

Support TAM's Future: Give Our Kids Wings and Watch them Soar

The inspiration of flight can start at an early age (as young as 7 or 8). Flight training is not just about creating pilots. It is a motivator that builds communication skills, self-confidence, self-efficacy, and self-discipline – key attributes for success in any STEM career. Taking control of an aircraft is a metaphor for taking control of your life and envisioning potential beyond the confines of what many TAM students experience in their day-to-day lives. In recent TAM student essays, flight training was identified as one of the strongest motivators for sustained participation in the organization's afterschool and summer programs.

History is Fact.

Since 1999, most often through **flight scholarships**, TAM has successfully encouraged and supported six youth (three girls and three boys) to set world aviation records, each before reaching the age of sixteen. These record-holders and the teams that supported them observed first-hand that they can set lofty goals and attain them.

There are many more students who can follow. As TAM Founder and Executive Director frequently comments, "We teach students to be over-achievers."

TAM's flight training program is applied with a creative spirit.

- Interns are encouraged to flex their entrepreneurial muscles, and flight training has led to incubating ideas for aircraft-related technologies. Project development is being supported by retired aerospace engineers.
- Exposure to aviation and aerospace is relevant for students who are interested in other STEM fields (e.g., medicine, biology, civil engineering, energy, and environmental science). TAM students learn about these careers through site visits and field trips.
- A recent example occurred when TAM collaborated with the South Los Angeles Teen CERT Collaborative (June 2014). FEMA-certified training was held at TAM and provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, City of Compton, and numerous emergency responders. On June 26, 2014, forty TAM students became the nation's first "Aerial Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)".

TAM is surrounded by world-class academic and industry research institutions such as Caltech, UCLA, USC, JPL, Aerospace Corporation, and hundreds of others. Spread across Los Angeles is one of the largest concentrations of entrepreneurs and aerospace professionals (retired and actively employed) who can be tapped to support TAM students.

But, can those students afford the learning?

With your scholarship support, they can! Be one of 20 contributors of scholarship support at the \$5,000 level and your generosity will touch the clouds.

*Help a kid's dreams take flight:
support Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum.*