



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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South Bay Students Graduate Take Flight Through Summer Transportation Program

HAWTHORNE, CA – Selected South Bay middle and high school students from the Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD) and Centinela Valley Union High School District (CVUHSD), partook in a 2-week program with the National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI), offered by the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology at Cal State LA from June 27th through July 15th. Students visited Flabob Airport in Riverside, CA on Saturday, July 13, 2019, where they each got to fly an airplane with an instructor for 20-30 minutes. The program concluded with a graduation dinner on Monday, July 15, 2019.

The NSTI program offered classroom instruction related to S.T.E.M. and the transportation industry, including three days at Flabob Airport. During their time at the airport, students learned about the forces needed for planes to fly, the adjustment to winds, different airplane parts, and how to read the different instruments meters in order to fly. Students practiced what they learned by flying an airplane with an instructor over and around a mountain adjacent to the airport.

To end the program, students were congratulated with certificates during a graduation dinner. Present were NSTI director, Dr. Hashemian, students and teachers. Participating student Ruth Hamilton from City Honors College Preparatory Academy spoke about her experience during the ceremony.

SBWIB’s Executive Director, Jan Vogel said, “Their experience doesn’t end here, eight of these students will be going to Pensacola, Florida for the National Flight Academy. They were selected among 200 other students in the Country, that’s really big!”

The NSTI program is provided at no cost to students and is a transportation-focused, career awareness initiative designed to introduce disadvantaged secondary school students to all modes of transportation-related careers. The program provides academic enhancement activities and encourages students to pursue transportation-related courses of study at the college/university level.

The National Flight Academy is the world’s largest virtual aircraft carrier and the nations #1 themed learning adventure that allows students to experience the sound, smell and feel of a real aircraft carrier. Students live for 6 days in a multi-story facility experiencing theme-park style thrills surrounded by advanced technology, flight simulators, and virtual reality games that ignite imagination and encourage learning.

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne providing no cost adult, youth and business services. For further information, please call (310) 970-7700 or visit www.sbwib.org.

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Photo caption: South Bay students fly airplanes as part of their program in the National Summer Transportation Institute after learning about the transportation industry. Program concluded with graduation dinner Monday, July 15, 2019.

