



2024 Annual Report & 2025 Forecast Project Aviator

Prepared by Sean O'Connor- President & Treasurer January 8, 2025

Project Aviator in 2024 finished up its third year since founding in 2022. Since founding, Project Aviator has seen rapid growth, constant support, and frankly massive results. Throughout this year the Board of Directors has been very pleased with the amount of growth we have seen in both the Mentorship Program, Scholarship Program, and in the fundraising department. Below is a breakdown of our 2024 year, 2025 expectations, and execution plans.

In 2024 Project Aviator did multiple new things, thanks to our mentors and partner school Sierra Charlie Aviation. Project Aviator was able to put on 3 in person seminar events in Scottsdale, AZ. These seminars helped aspiring aviators hear about the state of the industry, get personal interview and logbook preparation guidance, get insightful information on how to be the best instructor and student they can be, learn about the path it takes to be a military pilot, and so many more subject areas. All of the seminars at Sierra Charlie Aviation were a roaring success with standing room only at each event. We even hosted students to lunch to have further conversation after a few of the events. Project Aviator is aspiring to do two or three in person seminars in Scottsdale this calendar year. Sierra Charlie has been an invaluable partner for Project Aviator. Last year and again this year they have committed to providing four written exam scholarships to dedicated students in flight training. Please feel free to follow and visit Sierra Charlie's website if interested in a great flight training program.

I am incredibly proud to say that Project Aviator's Mentorship program has increased by approximately 50% this year. Hannah O'Connor, who runs that program, has done a remarkable job. Hannah was very proud to announce that we have had multiple "boomerang pilots". A boomerang pilot is a mentee of our program that is now a mentor. We also have had multiple mentees now make it to their dream jobs in the airlines, which is remarkable. Hannah has also informed of a complete transformation of the program that will occur this year. It is incredibly rewarding to see the full circle moments of our mentees. This is fully thanks to our mentors and donors.



As President I oversee all operations but I am also responsible for our bookkeeping, event planning, and IRS/State compliance. I am pleased to say that Project Aviator's books are flawless and we had a balanced budget year. In fundraising terms, we have hit an absolute homerun. We went over our \$7,500 fundraising goal, and raised \$17,000. 2024's fundraising was more than triple of 2023. I attribute this success to not only the board, but the selflessness and generosity of our donors. It is an indisputable fact that those involved in this charity believe in its mission. **"An organization founded by pilots, for pilots"**. Those involved do not only contribute their time, but also contribute their hard earned money. Personally, I am honored and taken back with joy.

In terms of scholarships, Project Aviator was able to give out **TEN** scholarships this year. The total amount of money distributed was \$4,000. Our initial goal was to give out \$2,750 in scholarships but due to the unwavering support of donors and sponsors we were able to put on an additional \$1,250 in scholarships. Once again Project Aviator hit a grand slam thanks to our supporters, fantastic!!! Thanks to the fundraising in 2024 we plan to be able to give out \$8,600 to \$10,000 in scholarships. This is more than double compared to 2024, frankly remarkable! The reason there is a range is due to us not knowing how many scholarships will be sponsored by donors or by corporations at our pickleball tournament in June.

I would like to personally thank and recognize Southwest Airlines for donating 6 round trip tickets in 2023 and again in 2024. Project Aviator has used those tickets as a fundraising tool, which has led to the largest lump sum of money we have taken in. Thank you Southwest! We plan to have multiple Southwest Airlines ticket fundraisers throughout the year.

I would also like to thank M Jets and Ace Interview Prep: who have provided time at our in person seminars at Sierra Charlie Flight School. Additionally I would like to thank Jerry and Joy- our live music partners, WildByrd Art, Flight Uniforms, and The Broadmoor Hotel. Specifically at the Broadmoor I would like to thank Chrissie Widhalm, Candice Gilmore, Karen Schott and Ann Alba.



In 2024 Project Aviator partnered with Flight Uniforms. Through pilots using the code **ProjectAviator**, we have received over \$200 in donations from Flight. Please use and share this link going forward. You get a 20% discount and Flight donates 5% to PA.

In 2025 our highlighted goals are to increase every aspect of the organization.

