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FMA Scholarship Awardee to Attend U. S. Air Force Academy



Flying Musicians 2025 Solo Scholarship Recipient Heading to Air Force Academy

July 19, 2025 - Fort Worth, TX: The Flying Musicians Association (FMA) announces its FMA Solo Scholarship program recipient, Lauren Compton of La Plata, Maryland.

Lauren has begun flight training though she had to pause while attending Basic training at the Air Force academy. Once established as a freshmen cadet, she intends to resume training.

Lauren was immersed in the Civil Air Patrol in high school, where she also played flute, harp, and oboe. Her goal is to learn enough so that "...any aircraft I will design is as safe as possible for its pilots and passengers."

Music is generational in Lauren's family, with her mom and aunt playing flute and grandma playing violin and piano. And aviation: Lauren's great uncle, Buck Compton, served in the 101st Airborne and was one of the Band of Brothers. Another great uncle, Col. Jack Compton, flew rescue missions in Vietnam and piloted Air Force One. Lauren is looking toward continuing her family's musical and aviation tradition.

Scholarship candidates continue to maintain a high standard. FMA continues to receive outstanding nominations from across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. The FMA board had to choose from 6 very well-deserving finalists. Overwhelmed once again with the level of talent and passion. *"As typical all six are well qualified and talented. The decision is not easy."* – Dr. Ian Blair Fries *"Wow, all worthy finalists, what a hard choice!"* – Louise Vickerman, principal harpist Utah Symphony. *"If only we had the resources to fund more scholarships, I would have been delighted to select all five finalists!"* - Prof. H. Paul Shuch *"My heart is saddened knowing there are so many worthy individuals that we are unable to assist. We must do a better job raising funds."* – John Zapp co-founder and President of FMA.

Follow Lauren's progress.

You will want to follow Lauren's progress while she blogs about her learn-to-fly journey, Air Force academy experiences, and musical pursuits (she has applied to perform with the USAFA Drum and Bugle Corps). Visit FMAsolo.org to read more about Lauren.

Please congratulate Lauren and add your words of encouragement and wisdom to her blog.

The floor opens for nominations for the 2026 FMA Solo program this fall. This scholarship is unique, bringing an aspiring music student from zero time to solo. FMA covers roughly fifteen hours of dual instruction, online ground school, training materials, and additional products from sponsors. FMA envisioned and instituted this scholarship program because it recognizes the parallel skills involved in flying and performing music and wants to promote both areas of growth in our inspired and dedicated future leaders.

“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

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

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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, mentoring, networking, and scholarships.

Donate or arrange a bequest. If you believe in the joys and benefits 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. [PayPal.Me/FlyingMusicians](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.flyingmusicians.org/)

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FMA Solo Blog: <https://FMAsolo.org/>

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Pictures of Lauren Compton upon request.

