to her as she comes from an international background where English is her third language. "Sometimes people don't understand my accent, but at CAE everyone is understanding, and they take the time to learn with me."



Maria Choi, WAI 81307

Zekiye Memis, also shared her journey of moving from Turkey to become a simulator technician before being promoted to regulatory compliance specialist at CAE. She also shared information on different career paths in aviation aside from the Part 121 path.



Attendees flew simulators

Maria gave attendees a tour of the facility as well as stopping by active classrooms to see how the instructors engage with their students.

Attendees were also able to try the King Air 350, Citation Sovereign, and Sikorsky S-76 simulators. Some of the attendees shared that being able to fly the simulators was motivating about what the end goal could look like.

"Seize opportunities with open arms," says CAE flight instructor, Sakshi Kumania, to the young women, "they are the stepping stones to extraordinary journeys."

—Jabili Kandula, WAI 88779

CAE hosted a group of female pilots at its Morristown, New Jersey location



## Authors Connect Schedule

The Authors Connect booth will be located in the **Cypress Alcove 1**.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

1-2:30 p.m.

**Shahd Majeed**

*Earning My Wings: A Story of Life after Death*

**Laura Savino**

*Jet Boss: A Female Pilot on Taking Risks and Flying High*

**Jolanda Witvliet**

*The Airline Transition Manual; A Pilot's Guide to Scholarships & Grants*

2:30-4 p.m.

**Patty Bear**

*From Plain to Plane: My Mennonite Childhood, a National Scandal, and an Unconventional Soar to Freedom*

**Kodey Bogart**

*Helo Girls: The Firefighting Pilot*

**Doreen Cappelaere**

*Wings for Val: Memoir of a Young Female Pilot*

4-5:30 p.m.

**Becky Condon**

*She Flies*

**Mary Shipko**

*The Firsts: Women Pilots and How They Changed the Airlines;*

*Daring Mary: Aviation Pioneer; Aviatrix: First Female Pilot for*

*Hughes Air West*

**Victoria Yeager**

*Chuck Yeager: What a Ride! My Life with The Original Right Stuff; 101 Chuck Yeager-isms: Wit and Wisdom from America's Hero*

Join the authors at a special Authors Connect Reading and Reception:

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**Authors Connect Reading and Reception**

(ticketed event)

7:30-10 p.m.

**Magnolia 10**

Sponsored by PASS, United

## Exhibitors

(as of March 14, 2024)