- Our fundraising goal is set for \$7,500 for the calendar year via paypal (our donation platform). And \$10,000 at our pickleball tournament.
- Start an online video series. So students anywhere can access material.
- Attend three in person conferences.
 - Women in Aviation, Denver, CO
 - UND SAMA- Grand Forks, ND
 - PAPA- Las Vegas, NV
- Put on two in person seminars at Sierra Charlie Aviation
- Put on the second Pickleball tournament and Silent Auction at The Broadmoor
 - Bigger than ever before, BLOW OUT!

In 2024 and in 2025, no Project Aviator volunteer has or will be compensated. No services have been exchanged in return from any donation.

Our in person fundraising event encompassing a pickleball tournament, silent auction, music, and dinner will be the biggest event of the year. On June 13th, Project Aviator will be hosting this fundraiser at **The World Famous Broadmoor Hotel**, In Colorado Springs. More information including registration will be coming shortly. Even if you are not a pickleball player, this event will be the gathering of the year for Project Aviator, that you will not want to miss. Last year we grossed over \$10,000 and we expect to do even better this year.

Hurdles:

Project Aviator has had a hard time keeping up with the demand we have for mentors. We currently have a 6 month wait list for a mentor. While actively trying to recruit more mentors, we wanted to pivot to still provide great mentorship. Hannah O'Connor is revamping the program to have an online video series so mentees can always have



access to mentorship. We are very excited for the next chapter of our mentorship program.

Treasury

- TREASURY- 0
- scholarship 8,600
- Social media 300
- Mentorship 500
- In person conference 2000
- Sierra Charlie events 300
- Expenses \$1,500
- Total: 13,200
- Money now 17,000
- Surplus- \$3,800

* The budget surplus is in place for any unforeseen expenses, additional scholarships, events, or unexpected price adjustments that may arise and were not estimated.

If there is any additional information that was not divulged in this yearly report and forecast for 2025 that you would like to know, please reach out to Sean O'Connor, President and Treasurer. contact@projectaviator.org



As I have said and can not reiterate enough, I am so proud of our team of over 110 pilot mentors and donors. I personally never thought we would have received so much love, support, and encouragement. I am certain Project Aviator is out to make the world a better place. Watching our mentees and frankly even our mentors achieve milestones and promotions along the way is why we work so hard and will continue too. I thoroughly look forward to the next year working together as a team. Remember, June 13th will be the largest party and fundraiser of the year! I told the Broadmoor Hotel it's going to be a BLOW OUT! Below are photos of some of the 2024 highlights.

