



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ISLAND AIR EXPLORER PROGRAM GRADUATES ITS 2010 CLASS OF FUTURE AVIATORS

HONOLULU – As Island Air celebrates its 30th Anniversary, the airline's committee of employee volunteers has graduated its second class of Student Explorers. The Island Air Explorer Program ran for 10 weeks providing interested students between the ages of 14 and 20 hands-on experience in various fields of aviation. More than 40 students attended orientation, submitted applications, and participated in interviews. In February, 15 students were invited to join the program, which Island Air began in 2009 as a continuation of the Aloha Explorer program that shut down along with Aloha Airlines in March 2008.

Explorer posts are awarded and managed by the Boy Scouts of America. Island Air's Explorer Program offers students 10 sessions covering aviation careers such as Flight Attendant, Pilot, Aircraft Mechanic and Airport Operations. The 2010 season also included visits to Continental Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Makani Kai Helicopters, Chelsea Food Services, and Airport Rescue Fire Fighters, as well as guest speakers from the Transportation Security Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, USDA Wildlife Services, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Congratulations to the 2010 Class of Island Air Explorers:

Kalani Awong – Kaiser High School
Jason Bayang – Hoala School
Collin Chow Hoy – Saint Louis School
Theodore Dittman – Radford High School
Christian Lambert – Home Schooled
Brooke Magalei – Kahuku High School
Leia Rabanal – Roosevelt High School
Christopher Santos – Damien Memorial School
Riggs Silva – Hawaii Baptist Academy
Kalen Smith-Kamake'eaina – Kamehameha School
Stetson Shimamoto – Pearl City High School
Kawaipunahale Tenn – Ke Kula 'O Samuel Kamakau
Kainoa Thomas – Kalaheo High School
Brandon Tretsvan – Pearl City High School
Garrett Wailani Wong III – Saint Louis School

Island Air continues to carry on Aloha's tradition of honoring one outstanding student explorer with the Jaime Wagatsuma Award, which was named for program advisor and pilot of both Island Air and Aloha Airlines after she lost her battle with cancer in 2007.

This season, Island Air presented the Jaime Wagatsuma Award to Brooke Magalei, a 17-year old who wants to become a commercial or military pilot. Said Magalei of her experience, "Besides learning about what goes on 'behind-the-scenes,' experiencing things you only hear about when flying was a valuable part of the program. I found flight attendant night to be most interesting because we were allowed to inflate our life vests and open the emergency exit doors. I am honored to receive the outstanding explorer award and share this experience with other students who have similar interests."

More information about the Island Air Explorer Program can be found on Island Air's web site at www.IslandAir.com/Explorers. See the students' progress on the program's Facebook page (search: Island Air Explorers). Fans can support the Island Air Explorer Program by purchasing a logo item from www.IslandAirStore.com.

Island Air is Hawai'i's leading regional carrier, serving airports on all major Hawaiian Islands. Founded in 1980 to provide scheduled service between Princeville and Honolulu, the airline now offers 328 weekly flights between the islands of O'ahu (Honolulu International Airport), Maui (Kahului Airport and West Maui's Kapalua Airport), Molokai (Ho'olehua Airport), Lana'i (Lana'i City Airport), Kaua'i (Lihue Airport), and the Island of Hawai'i (Kona International Airport). Island Air is committed to its island communities as well as providing warm and personalized service for its customers and those of its code-share partners Continental Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Mesa Air Group, and United Airlines. For reservations, flight information, and free membership in Island Air's Cloud 9 Customer Rewards Program, visit www.IslandAir.com.

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