



APIS VISITS MANDATORY TALKING POINTS IN THIS SEQUENCE

1-OBAP HISTORY

Founded in 1976, the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the encouragement and advancement of minorities in all aviation and aerospace careers.

In 1976 Ben Thomas, a young African American pilot with Eastern Airlines, spearheaded an effort to form a permanent body to address discrimination in the airline industry. He invited thirty-seven African American pilots, representing nearly 50% of the industry total at the time, to convene at O-Hare Hilton hotel in Chicago on September 17th and 18th.

OBAP members encourage diversity in the industry by supporting aspiring aerospace and aviation professionals through mentoring, scholarships, training and youth-focused education programs.

The Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP), then called The Organization of Black Airline Pilots, was formed as a result of that collaborative meeting with a focus of preparing youth and young adults to realize successful careers in aerospace and aviation.

Today, OBAP served a leading role in establishing FAA-endorsed Aerospace Career Education (ACE) Academies to introduce, expose, educate and guide diverse students towards careers in aerospace and aviation. Youth are first introduced to aerospace and aviation through Aerospace Professionals in Schools (APIS) initiatives through longstanding relationships with the Independent School District, Charter schools and Private schools. From 2006 to present, with the support of strategic partners like the Tuskegee Airmen Inc., National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

2-OBAP MISSION

OBAP Inspires Excellence and provides opportunities in aerospace by Supporting, Transforming, Educating, and Mentoring our members and communities

3-OBAP VISION

OBAP will be a world leading organization that changes lives by creating a pathway to success through educating youth, communities, and professionals...shaping an aerospace industry as diverse as the people we serve

4-OBAP OBJECTIVES

- To motivate youth to become educationally prepared for life
- To increase minority participation in aerospace and aviation through exposure, training, mentoring and scholarships.
- To increase the number of underrepresented minority professionals, engineers, scientists and management personnel in aviation and related industries
- To better assist our organization, membership concerns and constituencies.
- With support from our diverse members, donors & sponsors, we can achieve all our goals and grow to reach more youth to achieve their dreams in the aerospace industry as well as support in their continued career path.
- Aerospace Professionals in Schools (APIS) initiatives introduce and continue interest in aerospace and aviation amongst youth annually.
- OBAP implements FAA-endorsed ACE Academies each summer in approximately 30 + cities within 50 U.S. continental included Puerto Rico and St Thomas, US Virgin Island.

5-OBAP VIDEO (Short clip from Thomas Witts – a link should be provided to school from YouTube OBAP Channel)

*OBAP PROGRAMS MATRIX AT GLANCE TODAY

- **APIS – Aerospace Professionals in School** (182 schools attended - 44000+ students – 574+ teachers)
- **ACE – Aerospace Career Education** (32 Academies, 700+ students)
- **COLLEGIATES** – (13 collegiate chapters and over 150+ students)
- **APDP – Aerospace Professionals Development Program** (matrix needed)
- **SCHOLARSHIPS** - (matrix needed)
- **LUKE WEATHER FLIGHT ACADEMY** - (After 13 months of existence LWFA had made 131 students discovery flights – 34 solo pilots – 6 Private Pilots Licenses – 3 Instrument ratings – 2 Commercial Licenses – 5 Certified Flight Instructor – 2 OBAP solo academies)
- **SFA – Solo Flight Academy** (matrix needed)

TALKING POINTS FOR SPEAKERS

Speakers should prepare for, but are not limited to, the following areas of discussion:

- Tell a little about yourself. Mention where you are from (The students are from diverse backgrounds and like to connect with presenters in some way)
- What kind of student were you? Were you a bookworm, mischievous, did you enjoy school? Whatever you say try to put a positive spin into the speech
- Tie in character traits (one or two), so that they see the connection between making good choices, and achieving success in life
- Stress the importance of coming to school each day. To be educated, have a degree. Link attendance with academy success.
- Include something about the importance of never giving up, regardless of how difficult things might appear to be...**PERSEVERANCE**
- Share what it takes to be a success at whatever you do.
- Mention the fact that we are all different individuals with different likes and dislikes, and the importance of choosing careers that they have an interest in, a passion for maybe.
- Stress the importance of **ATTITUDE**, and **MINDSET**

CHARACTER TRAITS:

Honesty – Integrity – Respect – Compassion – Responsibility – Perseverance – Determination – Confidence – Patience – Kindness – Courage – Gratitude – Leadership – Encouragement – Mindfulness

Speakers be Prepared to answered basic questions from students such as

- What is your typical day like?
- What kind of subjects helped you get ready for this career?
- What level of education is required for your job?
- What made you decide on this career choice?
- Did you always want to be a...?
- What should I know about your job?
- What Character Traits are most important for your profession?