



NASA Aeronautics

May 2024
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Monthly STEM Newsletter

INSIDE

Celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

NEW Flight Opportunity!

NASA Internships, USRC, and more!



The DC-8 aircraft returned to NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Palmdale, California, on April 1, 2024, after completing its final mission supporting Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality (ASIA-AQ). The aircraft and crew were welcomed back with a celebratory water salute by the U.S. Air Force Plant 42 Fire Department. It's not too late to sign up on Flight Log to send your name on its final flight to Idaho State University. Image credit: NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center

May 2024

May flowers are blooming, Aeronauts, which means it is almost the end of the 2023-2024 academic year! This month we celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage, moms everywhere of many different types (how many of you educators have been called "mom" over the years?!?), and the retirement of our beloved DC-8 research aircraft. Check out our Aero Crew Highlight of the month, Stephen Helland. He is a traveler helping others reach their full potential and giving young people a strong role model to look up to. Check out STEM classroom opportunities from AeroFair and the new round of internship opportunities available at NASA centers throughout the country. Let your students know about their chances to apply for NASA internships, challenges, or other opportunities. AND there's a new flight coming up! Sign up with Flight Log today so you don't miss the chance to fly on the final flight of the DC-8, receive new flight updates, and other opportunities to engage with NASA Aeronautics.

Do you need to see more of something or have a new idea for upcoming newsletters? Let us know! Do you know someone else who needs this monthly update? Share the good news and [sign up for our monthly STEM newsletter](#). Have questions or want to be removed from the list? Send an email to april.a.lanotte@nasa.gov or holly.o.gutierrez@nasa.gov.

and for nearly 40 years, has provided a flying science laboratory that has contributed so much data and research to many disciplines such as meteorology, biology, oceanography, volcanology and much more!

The DC-8's work focused on four primary areas: sensor development, satellite sensor verification, space vehicle launch and re-entry telemetry and tracking, and research studies of the Earth's surface and atmosphere. Read more [HERE](#) to learn more about the research in these areas.

The DC-8 just [flew the last mission -- the Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality Mission](#). The US Air Force Plant 42 welcomed the craft with open arms and was given a water salute for her retirement from airborne science missions. The DC-8 will fly one last time to a new home at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho, where students will be given real-world, hands-on experiences for the school's Aircraft Maintenance Technology Program, just in time to celebrate Aviation Maintenance Technician Day on May 24th!

Student and Internship Opportunities

Deadline This Month! University Leadership Initiative (ULI)

The University Leadership Initiative (ULI) is a collaboration between NASA Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate and university student programs to create new innovative ideas for current NASA projects and the future of aviation. Don't miss the opportunity to tell NASA about your ideas! Watch the [ULI workshop on demand](#) to learn how to submit your proposal. Submit your Round 8 proposals by **May 29, 2024** through [NASA NSPIRES](#).

NEW! NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS)

NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) has three missions designed to challenge and build student's knowledge and skills. Mission 1: Discover [registration is open through June 10, 2024!](#) Students will collaborate to work on real NASA missions and goals. Mission 1: Discover takes students through a 5-week, self-paced online course where they gain broad knowledge of NASA's mission directorates and discover NASA career paths. Students can expect to hear from subject matter experts



embracing non-traditional paths and seizing learning opportunities.

Throughout my career, I've delved into various roles, from procurement to center management, including a memorable detail in Washington DC at the Office of Management and Budget. Along the way, I've cherished experiences like flying back with the Administrator on the NASA plane, meeting Senator John Glenn, and witnessing my daughter participate in the Easter Egg roll on the White House lawn.

I've had the privilege of contributing to groundbreaking projects such as the National Aerospace Plane, Orbital Space Plane, and various aircraft testing programs. But beyond the projects, my focus has always been on serving others, continuous learning, and fostering meaningful relationships.

Outside of work, I enjoy golf, music, and volunteering, particularly with initiatives like the First Robotics Competition and the Cleveland Men's shelter. As a formal NASA mentor, I'm committed to inspiring the next generation of innovators. My journey is a testament to the power of perseverance, curiosity, and the importance of giving back. ”

Stephen, you are a true inspiration. Thank you for giving back and encouraging others to *carpe diem!* Happy Flying!



Professional Development

Come See Us in Person!

COSI Science Festival [Big Science Celebration](#)

Scioto Peninsula, OH on May 4th, 2024: Join NASA Glenn Research Center at the COSI Science Festival's Big Science Celebration at Scioto Peninsula in Ohio. This four-day event happens at different locations throughout central Ohio. Each location is different, but will feature a combination

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- Open to all majors and interdisciplinary teams (engineering, business, etc.)
 - Interface with NASA experts and receive exposure to the aerospace industry

Attend the USRC Q&A/Info Session and Proposal Workshop on May 6, 2024, at 2pm ET to learn more about submitting a successful proposal. The solicitation window for this round is closed but stay tuned for the next round when proposals are due [June 20, 2024](#).

