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**FLIGHT TEST MUSEUM
FOUNDATION (FTMF)**

www.FlightTestMuseum.org

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Local Antelope Valley School District and Schools “Take Flight” by partnering with the Flight Test Historical Museum and “fueling up” on STEM Education Grants.

EDWARDS, Calif. – May 9, 2025 — The **Flight Test Historical Foundation**, in partnership with Antelope Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA,) and the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), has awarded over \$50,000 in ENSPIRE grants to boost Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education in local schools. This program addresses the critical national need for more graduates in STEM fields by engaging students with hands-on projects related to Air and Space Force technologies. The program aims to inspire the next generation of aerospace professionals.

Funded projects range from building solar-powered cars and underwater robots to designing flight simulators and even crafting scaled models of historic aircraft. Students gain real-world experience in areas like aerospace engineering, environmental science, and advanced manufacturing, all while exploring potential career paths.

Highlights of the Awarded Projects:

- **Cabrillo High School:** Aspiring engineers will dive into the world of flight test engineering, designing, building, and testing gliders while learning about flight theory and data analysis.
- **Fulton & Alsbury Academy:** History will come alive as students transform into aerospace historians and engineers, researching and constructing large-scale models of iconic aircraft and spacecraft for a community-wide celebration. In a second project students will learn the complexity of understanding our air and ocean environments and will perform a simulation of how to react to an unfolding emergency situation.
- **Knight Preparatory Academy:** Students will learn engineering design and manufacturing from the ground up by building fully functional electric guitars.
- **Lancaster High School:** A team will work together to understand the use of advanced materials, additive manufacturing, control systems, and rapid prototyping to create functional devices that can be used in a complete environment.
- **Palmdale High School:** The need for speed will fuel the dreams of budding engineers as they collaborate to design, build, and race a solar-powered car, exploring the exciting intersection of renewable energy and aerodynamics.
- **Tumbleweed Elementary School:** Even the youngest learners will embark on a journey beyond the stars, using programmable robots to explore the complexities of space management, orbital mechanics, and satellite operations.
- **Tehachapi High School:** Students will connect with space technology professionals and learn more about opportunities and careers in developing technology for space.
- **The Palmdale Aerospace Academy:** A group of young learners will experience and learn about space research performed at NASA/JPL and will test their skills building & testing various rovers.

For more information about the Flight Test Museum Foundation, please visit www.FlightTestMuseum.org or contact Lisa Brown directly at: Lbrown@FlightTestMuseum.org or call 323.630.4789.

"We are grateful to the STEM team at AFRL for their partnership and securing the funding for these grants to benefit our local students," said Lisa Sheldon Brown, Executive Director of Education for the Flight Test Historical Foundation. "By connecting students to the rich aerospace history and cutting-edge technology developed by the AFRL, we're helping to build the STEM workforce of tomorrow while addressing critical educational needs today."

This year's grant program marks a new powerful collaboration between the AFRL, the Flight Test Historical Foundation, and the Antelope Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. By combining their expertise and resources, these organizations are creating a powerful force for STEM education in the Antelope Valley.

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About AFRL

The **Air Force Research Laboratory**, or AFRL, is the primary scientific research and development center for the Department of the Air Force. AFRL plays an integral role in leading the discovery, development and integration of affordable warfighting technologies for our air, space and cyberspace force. With a workforce of more than 11,500 across nine technology areas and 40 other operations across the globe, AFRL provides a diverse portfolio of science and technology ranging from fundamental to advanced research and technology development. For more information, visit www.afresearchlab.com.

About AIAA

Since 1963, members from a single professional society have achieved virtually every milestone in modern American flight. That society is the **American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics**. With nearly 30,000 individual members from 91 countries, and 95 corporate members, AIAA is the world's largest technical society dedicated to the global aerospace profession. Created in 1963 by the merger of the two great aerospace societies of the day, the American Rocket Society (founded in 1930 as the American Interplanetary Society), and the Institute of the Aerospace Sciences (established in 1933 as the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences), AIAA carries forth a proud tradition of more than 80 years of aerospace leadership.

About FTMF:

The main goal of the Flight Test Museum Foundation (FTMF) is to protect and preserve these historical and extremely rare aircraft inside the new structure and away from the damaging outside elements. The hall will house one of the most unique collections of research aircraft in the world & provide a place for the world to see it.

Our mission is to preserve, display, and educate the public about the more than 75 years of flight tests, aerospace and technological developments in the Aerospace Valley. Our Educational Programs provide online and in person activities, lessons, and classes on the principles of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in flight test and aerospace research to expand knowledge, inspire, and motivate future generations using examples of the advancements in aerospace in our collection.

Innovation and exploration are alive and well in the Aerospace Valley. In the past, the pilots and engineers broke the shackles of traditional thinking that held them back from chasing their wild ambition to fly faster, longer, and further than anyone ever had. History is being made every day in the Aerospace Valley, and the museum is the place for the world to learn about it.

ATTN. MEDIA: FTMF IS NOW OFFERING THE MEDIA AN "ALL ACCESS" INVITATION TO CHECK OUT THE TOP MILITARY AIRCRAFT UP CLOSE AND INTERVIEW THE TEST PILOTS THAT FLY THEM. THIS VIP ACCESS WILL BE GRANTED ON A LIMITED "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE" BASIS!

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