



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 30, 2017**

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(Barnstorming Tour photos of a session at Waiakea Intermediate School are available for download at <http://bit.ly/2yeTRKu>. Photo credit: Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor.)

## **Hawaii Island Keiki Soar To New Heights With Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor's Inaugural Barnstorming Tour**

HONOLULU, HI -- More than 500 Hawaii Island sixth graders made history last week as participants of Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor's free STEM program called the Barnstorming Tour. Sixth graders in Hilo, Pahoa and Pahala learned about the science behind aviation when Pacific Aviation Museum's Barnstorming Team traveled to Hawaii Island for the first time over a two-week period, which wrapped up last week Friday. The term "barnstorming" refers to a style of stunt piloting that was performed in the 1920's to showcase pilots' skills and the sturdiness of the planes they flew.

Pacific Aviation Museum's Barnstorming Tour was developed in 2008 by staff at the Museum in collaboration with educators and science advisors from University of Hawaii at Manoa, and since its inception, has reached over 26,000 sixth graders in their classrooms on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and now, Hawaii Island. The 90-minute curriculum is aligned to the Hawaii State Content Standards for Grade 6, and uses hands-on activities that incorporate all elements of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to help

students understand the scientific principals of flight, as well as introduce them to aviation and aeronautic engineering as a viable career.

“It was an amazing education experience for the students and I cannot say enough good things about this program,” said Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science Teacher Charlotte Romo. “As a teacher, I appreciate the level of organization and team work, it was perfectly orchestrated!”

“Students in this area never get opportunities like this,” commented Pahoa Elementary Teacher Channa Uyetake. “You guys (Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor) coming here is an educational experience we would have never dreamed of.”

The Museum’s Barnstorming Team conducted 90-minute sessions at Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science; Pahoa Intermediate; Ka’u High & Pahala Elementary; Ernest Bowen DeSilva; and Waiakea Intermediate, recipient of two separate visits.

Gayle Kamei, STEM Coordinator at Waiakea Intermediate added, “The fun and excitement of taking controls of a flight simulator and experiencing the miracle of flight by controlling a wing in a wind tunnel just doesn’t happen too often in a child’s life. Our sixth graders are actually learning the Laws of Physics first hand. What a unique learning experience for them.”

Costs incurred to bring the Barnstorming Tour and equipment to Hawaii Island was underwritten by a \$5,000 grant from Boeing.

Schools interested in having the Museum bring the free Barnstorming Tour to their classrooms should contact [nick.kann@pacificaviationmuseum.org](mailto:nick.kann@pacificaviationmuseum.org) or call 808-441-1001.

Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to develop and maintain an internationally recognized aviation museum on Historic Ford Island that educates young and old alike, honors aviators and their support personnel who defended freedom in The Pacific Region, and to preserve Pacific aviation history.

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