



FROM HERITAGE TO HANGARS

The National Aviation Hall of Fame's programs create pathways that align with Embraer's commitment to aviation's future

Walk into the National Aviation Hall of Fame (NAHF) in Dayton, OH, and you feel it immediately. It is not a gallery of relics but a living engine of imagination and grit that made flight possible and keeps it advancing. Since 1962, NAHF has enshrined more than 270 aviators, innovators, explorers, and leaders whose achievements reshaped how the world moves and connects. Their stories now power education pathways that align with Embraer's commitment to aviation's future. "Every induction is really a challenge to all of us," said Aimee Maruyama, NAHF President & CEO. "It asks what's next, who we can lift, and how we can keep aviation as a force for good."

The Hall's mission is both timeless and timely—to honor excellence

while actively cultivating it through education, mentorship and access. This is philanthropy with purpose, helping grow the talent the industry needs.

Philanthropy That Flies Further

High-impact giving in aviation goes beyond preserving heritage. It opens doors. NAHF's programs reach learners from elementary classrooms to college campuses with a simple conviction: exposure changes trajectories. "Our goal is to make aviation both visible and attainable," said Gregory Schell, Director of Educational Programming and External Relations. "When a student recognizes themselves in the story of an enshrinee, a pathway appears."

Programs like Wings of Women connect young women with accomplished aerospace leaders who serve as mentors and role models. Hands-on learning, traveling exhibits and digital curricula meet students where they are, while partnerships with schools, community groups and industry leaders ensure inspiration turns into skill-building.

For donors, this is philanthropy with measurable lift, funding educator toolkits aligned to STEM standards, scholarships that close gaps, and immersive experiences that demystify aerospace careers. Embraer supports these efforts through targeted program funding, employee mentorship and strategic visibility that extends the Hall's reach to new audiences.



This page: The NAHF, based in Dayton, OH, honors the most influential figures in aviation history, celebrating pioneers, innovators and leaders who have made significant contributions to the field

Opposite: Embraer is broadening NAHF's reach by supporting grants and employee engagement, helping more students access life-changing aviation education

WORDS: Jeanna Wood. IMAGES: Courtesy of National Aviation Hall of Fame

Stories That Scale on PBS

To bring aviation inspiration into homes nationwide, NAHF collaborates on PBS programming that showcases enshrinees and the ideas behind their breakthroughs. Broadcast storytelling amplifies classroom impact and introduces diverse role models to millions of viewers, turning a single story into national momentum for STEM. "Stories are technology," said Maruyama. "They bridge the gap between what is and what could be." PBS distribution helps NAHF turn that bridge into a highway.

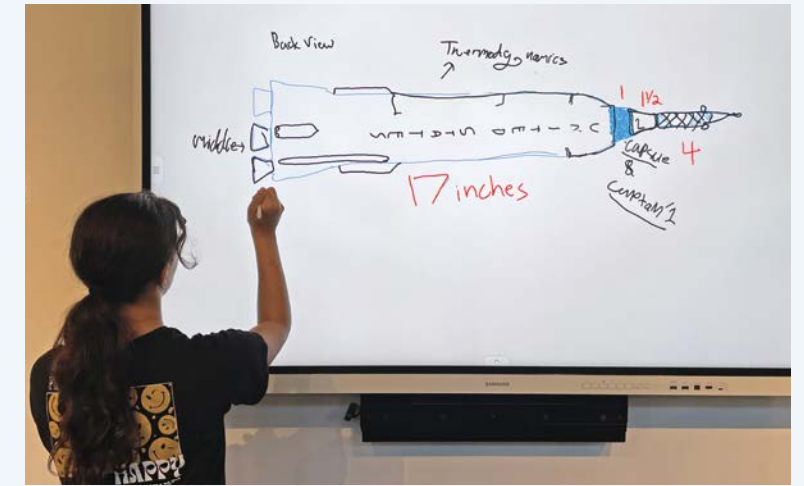
The Enshrinement: More Than a Ceremony

Each year, NAHF's Enshrinement Celebration gathers legends and leaders across flight. The event is elegant by design, but its deeper value lies in connection. New enshrinees stand alongside pilots, entrepreneurs, astronauts, and designers, creating rare intergenerational exchange. "The Enshrinement is the moment where accomplishment becomes obligation," said Maruyama. "Our honorees are role models and active participants in the mission."

Proceeds and visibility from the event propel NAHF's educational agenda for the year ahead. For partners like Embraer, it offers a distinctive platform to align values with visible impact.

Education With Altitude

Today's aviation workforce shortage makes NAHF's efforts especially timely. The Hall's Education Center and mobile programs give students tactile, modern experiences that complement classroom learning—from flight principles and sustainability to advanced manufacturing and avionics. "We design learning that lands," said Schell. "Students build, test, tinker, and reflect. They meet mentors who look like them and speak their language." Many are first-time visitors to an aviation space, and some will become first-generation college students.



Access is intentional. Scholarships, travel stipends, educator training, and programs like Wings of Women ensure the pantheon of aviation visibly welcomes newcomers. Embraer's support helps underwrite this access and pairs funding with human capital, including guest speakers, site visits and mentorship that make career paths concrete.

Stewardship of Stories

Among NAHF's greatest assets is its archival depth. Oral histories, flight logs, design drawings, and personal artifacts carry nuance that textbooks cannot. Digitization efforts make these resources accessible far beyond Dayton, inviting students and enthusiasts worldwide to explore the iterative nature of innovation.

For donors, preserving this living archive ensures inspiration scales. For Embraer, it's an investment in the cultural infrastructure that keeps aviation vibrant and forward-looking.

Why It Matters to Our Community

Aviation has always been about expanding the possible. NAHF embodies that ethos in a way that resonates with Embraer's community of owners, operators and partners. Supporting the Hall is an invitation to participate in a continuum where excellence is honored and extended to the next generation. "Our partners help us seed entire career arcs," said Schell. "A spark in middle school leads to a certification, an internship, a cockpit, a lab, a startup."

That trajectory fuels safety, sustainability, economic vitality, and personal fulfillment in enabling young people to claim a future in flight.

How To Engage

Philanthropy with NAHF can be customized to fit individual passions: underwriting education modules, funding scholarships, supporting the Enshrinement and national outreach, or investing in digital access and archival preservation. Many pair financial support with direct engagement through mentoring or hosting learning experiences.

"The core objective of this partnership—like many of ours—is to expose youth to aviation," shared Monica Newman McCluney, Head of U.S. Corporate Social Responsibility & The Embraer Foundation. "Through both grant funding and employee engagement, we're helping NAHF broaden its reach, welcome more students and give kids greater access to the curriculum that can change their lives."

For those who have benefited from aviation's freedom and possibilities, backing the NAHF is a chance to pay it forward, an elegant investment in human potential and a practical response to the industry's call for talent. Most of all, it keeps alive the spirit that has always defined flight. We rise higher when we do it together. ←