WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES’ MISSION IS TO EDUCATE AND INSPIRE PEOPLE OF ALL AGES ABOUT AVIATION AND SPACE ENDEAVORS OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.
Dear Members and Friends:

Annual reports often focus on numbers—funds raised, guests welcomed, events hosted… All of that information and more are found on the following pages. Allow me this opportunity to address something as important, as critical, as our budget.

Wings Over the Rockies, both our location in historic Lowry, Denver and our new campus at Exploration of Flight at Centennial Airport, is a community to us. A home.

Our staff works tirelessly to fulfill our mission to “inspire and educate people of all ages about aviation and space endeavors of the past, present, and future.”

Our volunteers are the engine that drives our passion. Their generosity of time, energy, and—yes—donations inspire us daily. From our young Wing Aerospace Academy students to Civil Air Patrol cadets to our WWII veterans, Wings’ volunteers take a role in every aspect of our museum, every day. We would be nowhere without them.

Our members and guests are like an extended family to us. Whether we see you once a week or once a year, we cherish the time you spend with us.

Our donors and sponsors see the impact we have and choose to stand with us as we grow ever more ambitious, knowing that the work we do today will be reflected for generations to come.

Is there anything more precious than community? Is there anything more glorious than inspiration? Is there anything better than that moment when you see a new world of possibilities open up right in front of someone’s eyes?

We are awash in awe and gratitude every day. We are honored to have our place in your minds and in your hearts. We look up, always, and hope you will join us as we explore the majesty of the skies, and vastness of space, and the incredible depth of support and love you share with us.

Thank you all for everything you do for Wings, and for inspiring us every day.

John L. Barry, Maj. Gen, USAF (Ret)
WINGS PROVIDES A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR KIDS AND STUDENTS TO GET EXCITED ABOUT AVIATION, SCIENCE AND CAREERS IN AVIATION.

- Robert M. Anderson, Wings Member since 2003
CONSTRUCTION COMMENCES ON WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES’ SECOND LOCATION

After more than a decade of planning and fundraising, Wings Over the Rockies' broke ground on its unique to the nation entertainment and education campus, Exploration of Flight.

Designed to incorporate future-focused aviation and space centers, Exploration of Flight is a 15-acre campus located on the south side of Centennial Airport in Englewood, Colorado. The sister facility to Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum in Denver’s Lowry neighborhood, Exploration of Flight will be housed at one of the busiest general aviation airports in the nation, offering visitors incredible experiences that focus on aerospace.

Phase 1, the Boeing Blue Sky Aviation Gallery is NOW OPEN at Centennial Airport.

Blue Sky Gallery Construction Begins
Taken during the first hour of excavation in late July 2017, this photo shows initial work being done on the Exploration of Flight Blue Sky Gallery.

Excavation
Heavy equipment works beneath grade level of the future Boeing Blue Sky Aviation Gallery to prepare soils for the 19,000 square foot first phase facility.

Blue Sky Gallery Open for business
After a year of hard work, the Boeing Blue Sky Aviation Gallery opened its doors at Centennial Airport.
ADMISSIONS, MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS

Point to note: The Air & Space Museum experienced a 24% bump in general admission visitation between calendar year 2016 and calendar year 2017.

CURATOR’S CORNER

- Began restoration of an O-2 Skymaster to be a Vietnam FAC “Tribute” aircraft.
- Opened the DaVinci traveling exhibit in March.
- Opened “Be the Astronaut” traveling exhibit in October.
- Put on display a fully restored Titan I engine completed by Spartan College.
- Opened the Colorado Skies exhibit on general aviation in the state thanks to the generosity of Terry Combs.
- Shipped Wings’ traveling exhibit on aviation artist James Dietz to Cradle of Aviation Museum and Museum of Flight.
- Installed the DORON multi-seat, family oriented flight simulator.
- Received UH-1 “Huey” and Alouette III helicopters for display.
- Filmed 11 episodes of the ground-breaking and internationally acclaimed series “Behind the Wings.”
EDUCATION

From hands-on summer camps to our one-of-a-kind Teacher Flight Program, Wings continued its mission of educating and inspiring in 2017.

- 227 fun-loving camp attendees
- 103 educators flown
- 46 WAA students educated
Events

Wings Over the Rockies again captured community interest with dozens of exciting and innovative events. From breaking a single-day museum record with Star Wars at the Hangar, to the revolutionary Girls STEAM Day, events continued to excite the Wings’ community, young and young at heart.

Wings was honored to recognize the incredible work done by Flight For Life Colorado at its annual Gala. With more than 700 people in attendance Wings celebrated this amazing homegrown organization with a night of pageantry.
Beginning October, 2017, WAA students have been collectively building an RV-12 kit aircraft that will eventually be flown and sold. Students are supervised by an outstanding collection of staff and volunteers that have seen the build progress on-schedule.

Sponsored by Jeppesen

Statements written by WAA students about their experience building the RV-12 airplane

Why do you like building the RV-12?

