I have been told that Jasper Harris, Jr. was an innovative, empowered, and impactful man who helped to pave the way for youth and youth of color in the aviation and aerospace industries today. He is an excellent example of what every member of the Red-Tailed Hawks is, and continues to strive to be. Since becoming a member a few years ago, I have been blessed with many mentors from the Red-Tailed Hawks that uphold Jasper Harris, Jr.’s legacy. I have become a better student thanks to the RTH pilots and engineers, and I hope to someday turn this around and become a mentor for other youth of color interested in aviation and aerospace. I believe that the Jasper Harris Jr. scholarship will help me to inspire and support youth aviation in the years to come by helping me to become even more innovative, empowered, and impactful.

First, this scholarship will help me to become more innovative and empowered in my chosen field. By allowing me to work toward obtaining my pilot’s license, it will help me to expand my knowledge of aerospace, and make me a more innovative and confident engineer, pilot, and mentor. I have worked hard the past few summers to learn as much as possible about flight during ground school, and to solo a Cessna-162, so that I am able to become a uniquely innovative engineer, and to hopefully one day lead a team to advance air and space travel. I would like to get my private-pilot’s license this upcoming year to obtain an even more advanced perspective on how airplanes and machines work to become an empowered leader in the aerospace industry.

Finally, the scholarship will allow me to be a more impactful teacher and mentor. I love passing on my knowledge to inspire the next group of youth. I hope to obtain my private license soon, so that I can eventually become a CFI and inspire kids to become pilots. I’ve really enjoyed teaching the RTH youth how to preflight an airplane at meetings and putting together ROADS on Mars videos these past few years. I am grateful for the Jasper Harris, Jr. scholarship, and I will honor his memory by using my newfound knowledge to become a more innovative, empowered, and impactful engineer to help those around me.