



NEWS RELEASE

June 18, 2013

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***Women Can Fly* at Lynchburg Regional Airport on June 29th**

Richmond – A special one day event to introduce women and girls to aviation will take place at Lynchburg Regional Airport on Saturday, June 29, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. *Women Can Fly* will feature a variety of fun and educational activities that will culminate in a free introductory flight in a general aviation aircraft for participants. This is the last in a series of three *Women Can Fly* events that will take place in the Commonwealth of Virginia during the month of June.

Currently, women make up only 6% of the U. S. pilot population. Increasing aviation awareness among women and girls and bringing more women into aviation as both recreational pilots and as aviation professionals is vital to the long term health of the aviation industry. *Women Can Fly* will provide a fun, no pressure environment for women to ask questions, learn, and experience the wonder of flight. The event is free and open to everyone, but girls or women who wish to get a free ride, need to register in advance on their web site: www.womencanfly.org

Throughout the day, as they wait for their turn to take a flight, women and girls in attendance will have the opportunity to visit, and possibly sit in, aircraft on display and to talk with their pilots. They will also be able to attend classroom sessions and seminars about how planes fly, how to become a pilot and other aviation topics. Additionally, they can interact with exhibitors from aviation clubs and flight schools, pilot a flight simulator, and maybe even take a tour in an Air Traffic Control tower.

A *Women Can Fly* website (www.womencanfly.org) has been established with detailed information about the event and offers the opportunity for potential participants to register ahead of time to attend.

Women Can Fly is sponsored by the Ninety-Nines, Inc. (International Organization of Women Pilots), Warrenton Fauquier Airport, Hampton Roads Executive Airport, Liberty University School of Aeronautics, Freedom Aviation, and the Virginia Department of Aviation.

The Virginia Department of Aviation's (DOAV) vision is to become the standard of excellence among state aviation agencies and make the Virginia aviation system the model air transportation system providing Virginia communities economic development opportunities and convenient access to the National air transportation system. DOAV's mission is to cultivate an advanced aviation system that is safe, secure and provides for economic development; promote aviation education and awareness; and provide the safest and most efficient flight services for the Commonwealth leadership and state agencies.

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