- 819 AAR  
816 ACES Systems  
2325 AOPA-Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association  
101 ATP Flight School  
2219 Abingdon Co.  
1006 Academy of Aviation  
313 AerSale, Inc  
2335 AeroStar Training Services  
717 AeroTEC  
902 Aerospace Center for Excellence / SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo  
906 Aims Community College  
1109 Air Force Civilian Service  
2224 Air Line Pilots Association International  
815 Air Methods Corporation  
2318 Air Race Classic Inc.  
419 Air Transport International  
618 Air Wisconsin Airlines  
2125 Airbus Americas  
2333 Airshare  
1101 Alaska Airlines  
2330 Allegiant Air  
908 Allied Pilots Association  
514 Alpine Air Express  
205 America's Navy  
800 American Airlines  
704 American Airlines Federal Credit Union  
316 Ameriflight  
918 Amerijet International Airlines, Inc.  
2321 Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance(AWAM)  
510 Atlas Air  
2236 Auburn University School of Aviation  
418 Avelo Airlines  
617 Avemco Insurance Company  
2008 Aviation Conversations  
201 Aviation Retirement Strategies, LLC  
619 Aviation Search Group  
508 AviationJewelry.Com  
210 Blue Line Aviation  
500 Boeing  
2105 Bombardier  
2105 Bombardier  
2316 Born of Ashes LLC  
2004 Bose Corporation  
2212 Breeze Aviation Group  
1018 CAE HQ  
1001 CAMP Systems International  
916 California Aeronautical University  
611 Cape Air  
2334 Castle Aviation  
517 Cessna and Beechcraft by Textron Aviation  
511 Cirrus Aircraft  
312 CommuteAir  
2106 Contour Aviation  
2206 Convergence Data  
911 Corporate Wings  
620 CrossCheck Hub  
2233 Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations  
900 David Clark Company  
2025 Delta Air Lines  
2131 Delta State University  
2315 Duncan Aviation  
2232 Elevate Aviation Group  
1008 Elevated Access  
2311 Embraer  
412 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
2128 Empire Airlines  
2018 Endeavor Air  
801 Envoy Air  
1108 Equus Flight Academy  
413 Executive Jet Management  
603 Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)  
920 FAA - Airman DUI/DWI Program  
1117 FAA Civil Aerospace Medical Institute  
919 FAA Human Resource Management  
2327 FedEx  
2331 FedEx Employees Credit Association  
901 Flexjet  
409 FlightSafety International  
2102 Flight Uniforms  
2209 flyexclusive  
1116 Freedom Aviation Network  
2010 Frontier Airlines  
516 Gleim Aviation  
310 Global Aviation Data  
300 Global Crossing Airlines Inc  
716 Global Medical Response  
306 GoJet Airlines  
714 GrandView Aviation  
2225 Gulfstream  
610 Hawaiian Airlines  
1014 Helicopter Association International  
318 Hemlock Films  
2115 IFOD Institute of Flight Operations and Dispatch  
706 ISA+21  
209 JSX  
811 JSfirm.com  
2104 Jet Linx Aviation  
614 jetBlue  
2217 Latino Pilots Association (LPA)  
2133 Leading Edge Financial Planning  
417 Leiden University  
2028 Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
1017 Life Flight Network  
2005 LifeLine Pilots  
720 Lockheed Martin  
909 M & H Uniforms  
2130 Mamava Inc  
809 Mcneely Charter  
1016 MedAire Inc  
1005 Mercy Medical Angels  
521 Metro Aviation, Inc.  
712 Middle Tennessee State University  
2230 Mountain Air Cargo  
904 MzeroA Online Ground School  
1112 NASA Aeronautics  
2109 NBCFAE National  
1019 NOAA Aircraft Operations Center  
515 National Air Traffic Controllers Association  
914 National Airlines  
711 National Business Aviation Association (NBAA)  
2110 National Gay Pilots Association  
1010 National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
1003 National Nuclear Security Administration NNSA  
315 National Transportation Safety Board  
307 NetJets  
2320 Ninety-Nines  
2007 Northern Jet  
208 Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals  
1111 PHI Aviation  
707 PSA Airlines  
715 Pearls With Purpose  
2006 Phoenix Air Group, Inc.  
2108 Phoenix East Aviation  
1007 PlaneSense, Inc.  
820 Procter & Gamble  
416 Professional Asian Pilots Association  
814 Professional Women Controllers (PWC)  
2119 RTX/Collins Aerospace/ Pratt & Whitney  
607 Republic Airways  
2239 Ricardo Belverly Hills  
713 SKYTECH, INC  
2317 SUU Aviation  
615 Saint Louis University  
319 Sierra West Airlines  
1013 Silver Airways  
2111 SkyWest Airlines  
2312 Solairus Aviation  
2120 Southwest Airlines  
910 Southwest Airlines Pilots Association  
601 Space2inspire  
2231 Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology  
915 Spirit Airlines  
2016 Spitfire Elite Consulting  
2336 Stratus Financial  
2009 Sun Country Airlines  
1015 TES  
415 Telex Aviation Headsets  
621 Thomas Edison State University  
314 Tradewind Aviation LLC  
907 Travelpro  
519 Turbine Capital  
1102 U.S. Air Force Recruiting-Det 1  
1009 U.S. Coast Guard  
302 UPS Airlines  
719 USA Jet  
2241 USI  
2135 Unifi Service  
301 United Airlines  
2234 United Ground Express  
2014 University Aviation Association  
317 University of North Dakota  
2208 Utah State University Aviation Technology  
2237 Visionary Training Resources Virtual Reality  
2213 Vista  
818 Volato  
708 Walmart Aviation  
2319 West Star Aviation  
808 Western Michigan University College of Aviation  
204 Wheels Up  
1011 Whirly-Girls International  
613 Wings Financial Credit Union  
2314 Wings For Val Foundation Inc.  
1100 Women Military Aviators  
600 Women in Aviation International Membership  
812 Women in Aviation Purdue University Chapter  
709 Women in Corporate Aviation (WCA)

