

Breaking Ground on Museum Expansion for Year-Round Aviation Education and Training

In late April 2021, EAA broke ground on its first expansion to the EAA Aviation Center in more than 20 years. The capital campaign known as “Project 21” helped raise more than \$5.9 million for the new, two-story, 30,000-square-foot facility that will bring year-round aviation education and training to Oshkosh for current and future aviators.

“While the EAA Aviation Museum highlights more than a century of accomplishments in personal flight, a major part of EAA’s mission to grow participation in aviation is to offer high-level programming for current and future pilots,” said Jack J. Pelton, EAA’s CEO and Chairman of the Board. “Project 21 brings that vision to reality, and further strengthens Oshkosh as the home for those who pursue their dreams of flight.”

The project, funded via a capital campaign separate from EAA member dues, will feature an innovative Pilot Proficiency Center and a hands-on Youth Education Center. These facilities are adjacent to the museum’s current Eagle Hangar and will allow individuals and groups to experience all of EAA’s resources on a year-round basis.

The Pilot Proficiency Center features a state-of-the-art skill-building and training center for general aviation pilots. It combines relevant safety forums with challenging simulator training sessions that address key flight safety issues. The new facility will focus on improving pilots’ overall aeronautical decision-making skills.

The Youth Education Center brings aviation-centric experiences to the EAA Aviation Museum year-round. The 15,000-square-foot Youth Education Center will provide youths, their parents, and their teachers access to interactive and project-based activities that inspire and nurture the next generation of aviators.

