



UCF STEM AVIATION SHOWCASE

EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF FLIGHT

UCF's Institute of Simulation and Training (IST), working through the UCF Foundation, seeks to encourage STEM education in general, and to promote aviation as a career path. The showcase will feature messages from female and minority pilots and aviation leaders promoting aviation as a career choice. IST will develop both a traveling aviation STEM outreach showcase and a permanent exhibit to live at the Cade Museum in north central Florida to introduce, educate, and inspire young people about aviation and the many career opportunities it offers. Through this outreach and showcase, UCF IST hopes to reach underserved populations who might not otherwise be exposed to aviation and see themselves as future pilots — therefore encouraging a more diverse group of students to pursue aviation. The ultimate goal is to foster interest and excitement about aviation and create a more diverse pipeline and workforce. We aim to reach 25,000 students in year one through partnerships with our school systems and in-kind support from organizations such as the Cade Museum, Kennedy Space Center, Blue Origin, Orange County Public Schools, Orange Technical College, and others.

Our showcase features a variety of activities that puts students in the pilot seat including:

- Full-motion flight simulators from Talon
- Microsoft Flight Simulator
- The Drone Racing League
- Flying actual drones through an obstacle course

Students will also learn about future careers and industries from actual pilots, astronauts, and people working in these fields. We also have postcards from the Club for the Future program sponsored by Blue Origin. Students can fill out one of the postcards while visiting the showcase and have it sent to space on a future Blue Origin mission and have it mailed back to them!

Follow-on activities could include deidentified qualitative and quantitative data reporting beyond total participant count. Future outreach activities may include a virtual showcase, expanded geographic areas, and rotating activities aligned to STEM curriculum and the upcoming launch of the nation's first vertiport in Orlando. We appreciate any support time and interest you can give to this important effort in helping us reach the next generation of young leaders, pilots, astronauts, and aviators.

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Orange County
Public Schools