**Cypress Alcove 1**  
Authors Connect  
WAI Merchandise

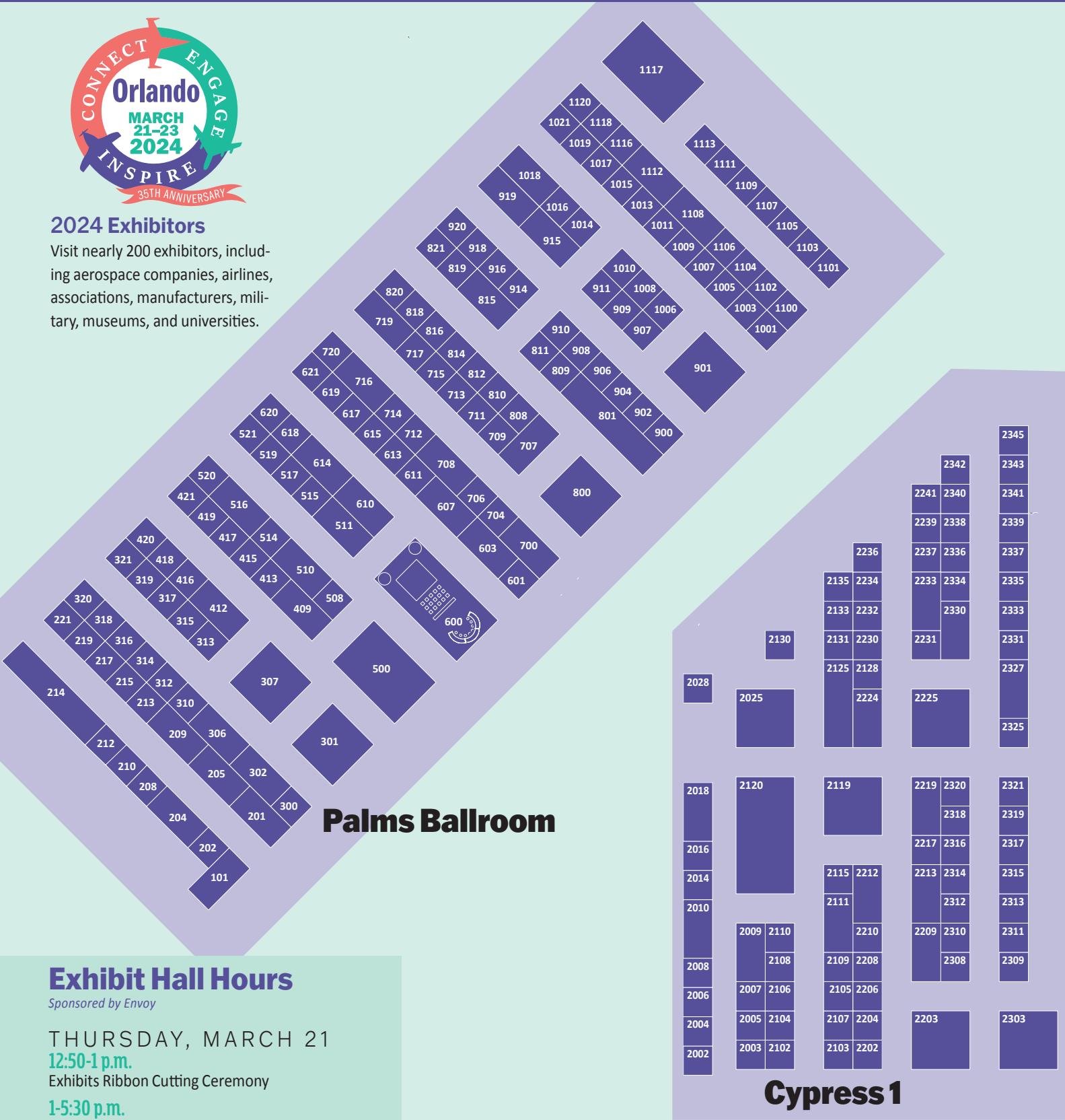
**Cypress Alcove 2**  
BodyWorks Attendee Wellbeing  
Mamava Inc