Sincerely,

Sean O'Connor

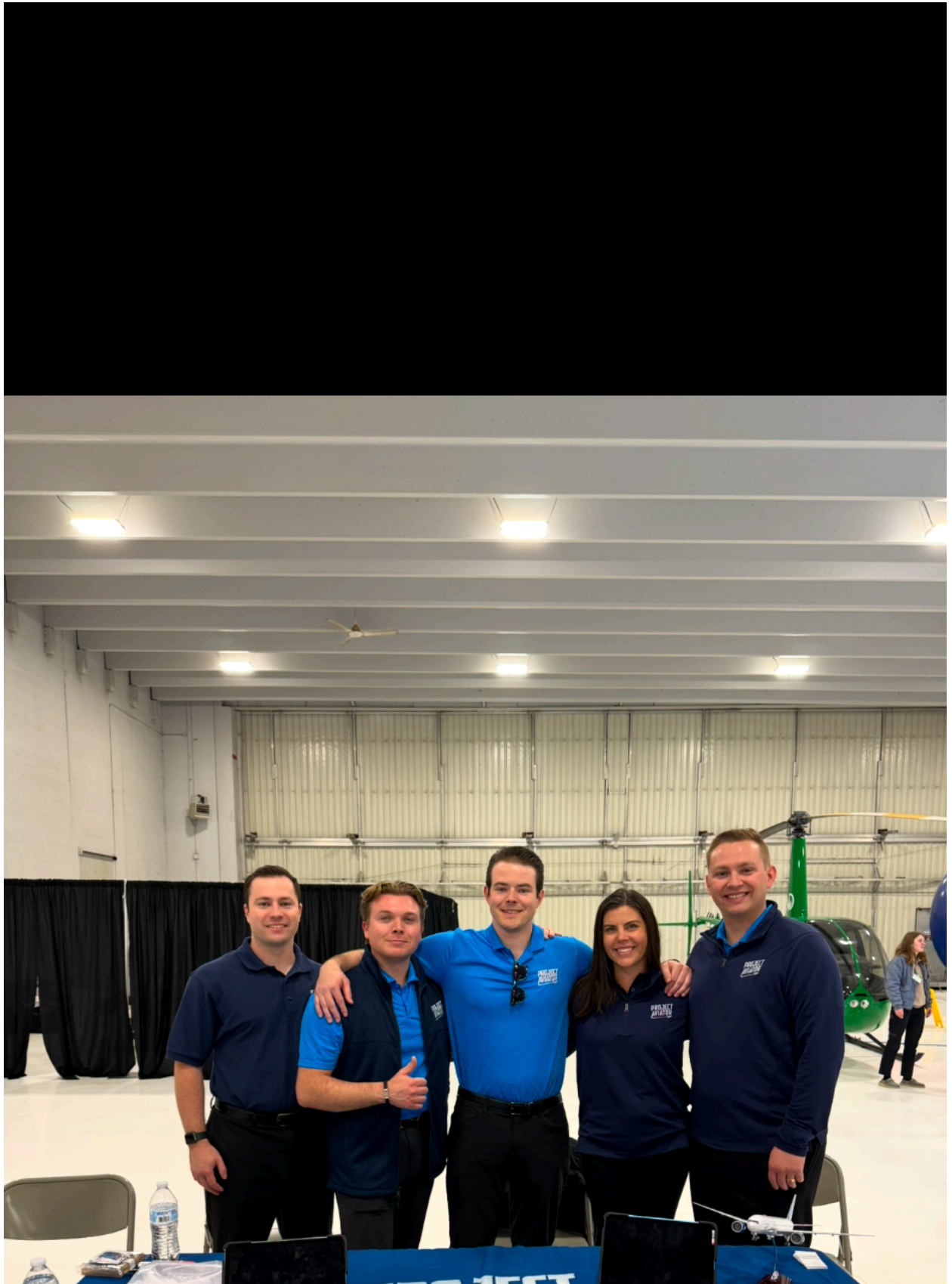
Sean F. O'Connor

President and Treasurer of Project Aviator

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