

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEOMINSTER YOUTH WINS SCHOLARSHIP TO AVIATION CAMP IN WISCONSIN

The GREATER BOSTON EAA CHAPTER 106, with 200 members throughout New England, is proud to announce that **SAMUEL ASHTON** of **LEOMINSTER, MA** is one of three youth who have won an aviation scholarship. This EAA106 scholarship covers tuition and airfare to attend the 8-day EAA Advanced Air Academy in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, this summer.

The annual EAA Chapter 106 Youth Scholarship was established in 2012 to expand the aviation knowledge of youth in New England who have demonstrated, through actions, not just words, their passion for aviation. All three of this year's scholarship winners are working to earn money to pay for their own flight lessons, yet have maintained A's and honors in their academics.

Samuel used to bike four miles to the airport several times a week to watch aircraft and speak with pilots. He took the first job he could get, then took his first paycheck to the flight school to start an account. In addition to flight training, Samuel is also an active member in the Fitchburg Pilots Association/ EAA Chapter 1454 where he volunteers to help with Young Eagles and other events.

Sam expects to qualify to fly solo by late spring and earn his private pilot license the end of the year. He is looking forward to the aviation camp as a way to gain insight into aspects of aviation in which he does not yet have experience, such as construction and maintenance of aircraft.

The EAA Air Academy offers youth ages 16-18 the opportunity to meet and work with aviation professionals, while living and learning the arts, sciences, and lore of aviation in both classroom and workshop settings.

Several days of the Academy take place during the world's largest and most exciting aviation event -- EAA AirVenture 2014. Participants in the EAA Air Academy come from around the United States and several foreign countries.

Academy activities will include flight experiences, workshops (including aircraft construction, restoration and maintenance), and classroom study. EAA's Director of Museum & Museum Education, Bob Campbell, says, "The EAA Air Academy teaches young people new skills and instills a pride of craftsmanship. More importantly, it develops their leadership potential and broadens their understanding of both aviation and themselves. The EAA Air Academy is a benchmark of personal experience . . . and an aviation experience that will last a lifetime."

Campbell added that "those who are interested in attending any of EAA's Air Academy Programs, should write to: Experimental Aircraft Association, Inc., Resident Education Office, PO Box 3086, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903-3086. Applicants need not be EAA members. The prime consideration is an interest and enthusiasm for aviation."

EAA Chapter 106 is the largest of several EAA chapters in New England. Like many of the roughly 1,000 EAA chapters worldwide, EAA106 flies youth on free flight experiences as part of EAA's Young Eagles program. For more information on EAA Chapters and to locate a chapter, go to Programs at EAA.org. For more information on the EAA Young Eagles program, go to YoungEagles.org.

For more information on EAA Chapter 106 and the essays submitted by the 2014 scholarship winners, go to 106.EAAChapter.org.

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