**Cypress Alcove 3**  
Professional Headshot Area  
*(Sponsored by Equus Flight Academy)*



**2024 Exhibitors**

Visit nearly 200 exhibitors, including aerospace companies, airlines, associations, manufacturers, military, museums, and universities.



**Palms Ballroom**

**Cypress 1**

**Exhibit Hall Hours**

*Sponsored by Envoy*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21**  
**12:50-1 p.m.**  
 Exhibits Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

**1-5:30 p.m.**  
 Exhibit Hall Open

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22**  
**10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
*(closed during luncheon—noon-1:30 p.m.)*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23**  
**10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.**



Mamava will provide a private pumping and nursing pod this week, located next to the Massage Relaxation Station in **Cypress Alcove 2**.

Sponsored by RTX

## Complimentary Professional Headshots Available

Equus Flight Academy is sponsoring a complimentary Professional Headshot area located in **Cypress Alcove 3**. Sign-up will be available on site at the Orlando World Center Marriott or on a walk-in basis. You will receive your digital headshots approximately two weeks after WAI2024. Scan here for helpful tips for a great professional photo.

Thank you to Equus for this wonderful opportunity for our attendees to professionally shine!



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## Thank You!

**Attendee Wi-Fi**

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**Conference Bags**

Sponsored by United Airlines

**Conference Lanyards**

Sponsored by The Boeing Company

**Key Cards**

Sponsored by American Airlines

**Massage Relaxation Station**

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**Membership Booth**

Sponsored by CAE

**Membership Booth Photo Booth**

Sponsored by Piedmont Airlines

**Professional Headshots**

Sponsored by Equus Flight Academy

**Signage Onsite**

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**Volunteer/Information Booth**

Sponsored by GoJet Airlines, JetBlue

**Registration**

Sponsored by PSA Airlines

**Shuttle Bus Service**

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**The Daily**

Sponsored by CAE, JetBlue, GoJet Airlines

**WAI On Air**

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**WAI2024 Opening Video**

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**WAI2024 Wrap-Up Video**

Sponsored by Gulfstream

**Water Cups**

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## Orlando World Center Marriott Main Convention Center







## Marriott Village's Bus Depot To/from Orlando World Center Marriott's Convention Entrance

Sponsored by Air Wisconsin, Bombardier, Flight Uniform, NetJets, United Ground Express

### Wednesday, March 20, 2024

6:30–10:30 a.m. 10 minutes frequency  
10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 20 minutes frequency  
3:30–7:30 p.m. 10 minutes frequency

### Friday, March 22, 2024

6:30–10:30 a.m. 10 minutes frequency  
10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. 20 minutes frequency  
1:30–5:30 p.m. 10 minutes frequency

### Thursday, March 21, 2024

6:30–10:30 a.m. 10 minutes frequency  
10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 20 minutes frequency  
3:30–7:30 p.m. 10 minutes frequency  
7:30–9:30 p.m. 20 minutes frequency

