



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: News From the FLYING MUSICIANS ASSOCIATION

Flying Musicians Associations Celebrates 15 Years 2009-2024

July 12, 2024, Fort Worth, TX: The Flying Musicians Association (FMA) turns 15 years old while also celebrating 10 years of their unique learn to fly program/scholarship -**FMA Solo**- at AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI July 22-28, 2024. Join us for a press conference at 10:30 am CDT on Wednesday, July 24, 2004, at the EAA media center.

FMA has surpassed a decade and a half of providing inspiration, education, assistance, and music while surpassing 1,000 members world-wide. Nearly half being student musicians with a huge passion for aviation.

John Zapp, FMA President/CEO, recalls, "*FMA was embraced by the aviation community from day one. AOPA was our first corporate member. At their request, we developed a corporate membership. Almost immediately, the music community came on board. We were selected to be a NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Foundation partner, affording us unfettered access to music merchants across the globe. Now you will see FMA representatives at both The NAMM Show in Anaheim, CA and Summer NAMM in Nashville in addition to aviation events like AirVenture and Sun 'n Fun.*"

The Flying Musicians Association's unique learn to fly program/scholarship "**FMA Solo**" was created 10 years ago with the assistance of Tim Kern. The program has seen exponential growth in the last few years, nearly tripling the nominations from music directors. These students are the best of the best academically and musically while also exhibiting exceptional citizenship skills. As they further mature, their influence on underclassmen will no doubt leave a positive and lasting influence on the aviation and music communities. *FMA student members are our future leaders.*

There have been two impressive new developments in the past 5 years. First was the establishment of a music scholarship to *New York Hot Jazz Camp* - **Swing Wing scholarship**. Then the **FMA Mentor's Ramp** was recently developed to welcome and nurture new student members in both their aviation and music pursuits. The idea was conceived by former scholarship recipient, Jacob Burdette. Jacob was one of two scholarship recipients in 2020 and has since graduated from Kent State with a degree in professional aviation. The initial mentors consisted of past scholarship recipients but now all members are jumping onboard. What a great way to give back.

FMA Solo Scholarships depend on sponsorship from the aviation and music communities -- and you! Please contact Education@FlyingMusicians.org.

"Flying and music are my two passions in life and the Flying Musicians have put both of those together for a great cause. I believe educating the next generation is so important for music and aviation to continue on." – Aaron Tippin

"My wife and I want to help where we can and so we decided to sponsor an FMA scholarship ourselves through the Auen O'Shea Family Fund. Music and aviation are deeply rooted in our family and combining the two through FMA is a worthwhile endeavor. We encourage others to do the same. Visit the FMA website and get inspired yourself, or better yet meet one or more of these impressive young adults. Consider sponsoring a scholarship. It won't break the bank, and it provides a valuable boost for deserving applicants." - Jeff Auen

FMA sponsors are doing their part. Thank them. Join them.

[Bose Aviation](#), [Sporty's Pilot Shop](#), [MYGOFLIGHT](#), [Gleim Aviation](#), [Hartzell Propeller](#), [Daher TBM](#), [Honda](#), [ForeFlight](#), [Flying Eyes Optics](#), [Lockwood Aviation Supplies](#), [US Sport Planes & Jabiru](#), [Sport Flying USA & Bristell](#), [Seaplane Pilots Association](#), Auen O'Shea Family Fund, FMA Denny Scalise Memorial Fund, and many others. FMA also acknowledges [Trade-A-Plane](#), [AviNation](#), [GA News](#), [Aaron Tippin](#), and [121five.com](#) for their extensive help in raising awareness and funds for the FMA programs.

About the Flying Musicians Association, Inc.:

The Flying Musicians Association (FMA) is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit corporation (EIN: 80-0433326) for pilot/musicians, spanning the globe, proficiency levels, and genres. Members share their passions in order to inspire, educate, encourage, and assist through performances, presentations, networking, and scholarships.

Donate or arrange a bequest. If you believe in the joys of music and flying, and the future, there is no better way to make a lasting difference. We're doing it together, one student at a time.

[Support FMA](#)

More:

[Flying Musicians Association, Inc. – A 501\(C\)3 nonprofit organization for pilot/musicians. EIN#: 80-0433326](#)

FMA Solo:

[2024 FMA Solo Recipients Announced – Flying Musicians Association, Inc.](#)

[FMA Solo Program – Follow the progress of the recipient\(s\)... Then visit FlyingMusicians.org.](#)

Swing Wing Scholarship:

[Swing Wing Scholarship – Flying Musicians Association, Inc.](#)

Mentor's Ramp:

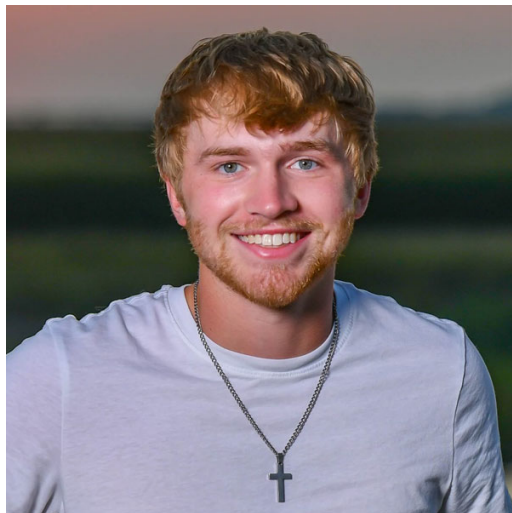
[Mentor's Ramp – Flying Musicians Association, Inc.](#)

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Levi Schroeder

2024 Recipients



Thomas Ye

