



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

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CAPS SAFE SUMMER STUDENTS EXPERIENCE CAREERS IN AVIATION

Tuskegee Airmen Youth Aviation Program held at O'Hare International Airport

(CHICAGO) – Today, the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA), in partnership with Mayor Richard M. Daley's Safe Summer Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) initiative, wrapped up a three week program for 150 students from Chicago's neighborhoods. Many of the activities included in the Tuskegee Airmen Youth Aviation Career program were held at O'Hare International Airport this summer.

During the program, the CDA hosted 50 CAPS students per week. All those who participated had an opportunity to learn about a variety of careers in aviation.

CDA First Deputy Commissioner Michael Boland spoke to the students on the first and last days of the program, highlighting the importance of Chicago's airports to the nation's aviation system as well as the many careers represented at O'Hare and Midway International Airports.

"Airports are run like a city; you will find that there are people with careers in accounting, finance, marketing, creative arts", said Boland. "There is no limit to the opportunities and careers at an airport."

The students spent two days each week learning about different career paths at the CDA including airport finance, safety, security, engineering, vehicle services, materials testing and quality assurance. The students also experienced, first-hand, operational areas in action by taking a tour of O'Hare's airfield.

For today's closing program, students listened to representatives from the participating Safe Summer program agencies. They included the CDA, CAPS, Chicago Fire Department (CFD), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), United States Air Force (USAF), Aerostar Corporation, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), United Airlines and Lewis University. In addition, students met with two original Tuskegee Airmen and learned about the history of the Tuskegee Airmen program.

After lunch, the students explored a United Boeing 747-400, aircraft, CDA snow removal equipment, CFD equipment, an Illinois Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter and a USAF Monster Truck.

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The Tuskegee Airmen Youth Aviation Program was designed to provide CAPS students with a unique setting and the opportunity to meet numerous staff in various aviation disciplines.

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit [www.flychicago.com](http://www.flychicago.com) to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit [www.airportsgoinggreen.org](http://www.airportsgoinggreen.org).

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit [www.oharemodernization.org](http://www.oharemodernization.org) to learn more about the OMP.

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Photo 1 – Students participating in Mayor Richard M. Daley's Safe Summer Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) initiative wrapped up a three week program on August 11, 2010. Many of the activities included in the Tuskegee Airmen Youth Aviation Career program were held at O'Hare International Airport this summer. Two original Tuskegee Airmen - Milton Williams (left) and Bev Dunjill (right) explained what they did during WWII to students.

Photo courtesy: Chicago Department of Aviation/kp



Photo 2 - Students participating in Mayor Richard M. Daley's Safe Summer Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) initiative wrapped up a three week program on August 11, 2010. Here, students were able to strap into an Illinois Army National Guard Blackhawk Helicopter at O'Hare International Airport.

Photo courtesy: Chicago Department of Aviation/kp