### Saturday, March 23, 2024

6:30–10:30 a.m. 20 minutes frequency  
10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 40 minutes frequency  
4:30–6:30 p.m. 20 minutes frequency

# QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

	Crystal M	Crystal H	Crystal C	Magnolia 20	Crystal J	Magnolia 22	Crystal N	Crystal G	Cypress 2
8-9 a.m.	WAI Chapter Leadership Workshop 8-11 a.m.	Professional Development Seminar I "Elevate. Empower. Excel.: The Executive Woman's Guide To Strategic Communication" 8:30-10:30 a.m. (Preregistration required)	Be a Mentor. Find a Mentor. 9-10:00 a.m. (preregistration required)		Aerospace Educators Workshop 9 a.m.-noon				
9-10 a.m.									
10-11 a.m.									
11 a.m.-noon		Professional Development Seminar II "Empowering Women in the Aviation Industry: the Role and Impact of ERGs" 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (Preregistration required)							
Noon-1 p.m.									
1-2 p.m.									
2-3 p.m.				Professional Development Seminar III "Internships and Co-Ops: Start Getting More Insight of Opportunities in the Aviation Sector" 2-4 p.m. (Preregistration required)					
3-4 p.m.							Build Chapter Partnerships—Securing Sponsorship Support 2:30-4 p.m.		
4-5 p.m.									
5-6 p.m.								Networking 101 for Students 5-6 p.m.	
6-7 p.m.									WAI Connect Reception 6-7 p.m. (ticket required)
7-8 p.m.			Jazz with Wings Hangar Dance 7-10 p.m.						
8-10 p.m.									



WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 20  
**WAI Chapter Connect Reception**  
6:30-7:30 p.m. • Magnolia 10  
*(ticket required, by invitation only)*  
Sponsored by Atlas Air  
All chapter members registered for conference are invited to this free and fun kickoff event.

THURSDAY,  
MARCH 21  
**Build Chapter Partnerships**  
2:30-4 p.m. • Crystal N  
**WAI Connect Reception**  
6-7 p.m. • Cypress 2  
Sponsored by Airbus, Google, Spirit

FRIDAY,  
MARCH 22  
**Opening Session**  
9-10:30 a.m. • Cypress Ballroom 2  
Sponsored by The Boeing Company  
**Luncheon**  
Noon-1:30 p.m. • Cypress Ballroom 2  
*(ticket required)*  
Sponsored by Delta Air Lines

**Plan & Host an Outstanding GIAD Event**  
1:45-3:15 p.m. • Crystal D  
Sponsored by FedEx Employees Credit Association  
**How to Start A WAI Chapter**  
3:30-5 p.m. • Crystal D  
Sponsored by U.S. Coast Guard

SATURDAY,  
MARCH 23  
**General Session**  
9-10:30 a.m. • Cypress Ballroom 2  
Sponsored by United Airlines  
**Girls in Aviation Day**  
For girls ages 8-18 and chaperones  
8 a.m.-3 p.m. • Grand Ballroom 8  
*(preregistration required)*

**WAI Pioneer Hall of Fame Ceremony & Celebration Dinner**  
6-8 p.m. • Cypress Ballroom 2  
*(ticket required)*  
Sponsored by Southwest

**OPEN SEATING**  
For Luncheon and Celebration Dinner, you must present the appropriate ticket from your registration packet for seating.

If you are unable to attend a meal function, please donate your ticket at the Volunteer/Information Center. Donated tickets will be given to students.

**STUDENTS**  
Please check at the Information Center for donated tickets.

**STUDENTS CELEBRATION DINNER SEATING**

If you do not have a donated ticket, be in the **Cypress Ballroom 2** area by 5:45 p.m.

If there are available tickets, you will be provided a ticket by WAI staff.

