



## 2023 Jasper Harris, Jr. Aviation Scholarship



### **Mervyn Thomas-Crawford**

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Aerospace Technology**

When I was a young aviator, I participated in Space Camp, Southwest Airlines Continuing the Legacy Program, Civil Air Patrol, flight and ground school training. I spent over 5 years in Civil Air Patrol and participated in flight simulators, and flight training. I also participated in the Red-Tailed Hawks Fly program, and obtained over 30 hours of flight time. I participated in many ground school programs, and passed my FAA written exam. I also interned at Kratos Defense and Security Solutions where I built flight computers for missiles. I was the keynote speaker at my old middle school, and spoke about taking

advantage of opportunities while young. I told the students about my experience flying planes for the Red-Tailed Hawks.

As Jasper Harris was an advocate and influencer in the aviation field, I will strive to be a leader in the Aviation industry in honor of Jasper Harris. I will continue my involvement in aviation programs and connecting to the youth. I will also strive to honor Jasper Harris Jr.'s legacy by giving back to programs that helped me, and giving back to Baltimore city. My goal is to get today's youth involved in the activities I've participated in the past, and to take advantage of every opportunity they can at a young age. My goal is to connect with today's youth, and encourage them to seek, manage and take advantage of as many opportunities as they can while in their youth. The Red-Tailed Hawks is a great place to start.

I will continue to exemplify the Red-Tailed Hawks mission statement by getting more of today's youth involved in aviation. I want today's youth to have the same opportunities offered to me as a teenager. I am a benefactor of Red-Tailed Hawks youth programs which had the biggest impact on my aviation career. Red-Tailed Hawks boosted me to where I am in aviation today.