



Lauren Featherstone- Francesca Norris Memorial Scholarship - \$5,000

- BS Sociology, University of Texas, Dallas, TX
- AVA Jet Office Manager and Avionics Technician
- Yoga Instructor
- WAI NTX Chapter Girls Day in Aviation Chair, Head Volunteer
- Will use the award at USAA Denton, TX for CFI Rating
- "I wanted to learn about aircraft and thus increase my knowledge as a pilot, even when I didn't have the funds for flight lessons. Initially, I spent my time installing avionics and assisting with maintenance."
- "Coming from an isolated training experience, the North Texas WAI community provided needed encouragement and support for me not to stop at my PPL."
- "Becoming a CFI will allow me to give back in new ways and become a better pilot. I can offer a lot, not only as a female pilot but as someone who has worked with aircraft and their customers for years."





Lisa Konkel - Francesca Norris Memorial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Salt Lake City, UT
- BA Public Communications, College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY
- Delta Air Lines Flight Attendant for 13 years
- WAI Salt Lake Chapter President
- Will use the award for CFI Rating
- "Even with limited interaction, pilots can create memorable experiences for passengers. The most recent notable pilot-passenger interaction I witnessed was a First Officer walking down the aisle before the boarding door was closed to engage with passengers and hand out wings to the children on the flight."
- "As I transition to a pilot career and pursue my ultimate goal of becoming a Captain for Delta Air Lines, I want to continue to have the opportunity to make meaningful experiences for people."
- "In the future, I look forward to holding an individual membership in The International Society of Women Airline Pilots and following in the footsteps of the trailblazing women before me to help strengthen the voice of women airline pilots."





Natalie Janelli - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Huntley, IL
- BS in Business Administration, Judson University, Elgin, IL
- Certified Flight Instructor @Blue Skies Flying Services, Lake in the Hills, IL
- AOPA Distinguished Flight Instructor Award Recipient – 2021
- Vice President and Mentor Chair Women in Aviation International Chicago's Leading Edge Chapter
- Will use the award for MEI rating
- ISA+21/WAI Francesca Norris Memorial Scholarship Recipient
- "They say aviation runs in your blood, but I didn't realize until 2011 just how true that is. Until I had the opportunity to fly at the controls of a small airplane for the first time, on that very day that I learned two things that would prove pivotal- there ARE female pilots, and I wanted to be one."
- "I was awarded the ISA+21 Francesca Norris Memorial Scholarship, and the scholarship changed my life. Not only did the scholarship help to fund my CFI training, but it also introduced me to ISA+21, where I am now an Aspiring Member."
- "It has been a long road for me to get to my current position, and there have been hurdles and self-doubt along the way. One thing that got me through those hard moments was the constant support and inspiration I received by being involved in WAI and as an Aspiring Member of ISA+21."





Thaca (Dawn) Elkins - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Panama City, FL
- BS of Aerospace Studies, ERAU, Daytona Beach, FL
- Delta Air Lines Flight Attendant
- Certified Flight Instructor @ Island Air Express, Panama City, FL
- Contributed to forming a Women in Aviation chapter for the Treasure Coast of Florida.
- Will use the award for MEI rating
- "My love for aviation began when I was eight years old, and my grandfather took me to a small airport for a Discovery Flight. I learned that aviation leads to not only adventure but could also bring families closer together."
- "My mentors and those watching me go after this dream have kept me motivated and working hard on those days when it gets tough. I have been active in helping mentor three other flight attendants who are working on their pilot's license."
- "As a scholarship recipient, I would continue to influence others towards aviation and to my story of perseverance. I want others to know that no matter their age or circumstance, to believe in themselves and chase their dreams."





Safeeya Mohammed - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Traverse City, MI (Originally from Nigeria)
- BS Aerospace engineering/ pilot studies, University of the West of England, Bristol, AA Applied Science- Aviation, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, IL
- Certified Flight Instructor @ Northwestern Michigan College
- Will use the award for MEI rating
- "The first time I got on a plane was for medical reasons on an international flight to India with my parents and youngest sister. I was 9 years old and still remember the excitement I felt during takeoff, and in that moment, I looked at my dad and said "I want to be a pilot when I grow up."
- "I attended a boarding secondary school in Nigeria for six years, and during which my desire to become a pilot started to become more like a dream. This is because people were raising their concerns to me and my parents about, "she is a girl, what if she gets married, what if she has children"? All these were questions I would get asked often when people found out I wanted to become a pilot. Of course, I had no idea how to respond to these questions".
- My goal is to become an airline pilot back in Nigeria and continue flight instructing so I can inspire and be that figure that a little girl might see and know that this is an option for her. After all, if I can do it, so can she. This is particularly important to me because I didn't see anyone who looked like me who I could look up to growing up."





Shannon Sorg - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Squamish, BC, Canada
- 99s British Columbia chapter volunteer
- Participated in Glacier Air Fly it Forward even to promote aviation to girls
- Worked three jobs to get funds to pay for her flight training costs
- Will use the award for CFI rating
- "My aviation journey started almost three years ago when I booked an introductory flight on a whim. While many of my peers have had financial help towards their training, I am funding my training alone."
- "Even though I have been busy building towards my aviation goals, I have also found time to volunteer to help promote opportunities for women in aviation. I also enjoy volunteering outside of aviation, and I have led fundraising to expand Atsikana Pa Ulendo. Atsikana Pa Ulendo is an all-girls school, providing education in rural parts of Malawi."
- "I want to pursue a career as an airline pilot because the feeling I have when I take off and the freedom that comes with flying is indescribable. Every time I step into the cockpit, I feel like I'm right where I'm supposed to be."