# EDUCATION SESSIONS

FRIDAY MARCH 22							
	Crystal H	Crystal M	Crystal J	Crystal N	Magnolia 16	Magnolia 20	Magnolia 22
<b>1:45-2:45 p.m.</b>	Mental Health for Pilots, ATC, & Dispatchers: Seeking Help & the FAA <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Women in Corporate Aviation (WCA) Career Panel <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Mentoring in Action <i>Career/Leadership</i>	CEO <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Striking a Balance While Building a Resilient Warrior <i>Military</i>	Keep Relationships Strong & Find Balance Between Home & Your Career <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Civilian Aviation Careers in the Military and Federal Government <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>3-4 p.m.</b>	Navigating the Skies: Empowering Women Pilots in Aviation Industry <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Maximizing Momentum for Women in Aviation <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Speech-language Pathology Partnering with Aviation to Help Prevent Miscommunications Due to Intelligibility Concerns in Non-native English Speakers <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The One Thing You Need to Feel Better About Your Money: It's Not a Budget, It's Clarity <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Drones: The Gateway to Aviation <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	The Road to Revolt -- the Fight to Repeal the Combat Exclusion Law <i>History</i>	Public Benefit Flying - Using aviation to give back! <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>4:15-5:15 p.m.</b>	Bridges and Boundaries: Building the Strength and Skills to Succeed in a Male-Dominated Workplace <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Importance of Allyship in Tech Ops <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Communicating with Accountability: Navigating & Addressing Microaggressions in the Workplace <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Using Novel Body Scanning Technology and Analysis Methods to Generate an Accurate and Affordable USN and USMC Aircrew Anthropometric Database <i>Military</i>	Thinking Like an Engineer: Through the Lens of Flight Test - <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	Come Fly with Us! Civil Air Patrol Youth & Adult Flying Opportunities <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Bird <i>History</i>
SATURDAY MARCH 23							
	Crystal H	Crystal M	Crystal J	Crystal N	Magnolia 16	Magnolia 20	Magnolia 22
<b>1:45-2:45 p.m.</b>	Navigating a Pilot Interview with Confidence and Resilience <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Airline Pilot Panel <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The Working Daughter <i>Career/Leadership</i>	How to Be an Ally in the LGBTQ+ Aviation Community <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Taking the Lead: Women as Instructors and Role Models in Aviation <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The Rollercoaster of Search and Rescue Flying <i>Career/Leadership</i>	NTSB – Where safety is no accident! <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>3-4 p.m.</b>	Taking Flight Together: Empowering Young Women in Aviation through Dual Enrollment <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Sexual Harassment - Where to Go and What to Do <i>Career/Leadership</i>	How to Be a Boss in Your Own Life: Boldy and Confidently Pursuing Your Dreams <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Airspace Invasion <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	Perspectives & Boundaries: Navigating the Biases We Face Throughout Our Careers <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Family Planning and Flying in the Military <i>Military</i>	A License to Learn <i>Maintenance/Tech Ops</i>

## CONNECT > ENGAGE > INSPIRE

### WAI 2024 Registration

#### Cypress Registration

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

*(Exhibitors only)*

**3-6 p.m.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

*(closed during luncheon)*

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**8 a.m.-1 p.m.**

#### Yoga

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**7-8 a.m. • Magnolia 10**

*(ticket required)*

#### Meditation Workshop

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**7-8 a.m. • Magnolia 10**

*(ticket required)*

#### Zumba

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**7-8 a.m. • Magnolia 10**

*(ticket required)*

### Volunteer Sign Up/Check-in Information Center Lost and Found

**Cypress Rotunda**

### Media Center

**Magnolia 4**

### Industry Briefings

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**Crystal K, Magnolia 14**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**Crystal K, Magnolia 14**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**Crystal K**

See the conference app for current schedule.

### Exhibits

**Palms Ballroom and Cypress Ballroom 1**

### Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

**12:50-1 p.m.**

**Palms Ballroom and Cypress Ballroom 1**

### Exhibit Hall Hours

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**1-5:30 p.m.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**10:30 a.m.-noon**

*(closed during luncheon)*

**1:30-5 p.m.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.**

# Industry Briefings

Industry Briefings allow companies to showcase opportunities within their organizations, discuss current positions available and their requirements. These briefings will last 45 minutes and may include Q&A.

