Dear Members and Friends,

We have all had time—much time—to reflect on the past year of upheaval. Many of us were affected by COVID; we have lost family and friends, or been hurt ourselves. As a nation, we faced job losses, school closures, shortages, violence and anger. Through it all, we persevered.

Wings Over the Rockies is proud to share with you that we have weathered the turmoil, and have taken this time to not only take care of our staff and volunteers, but also our museum and flight facility. We have rearranged our floor exhibits and artifacts at our Lowry location. We have reinvented our Weekend Showcases at Exploration of Flight, and we have developed new tools and programming that now allow for guests to find us and experience the magic of Wings both in-person and virtually.

We are grateful to have been the recipient of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, designed to save jobs. We are grateful to SCFD for maintaining the donation of critical operating funds. We are grateful to our partners and donors, whose understanding and generosity sustained us through the months of enforced closure, and the months of very carefully managed open hours.

Most of all, we are grateful to you.

Your support, your interest, your refusal to give up the dream and the mission of educating and inspiring everyone on aerospace of the past, present, and future, have held us up and propelled us forward. Through you, we were able to create new virtual tours, new online engagements, and to continue to carefully host in-person events such as camps and classes. We were inspired to join the millions of people who spent their 2020 creating content, sharing knowledge, and reaching out.

Now, as we see our restrictions begin to relax, as our community recovers from the turmoil, we are equally proud to BE HERE FOR YOU. We have weathered the upheaval, and remain your air and space museum, one of the best in the nation, and we will continue to commit and recommit ourselves to our mission and to you—our friends who make it all possible.

With gratitude, with joy, and with determination,

PRESIDENT

JOHN L. BARRY
Major General, USAF (Ret)
2020 YEAR END REVIEW

2020 PANDEMIC IMPACT
(Closed March-June)

- Received City & County of Denver Site Variance

100% Staff Remained Intact

OPEN 6 DAYS/WEEK

FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

53 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED (2019-2020)

OVER $250K IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

THANKS TO THE RAY FOUNDATION!

THREE NEW EXHIBITS

STUDENTS ENROLLED

56

40% INCREASE OVER 2019

56% INCREASE OVER 2019

IDEA COMMITTEE FOCUS

The IDEA Committee formalized to initiate systemic and organizational change.

WINGS AEROSPACE PATHWAYS

BEHIND THE WINGS

17 VIDEOS PRODUCED OVER 100K YOUTUBE VIEWS

OVER 4 MILLION YOUTUBE VIEWS

65K+ SUBSCRIBERS

BEHIND THE WINGS F-14 TOMCAT SURPASSES 1 MILLION YOUTUBE VIEWS

AEROSPACE THRUST CAMPAIGN

MARCH-JUNE

2020 PANDEMIC IMPACT

 backs

THANKS TO THE RAY FOUNDATION!

OVER $250K IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

“20 BEST AVIATION MUSEUM AROUND THE WORLD”

NAMED

BY

WINGSMUSEUM.ORG EXPLORATIONOFFLIGHT.ORG
As the pandemic lasted through the year and allowable capacity in the museum remained low, Wings shifted the focus to hosting smaller private events. In continuous accordance with CDC guidelines, Wings was able to safely host a variety of small events including family gatherings, meetings and more, thanks to the large, open space in each hangar.

At the end of June, Wings was among few other facilities in Denver permitted to reopen and remain open throughout the remainder of the year. The museum offers an indoor environment with 90-foot ceilings and 180,000 square feet which we divided into zones to distance visitors and meet social distancing guidelines.

Given the unique advantages provided by the museum’s interior space and the measures adopted to minimize the risk of infection, the museum continued to offer a safe environment for visitors, volunteers and staff.

### Events

- **Total private events at both locations**: 69
- **Total private events at museum**: 56
- **Total private events at EoF**: 13

### Admissions, Membership and Volunteers

- **Total General Admission**: 39,177
- **Total Volunteers**: 247
- **Total Volunteer Hours**: 11,981
- **Total Museum Tours**: 78
- **Total Tour Participants**: 1,630
- **Total Museum Tours at EoF**: 56
- **Total Tour Participants at EoF**: 13
- **Total Museum Tours at Wings**: 22
- **Total Tour Participants at Wings**: 54

---

Wings shifted the focus to hosting smaller private events.
Throughout 2020, guests attended weekend showcases on the 100,000 square feet Clay Lacy Field of Dreams Flight Ramp, rented simulators and enjoyed Exploration of Flight six days a week! In September, Exploration of Flight opened its doors to visitors Tuesday through Sunday for guests to enjoy the gallery, simulators, store and more.

