



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southwest Airlines® funds 900 Neighbor Island students to visit Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum for a day full of exciting history, aviation and STEM programming.

HONOLULU, HI (December 1, 2022) — Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum welcomed its first class of Neighbor Island students participating in the Winter Fest Education Travel Program made possible by Southwest Airlines. In a partnership with the Museum, Southwest® generously donated 500 complimentary travel vouchers and 400 reduced fare vouchers to fly elementary through high school students to Oahu for a full-day excursion.



Second grade students from Maui's Kehei Elementary School was the first class to participate in the Winter Fest Education Travel Program on November 14

[Click here for more photos of their day](#)

“Southwest continues to show appreciation for Island communities and our youth,” said Elissa Lines, Executive Director, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. “Because of this partnership, we are able to expand our reach and provide quality educational programming to keiki across the entire state.”

The Winter Fest Education Travel Program will run through February 2023 and will allow neighbor island students to experience both the impact of this historical site and the STEM programming offered within the Museum's Aviation Learning Center (ALC) – a center designed for interactive learning experiences and activities that give students a hands-on appreciation for flight.

“Every seat on each of the more than 60 daily interisland flights Southwest operates is a place for keeping Island communities connected through our low-fares, unmatched flexibility, value, and Hospitality,” said Kelly Knox, Southwest Airlines’ Leader of Community Outreach across Hawaii. “At the Heart of what we do is helping make important moments, and create new memories with people and places that matter most to those journeying with us. Pearl Harbor and Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum draw thousands of visitors each month and we’re honored to play a role in making it attainable for keiki across the neighbor islands to see first-hand the work to honor this moment in the history of Hawaii.”

During this one-day field trip, students will partake in programming that combines history and aviation science, introducing them to ground school and the fundamentals of flight including the opportunity to bring the power of flight to life with a test flight in the state of the art flight simulators inside the Museum’s ALC. Other programming will identify the history of this American WWII aviation battlefield and the Museum’s aircraft.

To apply for the Winter Fest Education Travel Program, educators are asked to submit a completed application that shares their interest in the learning program, what the anticipated student impact will be, and their commitment to manage their travel manifest and support the logistics to ensure a safe experience. Transportation to and from the Honolulu International Airport will be provided by the Freeman Foundation and additional scholarship opportunities are available through the Museum to cover the cost of admission and meals. Teachers and other school administrators are encouraged to apply or inquire about scholarship opportunities by contacting Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum’s Education Department at Education@PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org or call 808-441-1001.

[Click here for digital assets](#)

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About Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum

[Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum](#) is located on Historic Ford Island, where bombs fell during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. Walk the Pearl Harbor battlefield where the attack began, enter the bullet-scarred hangars, and see the control tower and aircraft of the battle, including a Japanese Zero and the B-17 Swamp Ghost. Hear the stories of World War II heroes and their response to the attack that changed our nation and world. Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum’s mission is to steward American’s first aviation battlefield of World War II. It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that depends on membership, volunteers, and donations for support. To join, volunteer or support, visit www.PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org.

About Southwest Airlines

[Southwest Airlines Co.](#) operates one of the world’s most admired and awarded airlines, offering its one-of-a-kind value and Hospitality at 121 airports across 11 countries, and is the State of Hawaii’s second-largest air carrier of interisland travelers. Southwest took flight in 1971

to democratize the sky through friendly, reliable, and low-cost air travel and now carries more air travelers flying nonstop within the United States than any other airline¹. Famous for an Employee-first corporate Culture, Southwest maintains an unprecedented record of no involuntary furloughs or layoffs in its history. Southwest leverages a unique legacy and mission to serve communities around the world including harnessing the power of its People and Purpose to put communities at the Heart of its success. Learn more by visiting [Southwest.com/citizenship](https://www.southwest.com/citizenship). Southwest is also continuing to develop tangible steps toward achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, including offering Customers an opportunity to help the airline offset its carbon emissions. To be part of the solution, visit [Southwest.com/wannaoffsetcarbon](https://www.southwest.com/wannaoffsetcarbon).

1) U.S. Dept. of Transportation most recent reporting of domestic originating passengers boarded

2) Fulltime-equivalent active Employees

3) 1973-2019 annual profitability

CONTACTS

Shay Peltier, Director of Marketing and Sales

808-441-1011; Shayreen.Peltier@PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org

Brad Hawkins, Southwest Airlines Media Relations

214-792-4847; swamedia@wnco.com