Participation in this build provides useful skills, this being the ability to work together as a group and to provide us with a unique skill set. The first benefit, working together, helps us to gain a better sense of not only working under pressure but working with people that we may or may not have similarities with. When we work with a variety of students, we are able to get to know someone for what they may have in common with us and how their work ethic may be. The second benefit that we gain by taking part in this build is being able to gain a variety of skills that we are also able to use in our everyday lives. When we are working on the build, we are provided independence. This gives us the opportunity to work with integrity. Integrity is a skill that is often overlooked as it is not normally seen everywhere you go, however, it is a skill that “lightens the load” on others and gives you a better sense of responsibility. We also gain the ability to better understand how to work with tools. For example, learning to use tools that range from a simple drill to a pneumatic rivet gun. Both skills are useful for not only everyday life, but a job that requires knowing how to use tools.

What is the vision?

Our vision for this build is be able to make something with grace and perfection that will lead to a seamless build for the aircraft. We also would like to have it fly. All good work pays off, and since we have put a lot of hard work into this build. We would like it to pay off. Another vision for this is to use our unique skills later in life.

What are your hopes and dreams for this project?

Our dreams for this build are to have it successfully function and fly without any problems. We also wish that whoever pilots our forged aircraft will continue to follow their dreams as we did. We made this build to watch it be able to take off freely and fly high in the sky to not only symbolize triumph, but to show how much determination and willpower we have. Everyone has at least envisioned this aircraft soaring in the sky like a bird, moving freely through the air with no flaws or errors and envisioned the smiling face of the lucky pilot who gets our work at the end of this long, but fun project.

- Wings Aerospace Academy Students
The museum’s 2017 operating revenues and expenses are summarized in the charts below.

2017 operating revenues increased approximately $2,100,000 from 2016, primarily as a result of increasing admissions and donations to the capital campaign for the Centennial site. The museum’s earned revenues from admissions, museum programs, store sales and memberships were up approximately 23% over 2016.

Contributions, admissions and facility rentals were the three largest sources of operating revenues in 2017 and 2016.

2017 operating expenses remained flat at approximately $3,700,000 in both 2017 and 2016 due to continued facility upgrades, openings of new exhibits and the introduction of traveling exhibits.

Accompanying charts show functional operating expenses, including proportional staff time spent on the various museum programs as well as facility operating costs (excluding depreciation).

For an organization that stretches from history to the modern day era of aviation and everything in-between, there’s so much to love about Wings and what it can offer, being a part of it allows that wealth of information to touch as many people as possible from all around the world.

- Rusty Lewis, Wings Board Member
$3,658,463
2017 OPERATING EXPENDITURES
(EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION)

- General & Administrative: 27%
- Education: 16%
- Corporate Events: 14%
- Capital Campaign: 11%
- Restoration & Exhibits: 8%
- Fundraising: 7%
- Admissions: 7%
- Special Events: 4%
- Museum Store: 3%
- Membership: 2%
- Membership: 2%

2017 UNRESTRICTED INCOME

- Grants: $367,508
- Special Events: $181,786
- Admissions & Facility: $1,969,859
- Museum Store (net): $85,541

WingsMuseum.org
ExplorationOfFlight.org
## DONORS – ORGANIZATIONAL

### $1,000,000 +
- Gates Frontier Fund
- Ozmen Foundation

### $250,000 - $500,000
- Scientific and Cultural Facilities District

### $100,000 - 249,999
- Hugh and Michelle Harvey Family Foundation

### $25,000 - $99,999
- Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp.
- Daniels Fund
- IHS Global Inc
- Jeppesen
- Peak Beverage Catering Inc.
- Peggy & Steve Fossett Foundation
- San Diego Air & Space Museum
- Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA)

### $10,000 - $24,999
- Air Methods Corporation
- Cessna Aircraft Company Textron
- Centura Health
- Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation
- Craig Hospital
- El Pomar Foundation
- EnCana Oil and Gas
- MDC Holdings, Inc/Richmond American Homes Foundation
- Sunborne XVI, LTD.

### $5,000 - $9,999
- Alpine Bank
- Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority
- City and County Of Denver, CO Denver International Airport
- Gorman Family Foundation
- Hangar 2 Partners
- Kaiser Permanente
- Larimer Associates
- Lowry Community Master Association, Inc.
- Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation
- Mizel Institute
- Phelps Engineering
- Sierra Nevada Corporation
- UCHealth
- University of Colorado at Boulder

### $2,500 - $4,999
- Leevers Supermarket, Inc.
- Republic National Distributing Company
- Wember Inc.

### $1,000 - $2,499
- Colorado Hospital Association
- D2C Architects, Inc.
- Hudick Excavating, Inc.
- Iron Mike Construction, LLC
- Nycum Family Foundation
- Scientific & Cultural Collaborative
- TEGNA Foundation

### $500 - $999
- Angelo Iafrate Construction Company
- High Altitude Apparel LTD
- Morgan Stanley
- Volks Inc.

### $250 - $499
- Cleaveland Tool LLC
- Community First Foundation
- Genius Productions
- Happy Family Brands
- Kona Ice
- Lowry Family Dentistry, LLC
- MB Beverage Co, LLC
- NORCAL Group
- Open Door Brewing Company
- Oskar Blue Brewery

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“I support Wings over the Rockies to honor my late father, Floyd H. "Casey" Clark, Army Air Corps vet B-17 ball turret gunner, and to continue his legacy of providing the opportunity for children of all ages to experience the wonder of aviation through history and "hands on" experience.”

