



November 17, 2020

Re: Aviation Youth Empowerment Foundation Letter of Support

To Whom it May Concern,

In4All has been bridging the gap between education and industry in Oregon for more than 36 years. Our programs engage students who are historically underserved in hands-on learning that we bring to them during their school day so that they can make important connections between critical STEM concepts and the real world. We mobilize our communities to stand in the gap with our teachers to disrupt the barriers our students navigate, believing that together we can realize a future for our students that is limitless.

The aviation industry in Oregon is large. It includes transportation, aircraft maintenance, training, airframes, components, avionics, general aviation aircraft equipment and accessories, heavy lift helicopters, public safety, fire fighting, airfield systems and equipment, and unmanned aerial vehicles and systems. All of these require technology to be successful and keep pilots and passengers safe, and transport millions of tons of cargo every year. In Oregon alone, aviation employs over 200,000+ folk directly and indirectly. Oregon is a national leader in advanced metals used in aviation, composite aircraft, airfield systems and equipment, kit aircraft, and heavy lift helicopters. While robust, it is also predominantly white and male, with fewer than three percent of U.S. commercial pilots identifying as Black and around seven percent identifying as women, and fewer than one percent as Black women.

The Aviation Youth Empowerment Foundation (AYEF) aims to address barriers of equity and inclusion in the aviation sector by empowering diverse college applicants to succeed in STEM through financial support. The foundation's mission aims to fill the pipeline of aviation and supplier companies in technology, manufacturing, and engineering with inspired and talented engineers, pilots, managers, and technicians from communities that are historically underserved.

In4All is happy to write this letter of support for AYEF. It is our hope that a future partnership between AYEF and In4All will connect Oregon students who are historically underserved to the aviation sector at critical points along their educational journey, providing them with hands-on opportunities that make a career in aviation possible.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Philippi".

Elaine Charpentier Philippi
Executive Director