

[View this email in your browser](#)



MUSEUM MESSAGE January 2025

Flying Leatherneck
Aviation Museum

Cheers to a New Year!

As we step into 2025, we take a moment to reflect on the remarkable strides we made in 2024. Thanks to the incredible support of our donors, volunteers, and partners, we've made significant progress in raising funds, restoring our historic aircraft, and preparing for the grand opening of the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum in 2026.

This past year, we've witnessed the restoration of several key aircraft, each one a testament to the courage and legacy of the U.S. Marine Corps aviation. With the countdown to our new museum facility officially underway, we are more excited than ever to share these aviation treasures with the world.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our mission. Together, we're building something extraordinary—preserving history and honoring the brave men and women who served. We can't wait to see what the future holds!



More Successful Transportations

As we work toward the grand opening of the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum in 2026, we invite you to follow our exciting journey on social media! From transporting historic Marine Corps aircraft from Miramar to our temporary hangar in Irvine, to the painstaking restoration process, we're documenting every step. Stay connected to see these incredible planes come back to life, hear the stories behind them, and celebrate the legacy of Marine Corps aviation. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) and be part of the story!



**Calling all Irvine and Tustin USD
Students!
Enter our Art and Essay contests for
2025!**

2025 FLYING LEATHERNECK ESSAY CONTEST



'Honor, Courage and Commitment'



**Grades
6 -12**

THEME

Which notable American, past or present, inspires you with their honor, courage and/or commitment? Why do you admire that person? How can you emulate their values in your life?

PRIZES

1st PLACE

\$300

2nd PLACE

\$200

3rd PLACE

\$100

Teachers of winners will receive a stipend of \$200!

JUDGING

Knowledge of theme, creativity, originality and clarity. Students can write about all three values or just one or two values in their essays

DUE MARCH 14
Submit in Word format to
flyingleathernecks.org

QUESTIONS?
flyingleathernecks.org
education@flyingleathernecks.org



Note to Educators: Participating in the essay contest fulfills the requirements for California Education Mandate 235.5 (a) for character and civic education as well as Common Core requirements.

DEADLINE
FRIDAY MARCH 14, 2025

MARINES IN FLIGHT

2025 DALE MANN ART CONTEST

GRADES 6-12 IN IRVINE &
TUSTIN UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT

MARINE
CORPS
AVIATION
'PAST AND
PRESENT'



PRIZE FOR WINNERS!



2023 HIGH SCHOOL
1ST PLACE ENTRY LUCY XU

1ST PLACE
\$300
2ND PLACE
\$200
3RD PLACE
\$100



2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL
1ST PLACE ENTRY KAITLYN KIM

Mediums accepted: colored pencils, pastels, charcoal, watercolors, mixed media, oils, acrylics. Oils and Acrylics must be painted on canvas board or canvas paper mounted on a stiff backing such as masonite (No photographic or computer generated art)

TWO DIMENSIONAL ONLY (NO SCULPTURES) | MUST BE 11"X14"

Winning artwork will be framed and displayed at the Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation Award Ceremony!

Eligibility and Requirements: One entry per student. Each entry must be original in concept, design and execution and most not violate US copyright laws. The title and inspiration for your piece must be attached to your artwork. All entries must be signed by the artist on the front of your artwork.

Submit all entries as a jpeg or tif file through the website at flyingleathernecks.org. Must have a release signed by a parent or guardian.



FLYINGLEATHERNECKS.ORG | EDUCATION@FLYINGLEATHERNECKS.ORG



Do you have a special connection to a Marine Aircraft? Your support can help!

Each of our aircraft has a rich history and a story to tell. By supporting our restoration efforts, you contribute to preserving these flying legends for future generations. Your donation helps cover the costs of materials, labor, and expertise required to bring these historic aircraft back to their former glory.

Your support ensures that these iconic aircraft's legacy lives on. Together, we can honor the past and inspire the future.

Click below to search our inventory of 34 aircraft and make your donation for restoration today!

[CHECK OUT THE AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE FOR SUPPORT](#)

California State Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris Visits our Hangar in Irvine

BGen Aguilar, President and CEO of the Flying Leathernecks Aviation Museum, was honored to welcome Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris to the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum hangar recently, where he gave her a tour of our aircraft and artifacts. The Assemblywoman had the opportunity to see firsthand

memorabilia that will be on display in our new museum. Her visit reinforced the importance of preserving these aviation treasures and highlighted the ongoing support from our community leaders as we move closer to our 2026 opening. We're grateful for her interest and continued advocacy for our mission!





Sneak Peak Inside the Museum 🙈

Have you Become a Founding Member Yet?

As we approach our grand opening in 2026, we invite you to join our Founding Membership program. This exclusive group of supporters will play a crucial role in shaping the future of the museum and preserving the storied legacy of Marine Corps aviation. Get exclusive access, discounts and more!



[LEARN MORE](#)

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS....

Each month you'll discover the latest milestones we've achieved, meet some of the dedicated individuals making this vision a reality, and get a glimpse of what to expect when we open our doors. Your support and enthusiasm fuel our journey, and we can't wait to share more with you each step of the way.

Thank you for being a valued part of our community. Stay tuned for exciting news and exclusive previews!



Copyright (C) 2025 Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