- Valerie Clark
  Wings Member and Donor since 2008
### DONORS – INDIVIDUAL

**$100,000 +**
- Terry and Fran Combs
- Mark Cytrynbaum

**$25,000 - $99,999**
- Anthony and Delisa Mayer
- Stephen Strachan

**$10,000 - $24,999**
- Linda Chowdry
- Kathleen and August Geise
- Lou and Tanis Hutchison
- Chris and Carren Leevers
- Mike Marcotte

**$5,000 - $9,999**
- John and Ellen Barry
- Steven Lindsey
- Conor and Heather McCallin
- Victor and Deonna Moseley
- Tim and Kathryn Ryan
- Ronald and Sheila Smith

**$2,500 - $4,999**
- Mike and Gabrielle Allen
- Jessica Castellano and Joseph Del Guidice
- Scott and Jan DeLuise
- Bill Fowler
- James and Joyce Jeppesen
- Jay and Carolyn McCormick
- John and Lynn Raber
- Collin and Jane Scott
- Steven and Debbie Woodward

**$1,000 - $2,499**
- Greg and Beth Anderson
- Walter Berger
- James Castellano
- Valerie Clark
- Donald Crandall
- Willie and Perezza Daniels
- Howard and Laury Edwards
- Megan Fisher
- Terry and Kay Johnson

**$500 - $999**
- Emanuel Anton
- Matthew Burchette and Julie Dugan
- George and Angela Bye

**$250 - $499**
- Guendolyn and Brain Argrow
- Danny Brown
- Catherine and Francis Burzik

### DONORS – WINGSSPAN

**$1,000,000 +**
- Anthony and Delisa Mayer Foundation
- Ozmen Foundation
- The Boeing Company
- Peter Paul Luce
- Gates Frontiers Fund
- Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority

**$500,000 - $999,000**
- Jeppesens
- Carl M. Williams
- Ball Aerospace Technologies Corp.
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**$100,000 - $499,000**
- David Fetter
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- Kathryn and Tim Ryan
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- Fries Foundation
- Michelle and Hugh Harvey Foundation
- Stephen M. Strachan
- Tom & Cyndy Marsh

**$50,000 - $99,000**
- Chris and Carren Leevers
- Greg and Beth Anderson
- JFM Foundation
- Jim Williamson

**$25,000 - $49,000**
- CH2M
- John M. Fox
- International Jet Aviation
- John and Lynn Raber
- John Earley

**$10,000 - $24,000**
- Viki and Jack Thompson

**$5,000 - $9,000**
- The family of Paul E. Richter, Jr., TWA
- James and Joyce Jeppesen
- Anonymous
- Robb and Masako James
- Scott and Jan DeLuise
- Philip and Robin Ecklund
- AECOM
- A. Barry and Arlene Hirschfeld, Honoring Jack Thompson and Carl Williams
- Cathleen S. Van Buskirk and Rusty the Canine Copilot
- Charlie Johnson
- The Kettering Family Foundation
- The family of Paul E. Richter, Jr., TWA
- James and Joyce Jeppesen
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- John M. Fox
- International Jet Aviation
- John and Lynn Raber
- John Earley
During the Vietnam War, the Bell UH-1 “Huey” helicopter played a vital role in transporting troops into and out of the battlefield. Additionally, they delivered supplies, evacuated wounded soldiers, and served as gunships to suppress enemy fire. The use of the Huey was so widespread that it became the unofficial symbol of the war. From the rivers of the Mekong Delta to the Highlands near the DMZ, the Huey served in nearly every role available.

Wings Over the Rockies is proud to have a complete Huey “Mike model” gunship on display. Donated to the Museum in late 2017, “Sweet Sioux” is a Vietnam combat veteran having served two tours “in country” and gaining over 30 bullet holes in her fuselage during her time there. To truly do justice to this important piece of American history, Wings Museum will be building diorama around the aircraft that shows her in a typical helicopter environment.

Additionally, the museum is excited to welcome a very significant aircraft that represents a turning point in emergency medical services. In 1972, Denver’s “Flight for Life” became the first hospital-based helicopter ambulance service in the world. They chose the Aerospatiale Alouette III for its excellent performance in Colorado’s high-altitude environment. Flight for Life became the model for hundreds of similar services around the world. This turbine-powered helicopter can carry two patients, plus two flight nurses and a pilot, at about 130 miles per hour. These highly-skilled professionals provide advanced life support while transporting severely-injured people to hospital heliports much faster than ground-bound ambulances. When fully restored, this helicopter will help tell a story of Colorado innovation that has saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of people all over the world.

Special thanks to Col. Bill McPherson and Flight for Life Colorado
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