In July, the Colorado Chapter of the Ninety-Nines, an international organization of women pilots, painted the compass rose at Exploration of Flight. A compass rose is a large symbol painted at airports to help align and adjust the magnetic compasses in airplanes. As shown, the Ninety-Nines use distinctive blue and white colors for their compasses.

Exploration of Flight also provided flight experiences to dozens of students, teachers and guests through Young Eagles, Wings Teacher Flight Program and Stearman donation flights.

As part of Exploration of Flight’s campus commitment to the next generation of aerospace professionals, Wings Over the Rockies was proud to celebrate the grand opening of Colorado School Academy’s new building, welcoming in 236 students on August 17, 2020.

Donation flight total earned: $6,960
Total simulator flights flown: 1,883
Young Eagles flown: 209
Teacher Envos flown: 50
Active Teacher Envoy Participants: 120

Free to public: 1,799
Rentals: 84

WINGSMUSEUM.ORG
EXPLORATIONOFFLIGHT.ORG
The Education department continued to educate and inspire students of all ages through aerospace-themed camps and Wings Aerospace Pathways™. In the spring of 2020, Education transitioned Wings Aerospace Pathways to a virtual format and finished the school year online. Throughout the year, Education expanded their reach to new schools and districts, and worked to allow their students to participate in Wings Aerospace Pathways. Despite classroom enrollment limitations enforced for best safety practices, enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year saw the largest number of high school students yet!

In June and July, Wings Over the Rockies partnered with the Michigan Space Grant Consortium to provide up to 180 elementary, middle and high school students virtual STEM camps. These virtual camps, also available to students in Colorado and beyond, covered a wide range of topics including remote drone racing, engineering for space design, living on Mars and more. A limited number of smaller in-person camps also took place in July.

Wings Over the Rockies™ is thrilled to offer flight training scholarships to Colorado students ages 15-18. The funds have generously been provided by the Ray Foundation and offer students an opportunity to work towards Private Pilot Certification in gliders or single engine airplanes. Scholarship recipients are each supported by a Wings Over the Rockies Wingman mentor. All Wingmen mentors are experienced pilots, and each support no more than five scholarship recipients. They provide expertise in flight training, offer career advice, answer questions, and ensure each recipient has consistent support as they work toward a private pilot certificate in gliders or powered airplanes.

### JAMES C. RAY FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

“Aviation has been a passion of my life for as long as I can fully remember. Wings Over The Rockies has presented an opportunity of a lifetime for me. Aviation is difficult to get into. It has tedious costs that few can pay. With the help from Wings Over the Rockies, I am able to turn my research into reality, my passion into a career, and my dreams into a true, inspiring story of my own.”

- Sterling Smith

“Aviation has been a passion of my life for as long as I can fully remember. Wings Over The Rockies has presented an opportunity of a lifetime for me. Aviation is difficult to get into. It has tedious costs that few can pay. With the help from Wings Over the Rockies, I am able to turn my research into reality, my passion into a career, and my dreams into a true, inspiring story of my own.”

- Syndney Loos

### EDUCATION

The Education department continued to educate and inspire students of all ages through aerospace-themed camps and Wings Aerospace Pathways™. In the spring of 2020, Education transitioned Wings Aerospace Pathways to a virtual format and finished the school year online. Throughout the year, Education expanded their reach to new schools and districts, and worked to allow their students to participate in Wings Aerospace Pathways. Despite classroom enrollment limitations enforced for best safety practices, enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year saw the largest number of high school students yet!

In June and July, Wings Over the Rockies partnered with the Michigan Space Grant Consortium to provide up to 180 elementary, middle and high school students virtual STEM camps. These virtual camps, also available to students in Colorado and beyond, covered a wide range of topics including remote drone racing, engineering for space design, living on Mars and more. A limited number of smaller in-person camps also took place in July.

### EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Total camp attendees in 2020:** 201
  - Both virtually and in person
- **Total number of WAP students in 2020:** 56
- **WAP Graduates:** 5
- **Total number of WAP students:** 56
  - 7 Students received college credit from Spartan College
  - 7 Students completed Ground School
  - 7 Students passed the FAA Part 107 Drone License
  - 7 Students soloed a Remote Control plane
  - 7 Student hours spent building the RV-12
- **Wings Over the Rockies TM is thrilled to offer flight training scholarships to Colorado students ages 15-18. The funds have generously been provided by the Ray Foundation and offer students an opportunity to work towards Private Pilot Certification in gliders or single engine airplanes. Scholarship recipients are each supported by a Wings Over the Rockies Wingman mentor. All Wingmen mentors are experienced pilots, and each support no more than five scholarship recipients. They provide expertise in flight training, offer career advice, answer questions, and ensure each recipient has consistent support as they work toward a private pilot certificate in gliders or powered airplanes.