Ceci Strom - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- River Forest, IL
- Skywest Airlines Flight Attendant
- Ice Hockey Instructor and Level 4 USA Hockey Official, NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Referee, International Ice Hockey Federation Referee
- Mom of two young daughters
- Will use the award for CFII rating
- "I grew up in a small town outside of Boulder, Colorado. I was homeschooled, so I cherished every opportunity for social interaction. One such opportunity was to play goalie on a boy's ice hockey team."
- "My interest in becoming a pilot began when a fellow SkyWester took me up in a Cessna 172. As soon as I pulled back on the yoke, I knew. When we landed, I said, "I'm going to be a pilot. This is where I belong."
- " Becoming a pilot has opened up so many doors, and I want to continue forward breaking down more doors, for myself, as well as the future generations of pilots and young women who do not yet know how capable they are." _





Bella Capuano - ISA+21/Spirit Airlines Scholarship - \$5,000

- Waco, TX
- Junior at Baylor University, Waco, TX BS Aviation Science
- Deans list
- Student Aviation Organization vice-president
- WAI volunteer for GIAD
- Volunteering and mentoring for EAA, Red-Tailed Hawks Flying Club
- Will use the award for CFII rating
- "My dream of flying has become a reality through involvement in several aviation classes, clubs, and enrolling in the Baylor Aviation Science program. As a first-generation pilot, I have faced hurdles such as figuring out the pilot training path and how to finance my education."
- "There are numerous reasons I aspire to become a commercial airline pilot. First, I love flying! The job is challenging and exciting and has the best "office" space I can imagine."
- "I would be proud to serve in the aviation industry because of its vital role in our economy and society, linking people and products to their loved ones and business partners. I also aspire to expand the sisterhood of women in aviation by being a mentor and role model."





Cassidy Farias ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Prescott, AZ
- Student at Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ, AS Aerospace Science
- Dispatcher at flight school, Swim Instructor and Life Guard
- Numerous volunteer hours at Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Humane Society
- “When faced with the question, ‘what do you want to be when you grow up,’ these are very common answers for young girls. I used to love seeing the shocked yet impressed looks on my family and friend’s faces when five-year-old me told them, ‘I want to fly planes when I grow up.’”
- “I want to become a pilot to allow people the same opportunities I’ve had, to travel for the rest of my life, and for the unforgettable feeling and views that no other career can give.”
- “The feeling I get when I fly is an indescribable feeling of freedom and pride and astonishment all at the same time.”





Jocelyn Evert - ISA+21 Financial Scholarship - \$5,000

- Sterling Heights, MI
- Senior at Ohio University, Athens, OH, BS Aviation Flight & Aviation Management
- Dispatcher at Ohio University Flight line
- WAI Ohio University chapter president
- Engineering Ambassador
- Will use the award for CFI rating
- “I was delayed when the airport closed due to COVID Procedures. Nevertheless, this did not stop me. I excelled in the online, hybrid, and in-person courses. When COVID restrictions were finally lifted enough for the airport to open again, I truly took off. In the last year, I have completed several flight courses.”
- “If I am not working as a dispatcher at the airport, you can often find me talking to the mechanics or linemen. I could also be volunteering through the Engineering Ambassadors or performing acrobatics on College Green.”
- “I have enjoyed teaching for an extremely long period of time and would love to share my knowledge and experiences with anyone who wants to learn. However, I also want to see the world through the airlines.”





Carly Oden - ISA+21 Type Rating Scholarship

Lakeville, MN

- Bachelor of Science, Aeronautical Science - ERAU, Prescott, AZ
- FO at SkyWest Airlines
- Aviation Courseware Developer
- Took some time off to balance family life and to raise her son
- WAI Board Member and Secretary, Stars of the North Chapter
- WAI Girls in Aviation Day Volunteer
- FAST, Board Mentor Program Chair

"I came home from a 3rd grade assembly where a Top Gun pilot from nearby Miramar Naval Air Station came to talk about flying. To say I was hooked is an understatement. My parents were beyond supportive, my dad taking me to any airshow we could find and my mom always having an encouraging word and helping with schoolwork."

"I would like to be able to share my story and be able to show women that truly anything is possible. I love flying and I am beyond excited to even have the opportunity to apply to be able to fly one of these aircraft."





Maria Rinadli- ISA+21 Type Rating Scholarship

- Salt Lake City, Utah
- Bachelor of Arts, Art Education – South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD
- Captain at SkyWest Airlines
- Art Instructor
- Lived and taught art in Spain and Vietnam
- From zero flight hours to regional airline FO – 3,5 years
- WAI GIAD Volunteer
- ISA+21 Volunteer
- “Growing up, art and music came naturally to me, whereas math and science did not. A career dream of mine was to be a broadcast meteorologist but after one meteorology class and not giving it my all, my default was, “Well, I’m just not good at science, so art it is.”
- “One road was choosing between a dream experience of teaching art abroad and living in a different country or the other road starting a brand new career in aviation. This was a tough decision because my parents taught me, “Seniority is everything.” I chose the first option and accepted a job in Vietnam with the mindset, “If I am still thinking of flying by the time my contract ends in one year, then I will come back home and begin flying.”

