



# WAI Connect

The Official eNewsletter of  
Women in Aviation International



FOR MEMBERS

CHAPTERS

*Aviation for Women* MAGAZINE

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**April 2023**

## **WAI and Harvard University Offer Emerging Leaders Program**

We're one month away from our [Women in Leadership: A Program for Emerging Leaders](#) offered by Women in Aviation International and Harvard University's Division of Continuing Education.

[Congratulations to the 31 WAI members who have been selected](#) and will attend this two-day program, May 3-4, 2023, at Harvard's campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts! Women from various countries including Canada, Kenya, United Kingdom, United States, and Zimbabwe will have the opportunity to further their own leadership roles in their careers.

More than 140 WAI members, who are high-performing individuals in various careers in the aviation industry, applied.

"One of our goals at WAI is to help more women reach leadership positions in the aviation and aerospace industry," said Allison McKay, WAI CEO. "This program is designed to teach women the skills they will need to become effective leaders."

**Congratulations to the WAI/Harvard Winners!**

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## WAI Connects at SUN 'n FUN 2023!

Nearly 100 WAI members and friends gathered during #SNF23 this week for the annual WAI Connect Lunch, sponsored by Piedmont Airlines. Attendees met Lystra Julien, maintenance quality control inspector for Piedmont, and heard her inspiring story of pursuing a maintenance career.

Other highlights of the week included daily Women Shine radio show interviews, as well as hundreds of new and current member visits at the booth.

A special thank you to our amazing volunteers for their support at a busy booth in Hangar A-57 all week!



## Relive Special Moments of WAI2023!

WAI members, staff, and attendees came

Conference in Long Beach, California. WAI2023 is one of our largest conferences yet with over 4,500 WAI members and attendees including 136 international representatives from Canada, Ghana, Norway, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Kenya, Germany, and others. Nearly 200 different companies and organizations were showcased in the exhibit hall to represent all careers in aviation and aerospace.

Many of the exhibitors also awarded scholarships to WAI members bringing the total amount awarded since 1995 to over \$15.4 million. This year alone, 123 scholarships were awarded totaling \$889,140. We are already counting down the days until we see you all at next year's conference in Orlando!

[Read more details of #WAI2023 in our press release.](#)

Save the date for the [35th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference](#) at the Orlando World Resort and Convention Center, March 21-23, 2024, in Orlando, Florida.



*#WAI2023 was once again a unique three-day annual gathering for thousands of members and exhibitors.*

[Watch WAI's Wrap-Up Video](#)

[Watch Exhibit Hall Interviews with WAI On Air](#)

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## New WAI International Scholarships Now Available!

WAI has established a new international scholarship program benefitting its members who are studying for aviation and aerospace degrees at universities in seven different countries. At the top 100 airline groups worldwide, women currently hold only 10% of the C-suite roles and makeup only 3% of airline CEOs, according to the FAA's Women in Aviation Advisory Board report. The goal of these WAI international scholarships is to help more women attain leadership positions and have an impact on the global aviation and aerospace industry.

The universities were chosen because of their strong reputation in their country and region, their exceptional aviation and aerospace studies programs, and their dedication to WAI's mission to encourage and advance women in all aviation and aerospace career fields and interests. The universities chosen to receive scholarship funds include:

1. Leiden University International Institute of Air and Space Law, The Netherlands
2. University of New South Wales, Australia
3. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Asia, Singapore
4. Fanshawe University Norton Wolf School of Aviation and Aerospace Technology, Canada
5. Ecole Nationale de l'Aviation Civile, France
6. University of Limerick, Ireland
7. University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago

The universities, all corporate members of WAI, will administer the funds and select scholarship recipients from among their enrolled students who are also WAI members. Interested members should contact the Financial Aid department at their participating university to determine application requirements, deadlines, and further details.

Funding support to establish the new international scholarship program was provided to WAI by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.



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## Chapter News

Officers and leaders from all WAI chapters are welcome to participate in our monthly webinar to give you the best resources to help Women in Aviation International chapters grow and succeed. Watch the Chapter Leader Facebook page, the WAI

monthly.

**Please register for this month's Chapter Leadership Connect!**

**April 14, 2023 - (1 p.m. EDT)**

**Topic: Hey Girl!: Hosting a Next-Level Girls in Aviation Day**

[Register here.](#)

Thinking about starting a WAI Chapter? Have questions about WAI Chapters? [Email Jessi Rowden](#), WAI chapter relations manager!

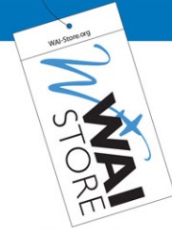


*Understand all the details of how to file an Annual Chapter Report for WAI by attending the April 14, 2023, Chapter Leadership Connect. Register to attend [here](#).*



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# Shop the WAI Store!



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[www.WAI-store.org](http://www.WAI-store.org)



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I am the FUTURE OF AVIATION

**You have the power to open up  
a world of opportunity.**

**Please donate to WAI today.**



# WAI WELCOMES NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS!

- Are you 18 years old or younger?
- Do you love aviation and STEM?
- Do you want to learn more about living your aviation passion?
- Are you interested in finding out more about scholarships in aviation?

**We have a free WAI membership for you!**

Join for free here and learn about all the resources and benefits at [WAI.org/membership-information](http://WAI.org/membership-information)



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## Upcoming Events

The calendar of events is a source of information about industry/organization events. Events marked with \* are WAI events that we sponsor, exhibit, or partner.

Interested in volunteering to help at events where WAI is participating? [Email Rorie Ainbinder, Chapter Relations Specialist](#), to sign up.

### 2023

**April 25-28** - Professional Women Controllers (PWC) National Training Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, [www.PWCinc.org](http://www.PWCinc.org)

**May 9-11** - Airport Show - Women in Aviation Middle East General Assembly 10th Anniversary, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, [www.TheAirportShow.com](http://www.TheAirportShow.com)

**May 23-25** - EBACE, Geneva, Switzerland, [www.EBACE.aero](http://www.EBACE.aero)

**May 29** - Honor The WASP, 6th Annual WAI event, [www.WAI.org/events/honor-the-wasp](http://www.WAI.org/events/honor-the-wasp)

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## Member Benefits

[WAI members](#) seek to inspire and stand for encouragement, continued education, and a whole lot of fun! We invite you to take advantage of exclusive discount programs, including many diverse benefits, available to our

## Exclusive Discount Programs for Members

- **Avemco:** 5% discount on insurance
- **Aviation Medicine Advisory Service:** 5% discount on standard case fees
- **Enterprise and National Rental-A-Car:** special discount rates with promotion code
- **General Aviation News subscription:** free sample issues and 50% off subscription
- **King Schools:** free package of 5 King courses focused on Risk Management and 20% discount on all King Schools course
- **MedJetAssist:** reduced annual and multi-year rates
- **SmithAmundsen:** free 30-minute consultation on legal services
- **Travelpro®:** exclusive 20% discount on all products

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*"Don't sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them."  
- Madam C.J. Walker*

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[Pioneer Hall of Fame](#)

[Education & Careers](#)

[Scholarships](#)





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