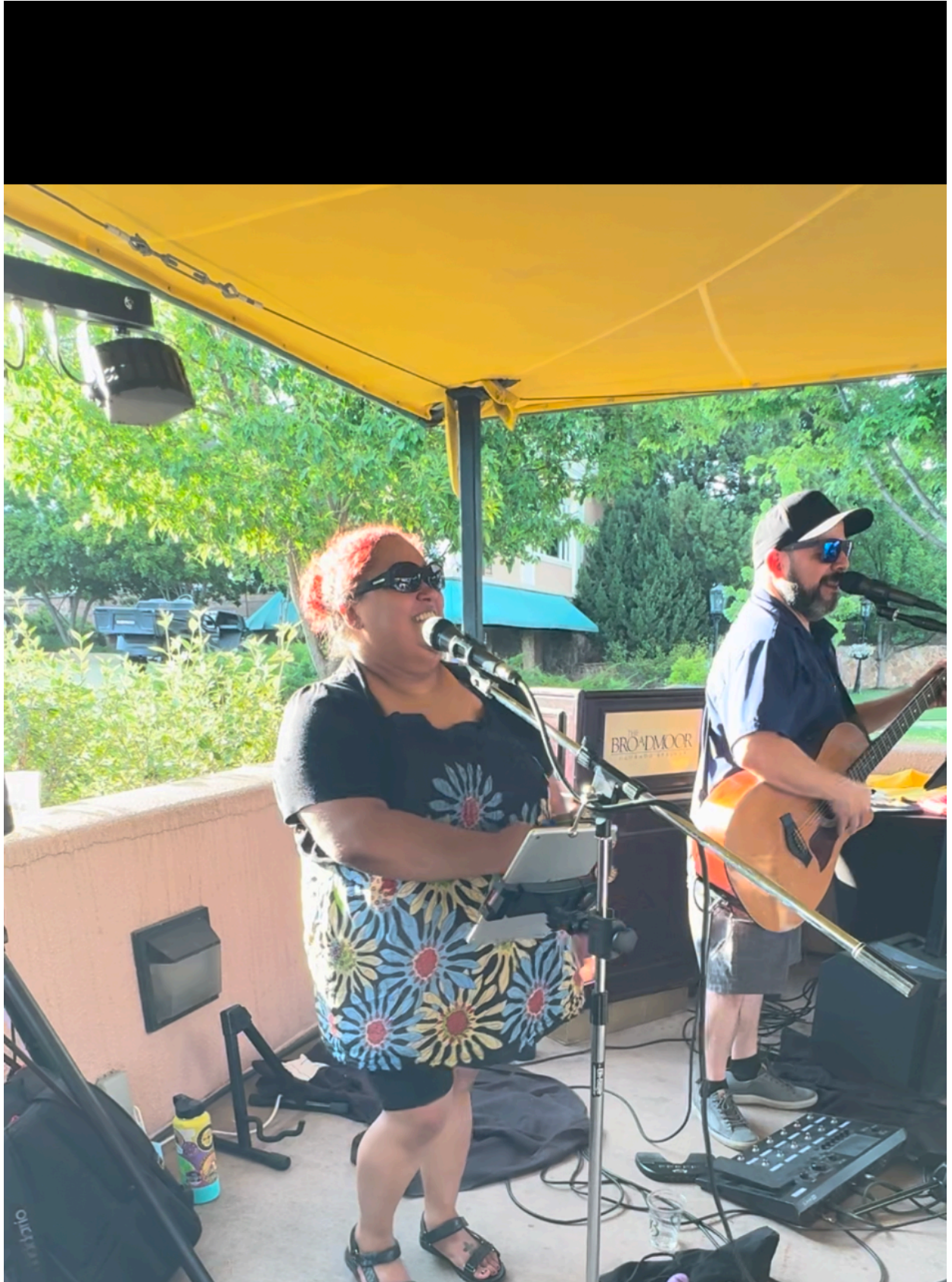
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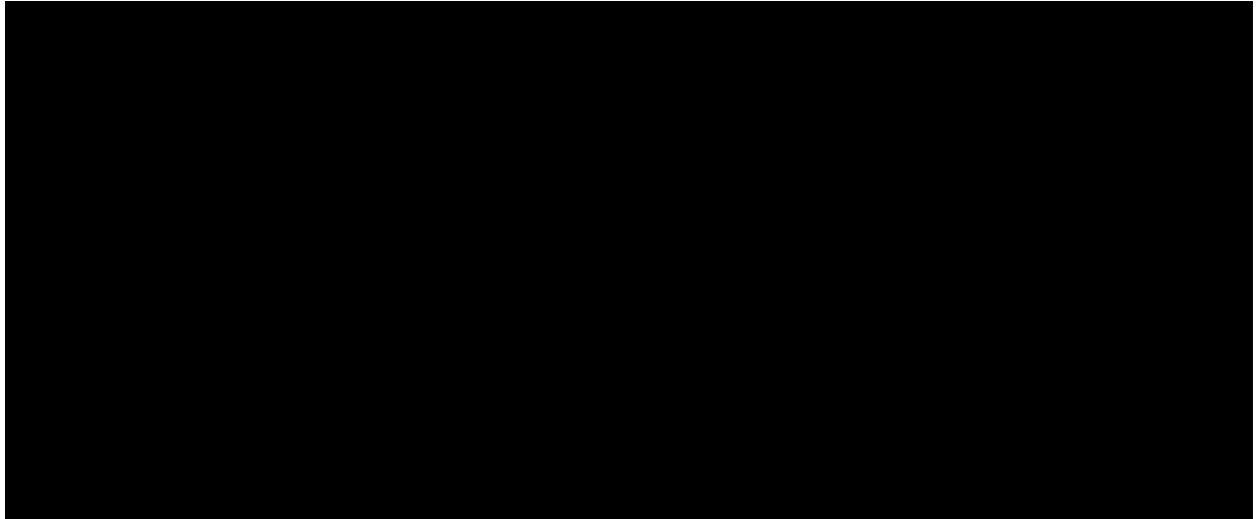
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