



20
22

The Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day Tribute and Celebration

Celebrating the 81st Anniversary of the Achievements
of the Tuskegee Airmen

ABOUT



[History](#)

[TAI Story](#)

East Coast Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. (ECCTAI) is the largest and the most active chapter in the national organization. The chapter has approximately **180 members** with diverse backgrounds that include active duty and retired military, civil servants, and private citizens from all walks of life. More than 50 Chapter members are **Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen** (DOTAs), combat veterans of World War II who received their military training at Tuskegee, Alabama.

Locally, ECCTAI supports many educational, charitable and philanthropic activities, including the Tuskegee Airmen Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Squadron. Chapter members enthusiastically participate in the annual District of Columbia National Guard Aviation Career Day. This event, held at Andrews Air Force Base, attracts more than **2,000 young students** each year and gives students the opportunity to meet and talk with members of the military, airline industry, scientific and educational community, as well the Federal, State, and local government organizations as they present career and employment opportunities.

ECCTAI is a duly chartered US 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation.

East Coast Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

MISSION & VISION



ECCTAI supports the national goals of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., to **motivate, inspire and stimulate young people's minds** to aspire to, seek and achieve successful careers in the fields of aviation and aerospace. To this end, ECCTAI members devote considerable time, effort and financial resources to capture young minds, to instill the undying will to learn, sacrifice and attain a self-sustaining status with marketable skills. Each year ECCTAI provides more than \$15,000 in Education Assistance grants.

TUSKEGEE EXPERIENCE

“That is anyone--man or woman, military or civilian, black or white--who served at Tuskegee Army Air Field or in any of the programs stemming from the ‘Tuskegee Experience’ between the years 1941 and 1949 is considered to be a Documented Original Tuskegee Airman (DOTA).”

16-19K

Documented Original
Tuskegee Airman

996

Total pilot graduates

352

Pilots deployed
overseas (Europe) for
combat duty

15,533

Total Combat Sorties

East Coast Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

The Tuskegee Airmen
received the following
combat awards:

3

Presidential
Unit Citation

96

Distinguished
Flying Cross

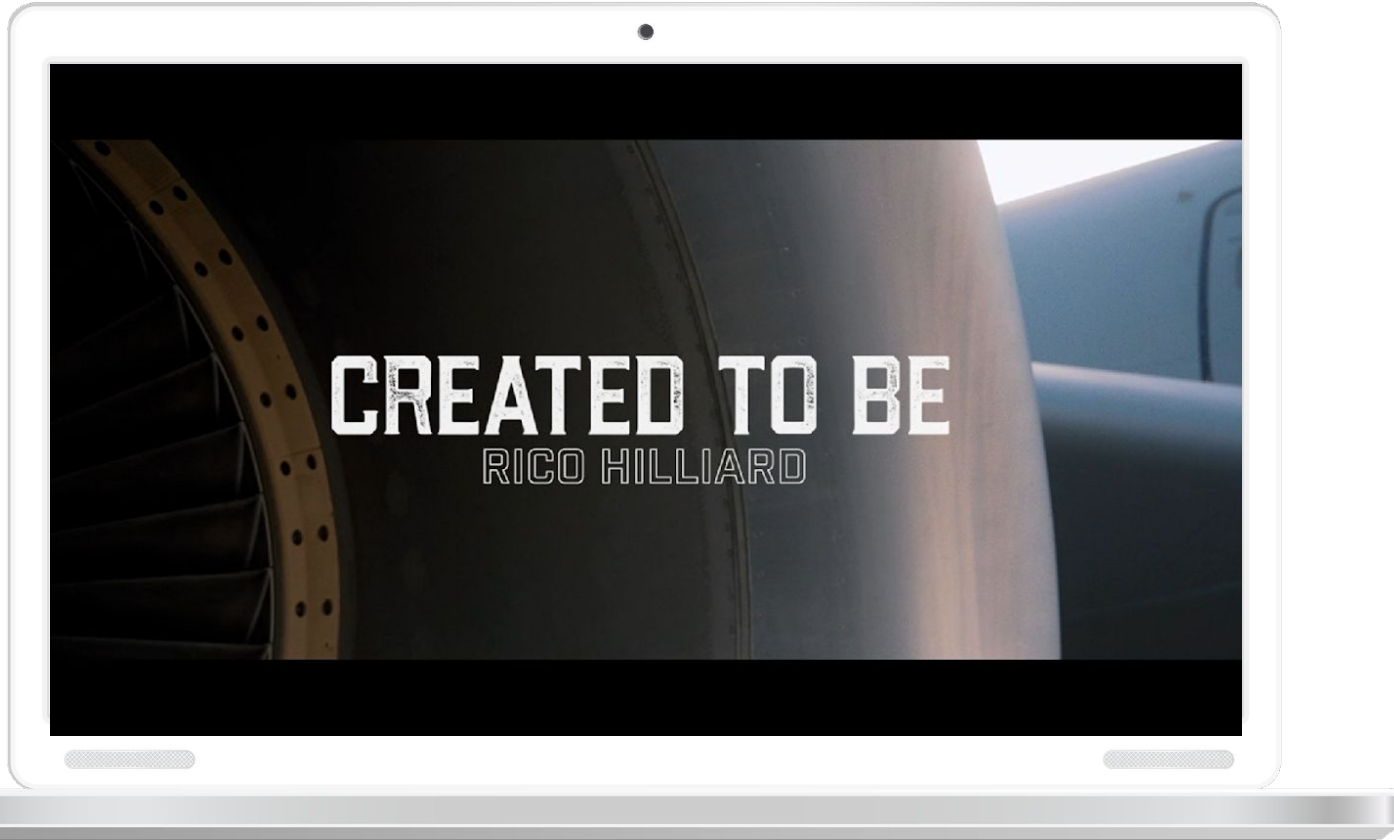
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Purple Heart