Industry Briefings are available to all registered conference attendees, pre-registration is not required to attend briefings.

Briefings will take place Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Visit [www.WAI.org/2024-industry-briefings](http://www.WAI.org/2024-industry-briefings).

## Schedule

(as of March 12, 2024)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

### Magnolia 13

2-2:30 p.m. – Destination 225° Pilot Pathways Program

3-3:30 p.m. – Southwest Airlines – First Officer

### Magnolia 14

9-9:45 a.m. – American Airlines

10-10:45 a.m. – JetBlue

11-11:45 a.m. – The Boeing Company – “Next Generation Rosie’s”

Noon-12:45 p.m. – Delta Air Lines

1-1:45 p.m. – American Airlines

2-2:45 p.m. – United Airlines

3-3:45 p.m. – Frontier Airlines

4-4:45 p.m. – UPS Airlines

### Crystal K

9-9:45 a.m. – GoJet

10-10:45 a.m. – NASA

11-11:45 a.m. – Aviation Retirement Strategies, LLC – “Just Put the Gear & Flaps “UP” “

noon-12:45 p.m. – America’s Navy

1-1:45 p.m. – FlexJet Pilot/Maintenance

2-2:45 p.m. – Cape Air

3-3:45 p.m. – SkyWest Airlines

4-4:45 p.m. – PSA Airlines

### Crystal A

4-5 p.m. – Industry Briefing & Afternoon Tea with Airbus



Amena (pink shirt) at the American Airlines WAI2023 booth

## A Dream Come True at WAI2023

I remember closely paying attention to the Women in Aviation International website and seeing the different events including the industry hiring events where major airlines would be hosting meet-and-greets.

I already had an active application with American Airlines, but I hadn’t heard back, and I thought to myself that maybe this would be a wonderful opportunity to finally see somebody face-to-face at American Airlines. With my paperwork in order, I felt ready to attend WAI2023 in Long Beach, California. I planned to be fully prepared for conference and make valuable use of the events, ask the right questions, and make connections.

On the day of the meet-and-greet, I chanted a mantra, “I am coming back with a job, there’s no way that I’m not leaving this event without a job.” I felt smart, I had my brand-new suit on, and I knew that day was my day. I got to the interview room, checked in, and was told to take a seat and that our 15-minute interview would be shortly. I can’t tell you the number of emotions that I was feeling at that moment. Meeting all the other amazing aviators and phenomenal females standing amongst me, there was great energy in the room.

Finally, Capt. Beth Powell, WAI 98855, called out my name amongst the crowd and we dove right into the interview. My final question of the interview from Beth was “Why do you want to work at American Airlines?” I replied, “Why wouldn’t I?” I didn’t have applications anywhere else but American Airlines. I explained to Beth my lifelong dream. Since I was 17 years old, I’ve been working toward this very moment. I’ve done everything possible to shape my career from working in the marketing department to being a check-in agent to finally being given the opportunity to come back to apply as a pilot for American Airlines.

There were constant battles of being told that I didn’t belong here, and I’d never be able to do this, but I made it. I left Long Beach with my goal in my hands, a conditional job offer from American. And today, I get to call myself First Officer Amena Huff.