### JAMES C. RAY FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Total scholarships given:** 42
- **Total recipients who soloed:** 22
- **Total recipients who became certified:** 7

“Aviation has been a passion of my life for as long as I can fully remember. Wings Over The Rockies has presented an opportunity of a lifetime for me. Aviation is difficult to get into. It has tedious costs that few can pay. With the help from Wings Over the Rockies, I am able to turn my research into reality, my passion into a career, and my dreams into a true, inspiring story of my own.”

- Sterling Smith

“Aviation has been a passion of my life for as long as I can fully remember. Wings Over The Rockies has presented an opportunity of a lifetime for me. Aviation is difficult to get into. It has tedious costs that few can pay. With the help from Wings Over the Rockies, I am able to turn my research into reality, my passion into a career, and my dreams into a true, inspiring story of my own.”

- Syndney Loos

### WINGS AEROSPACE PATHWAYS

Wings Over the Rockies™ is thrilled to offer flight training scholarships to Colorado students ages 15-18. The funds have generously been provided by the Ray Foundation and offer students an opportunity to work towards Private Pilot Certification in gliders or single engine airplanes. Scholarship recipients are each supported by a Wings Over the Rockies Wingman mentor. All Wingmen mentors are experienced pilots, and each support no more than five scholarship recipients. They provide expertise in flight training, offer career advice, answer questions, and ensure each recipient has consistent support as they work toward a private pilot certificate in gliders or powered airplanes.
Despite a global pandemic and months-long closure of the museum, 2020 had several bright spots. Generous donors provided three new aircraft to Wings collection:
- Paser-Bushby Mustang II
- Rotorway Scorpion II helicopter
- Zipline Quail medical drone

The Curatorial team welcomed Stewart Bailey as our new Exhibits and Collections Manager. Stewart brought decades of experience from his work at other aerospace museums. The closure also provided a unique opportunity to rearrange some of the aircraft. After weeks of careful planning, the Curatorial team moved more than 20 aircraft and spacecraft. They also brought the Century Series fighter jets together, allowing visitors to have a better viewing experience.

**THE MiG MOVES IN:**

The MiG-23 Flogger arrived at the museum in 2019, but was kept outside the hangar due to inoperable landing gear. After extensive research, our resourceful Restorations team safely lowered the landing gear about a year after the aircraft arrived at Wings. In August, the Restorations team successfully brought the MiG-23 into the hangar where guests can enjoy it up close!

**NEW EXHIBITS:**

The “Drones” traveling exhibit opened in January. Due to the museum’s closure, Imagine Exhibits extended its run into July.

The “World War II and YOU” exhibit opened in September. In addition to commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, this exhibit highlighted technology and products developed during the war that are affecting our lives in some surprising ways today.

In September, Wings proudly opened “Lest We Forget: WWII,” a smaller version of the “Lest We Forget: The Mission” sculpture exhibit on display at the National WWII Museum in New Orleans. The three-figure sculpture by World War II aviator Major Fredric Arnold, USAAC (Ret.) honors and preserves the heritage of the American combat pilots for future generations.

**THE MIG MOVES IN:**

The MiG-23 Flogger arrived at the museum in 2019, but was kept outside the hangar due to inoperable landing gear. After
The museum’s 2020 revenues and expenses are summarized in the charts below.

Total revenues for 2020 declined by nearly 37% from 2019 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon reopening, operating hours were reduced and admission, sales and event limitations were implemented. This action directly impacted all revenue categories of the museum. Fortunately, the museum received relief funding through the federally sponsored Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The proceeds of the PPP loan were forgiven at the end of 2020.

As a breakdown, philanthropic contributions (40.5%), PPP and other loan forgiveness (17.6%), an SCFD Grant (13%), visitor admissions (11.2%) and corporate events (5.6%) represented the 5 largest sources of operating revenues for 2020.

2020 operating expenses, excluding depreciation, were reduced by approximately 15% or nearly $800,000 compared to 2019. This was primarily due to a reduction in general supply, utility and maintenance costs, reduced marketing and promotional spending and lower exhibition expenditures due to the pandemic.

"I AM PROUD TO BE A MEMBER AND HOPE MY CONTRIBUTIONS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE HELP OTHERS TO FIND, GROW, AND ENJOY THEIR OWN LOVE OF AVIATION."

– Member Feedback
“WINGS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GREAT PLACE FOR MY KIDS AND FAMILY OVER THE YEARS TO EXPERIENCE GENERAL AND MILITARY AVIATION.”

– Robert Anderson, Member since 2003