744

Air Medals

Our Legacy Continues...



with the **next generation** of black aviators, scientists, and technicians. Our programs have impacted the lives and inspired the careers of many.

1st Lt. Rico Hilliard of the 350th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar was inspired to fly at a young age when he first learned of these trailblazing Airmen. Hilliard tells the story of his journey to earn his wings, while following in the footsteps of the **first Black military aviators, Tuskegee Airmen.**

East Coast Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

PROGRAMS

Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation and in Youth in Aviation

The ECCTAI **Youth in Aviation Program** (YIAP) started as an idea from [Lonely Eagles](#) Bill Broadwater and Ted Robinson back in 1996 in keeping with the Chapter's basic charge to continue the Tuskegee legacy and inspire minority youth.

YIAP



Level I is designed to expose high school students (ages 15 - 19) to possible careers in aviation through discussions, activities, guest speakers and field trips.



Level II is designed for the serious student who has decided s/he is interested in becoming a pilot.



Level III, the flying portion of the program, is held during the summer for students who have successfully completed Level II.



The Legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen Continues

Black Excellence Rising to Higher Heights

March 24, 2022

COMMEMORATION DAY TRIBUTE AND CELEBRATION

● To honor the **Tuskegee Airmen** Legacy

The East Coast chapter of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen will host its 81st Anniversary with a Commemoration Day Tribute and Celebration, featuring a collection of exclusive events and fundraising activities. The wreath laying ceremony and a special tribute will honor the Lonely Eagles, with a presentation by the Howard University ROTC, at The United States Air Force Memorial on the **24th March 2022**. The Tuskegee Airmen 81st Anniversary Celebration will highlight the accomplishments of our special invited guests and performers, with a posthumous award to honor General Colin L. Powell, former U.S. Secretary of State and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The funds raised will go towards ongoing educational and community outreach

programming including the [scholarship fund, Herbert H Jones Youth In Aviation Program](#), and general operating expenses.

East Coast Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

The **Tuskegee Airmen** were collectively, not individually, awarded the **Congressional Gold Medal** (CGM) by President George W. Bush and the U.S. Congress on **March 29, 2007** at a ceremony inside the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. The **300 airmen and widows**, who attended the ceremony, received the CGM for all of the estimated **16-19,000** participants of the “Tuskegee Experience,” who are known as Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen or DOTA. The CGM was taken to the Smithsonian Institution (National Air and Space Museum) immediately following the ceremony, where it now sits.

Be a Part of our Legacy

ECCTAI invites you to support of the enduring legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen. Contact our team for opportunities to partner, sponsor or donate.

East Coast Chapter Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

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A large group of Tuskegee Army Airfield cadets in flight suits posing in front of a biplane. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The year '2022' is displayed in large, semi-transparent white digits on the left side of the image.

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THANK YOU

www.ECCTA1commeration.com

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