–Amena Huff

## Industry Partner Events

Please note that these events are by invitation or open only to current members of a particular group. When in doubt, check with a representative of that group or company. Must be a registered attendee to participate. Details at

[www.WAI.org/2024-industry-partner-events](http://www.WAI.org/2024-industry-partner-events)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**Air Force – Reception Room**

8 a.m.-4 p.m. • Washington Room

**Southwest Airlines – Hospitality Room**

8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Magnolia 13

**Delta Air Lines – Pilot Recruiter Meet and Greet**

1:30-5:30 p.m. • Diamond Suite

**Southwest Airlines – Tailwinds Tea Luncheon**

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Crystal G

**Airbus – Afternoon Tea with Airbus – Industry Briefing and Reception**

4-5 p.m. • Crystal A

## Learn Networking Pro Tips

Are you a student interested in hearing about the fine art of networking? Join Stacey Dickson, American Airlines Recruiter, Talent Acquisition Campus Programs, today from 5-6 p.m. during 'Networking 101 for Students' in **Crystal G**. Stacey will "Make you netWORK" during this hour-long interactive session.



Stacey Dickson

## Unleash Wisdom Together

One of the many benefits of your WAI membership is the ability to utilize the **Mentor Connect** platform featuring online resources to connect mentors and mentees where they live and learn. More than 600 mentors/mentees are creating lasting relationships to encourage one another in their personal aviation/aerospace career journeys. Plan on attending this interactive morning session 'Be a Mentor. Find a Mentor.' from 9-10 a.m. in **Crystal C** to hear an overview of WAI's Mentor Connect program and resources. Signature Aviation leaders will share their real-world experiences of mentors and mentees who have taken part of the program.

## DRONES—GATEWAY TO AVIATION

"Let us tell you about how we are using drones to connect with underserved areas, how you might incorporate drones into your educational or outreach programs to engage girls, youth, and rural communities, and ways you can use drones to inspire the next generation of aviators," begins Shalyn Drake, a lecturer in UAS at Utah State University Eastern and a representative of Aggie Drone Academy. It's her lead-up to asking the question, how do drones make life easier?

She and fellow presenter Amy Monson, a Professional Practice Assistant Professor in the Aviation and Technical Education department, share personal experiences and foundational background information to showcase how to use drones effectively as an outreach tool. Tomorrow, from 3-4 p.m. in **Magnolia 16**, the pair will highlight the work they have done in rural communities, in schools, and engaging girls and youth with drone technology.



Shalyn Drake

Attendees will come away with cheap, accessible ideas on how to reach underserved populations with drones as a way to give them a portal into the world of aviation. Together they outline the tools to be able to use drones in educational and outreach programs, using them to help people focus on being a socially responsible pilot, appreciating drones as tools, and getting others hooked into aviation and aerospace.

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798



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Imprinted left-sleeve logo  
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Unisex Charcoal Sponge  
Fleece Crew  
Bella Canvas sizes(XS-2XL)  
**\$40**

**Ordering:**  
Conference merchandise can be purchased at the WAI Store during show hours  
Pick up pre-orders at WAI Store: March 21–23, 2024 during show hours



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# WAI CHAPTER EVENTS



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

## WAI Chapter Connect Reception

Sponsored by Atlas Air  
**6:30-7:30 p.m.**  
**Magnolia 10**

*(ticket required/by invitation only)*

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

## WAI Chapter Leadership Workshop

Sponsored by Republic Airways  
**8-11 a.m.**  
**Crystal M**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

## Plan and Host an Outstanding Girls in Aviation Day Event

Sponsored by FedEx Employees Credit Union  
**1:45-3:15 p.m.**  
**Crystal D**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

## Build Chapter Partnerships—Securing Sponsorship Support

**2:30-4:00 p.m.**  
**Crystal N**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

## How to Start a WAI Chapter

Sponsored by U.S. Coast Guard  
**3:30-5:00 p.m.**  
**Crystal D**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

## Student and Collegiate Chapter Leadership Workshop

Sponsored by Republic Airways  
**10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**  
**Magnolia 14**

ANDREW ZABACK



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Have fun at the WAI Membership Photobooth

*(Sponsored by CAE)*

## Visit the WAI Membership Booth

*Sponsored by Piedmont Airlines*

**Booth 600**

**Open**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21  
**1-5:30 p.m.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22  
**10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23  
**10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.**



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