In case you missed it...

2024 Dream with Us design challenge—JOIN US FOR THE AWARDS CEREMONY!

The 2024 Dream with Us design challenge closed April 30, 2024, and we are working on judging some amazing projects! Join us for the upcoming Virtual Awards Ceremony, which is open for anyone to attend on Tuesday, May 21st at 7pm EST.

TEAMS Meeting number: 211 443 798 725
Passcode: hFZjwX.

This is a yearly, team-based challenge for students in grades 6-12 to share their ideas for the future of aeronautics with NASA experts. The 2024 Dream with Us challenge asked students to dream of new ideas for “Responding to Natural Disasters using New Aviation” such as drones and air taxis. A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to all the participants for all their hard work and dedication that shines through their projects. Stay tuned for the 2024 winner announcements coming soon on our [Dream with Us webpage](#) and NASA Aero social media channels. Head to the page to check out the winners from past challenges and learn more about how you can join next year’s 2025 Dream with Us design challenge!

COMO!

May the 4th be with you. Today is Star Wars Day and Free Comic Book Day! Two great things on one great day. We don’t have Star Wars comics, but we do have our First Woman Graphic Novel that is completely FREE! That’s right, POR GRATIS! The second issue is now available online and introduces a new character from the Choctaw Nation with a background in aeronautics. Check out both issues [HERE](#) available in English y en Español!

May 6th - 10th is teacher appreciation week. Educators everywhere are dedicated to the knowledge and growth of young people everywhere. Show your teachers how much their hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated and does not go unnoticed and hopefully someone will recognize all of you who are educators!

May 12th is Mother’s Day. Let’s celebrate moms everywhere for all their hard work with some much need rest and relaxation. Try some of our [aeronautics coloring sheets](#) as a quiet activity to give mom a break today. Aero STEM has plenty of pictures for you to create an aviation collage to show mom how your heart soars for her.

May 20th is National Women in Aerospace Day. Women do amazing things, so let’s celebrate their sacrifices and contributions to home, work, and aviation. Support the women in your life to pursue careers in aerospace technologies, sciences, and other programs. [Read about two amazing women](#) remembered in a unique way for breaking barriers and paving the way for women and girls everywhere!

May 26th is National Paper Airplane Day and NASA Aeronautics STEM has just the paper plane you need to enjoy this flying fun day! [Make Your Own X-59 paper airplane](#) and let it soar. Get some friends together and see whose paper X-59 can fly the farthest!

Links to our Aeronautics STEM Resources:

[Aeronautics Research Resources](#): (all ages) This link takes you to a wide variety of educator resources, Aeronautics@Home, ebooks, National Academies Reports, webinars, lithographs and mini posters, the NASA Aeronautics Research Institute, and more.

[Aeronautics@Home](#): (K-12) This web page contains aeronautics-based activities, videos, games, and more that can be completed at home, in the classroom, or in any number of settings. Topic areas include: "Build It!" "Explore It!" "Watch It!" "Solve It!" "Color It!" and "Aero Educator Resources". Coming soon: "Read It!" and "Do It!"

[Aeronautics Innovations Challenges](#): Keeping up with our many design challenges and opportunities for both post-secondary and K-12 can be tough. In response, we created a "one-stop shop" to pull them all together in one location.

[Flight Log Experience](#): (K-12, post-secondary, general public) Sign up to send your name with NASA Aeronautics on X-planes, UAS flights, and more as you build your virtual NASA flight log. Earn virtual endorsement stamps and mission patches and access aeronautics STEM activities and resources. Educators can sign up their entire class.

[NASA Express Sign-Up](#): (K-12, post-secondary) Have you signed up for NASA's NASA EXPRESS weekly newsletter? This newsletter contains the latest information for educators (K-12 and post-secondary) about new resources, design challenges, internships, and workshops. It is THE go-to for the latest STEM news.

[Aeronaut-X](#): (K-12) Our Next Gen STEM: Aeronaut-X team provides new and exciting STEM activities that focus on cutting-edge aeronautics education and the future of flight.

[Museum and Informal Education Alliance](#): (Informal Educators and Museums) Not in a classroom? Looking for informal education materials? Join NASA's Museum and Informal Education Alliance, where you have access to NASA resources—including aeronautics—for your program, organization, museum, science center, or library. Find out about events happening near you and in the virtual world, and let the MIE Alliance help you build your programs! Access to guest speakers, the latest announcements about grant programs, and an active community network allow you to connect with other like-minded people in a supportive, engaging, and aerospace-focused neighborhood.

[NASA Aeronautics for Educators Facebook Page](#): (K-12, post-secondary) Join our NASA Aeronautics for Educators Facebook page, where the latest aeronautics updates, professional development opportunities, lessons and ideas are freely shared.

[NASA Connects](#): (K-12, post-secondary) NASA Connects is a network of educators who come together to collaborate, share NASA resources, and create personal collections of materials that can then be shared with others. Members can join groups tailored to their specific interests.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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