CIVIL AIR PATROL

United States Air Force Auxiliary

AMELIA EARHART AWARD

FACT SHEET

Suitable for reading aloud to the audience as part of an award ceremony

The Amelia Earhart Award honors an aviatrix, writer, and champion for civil rights who set many records in aviation's infancy before her famous disappearance during her attempt to become the first woman to circumnavigate the globe. Adored by the public, Earhart spoke and wrote about the romance of aviation. "The stars seemed near enough to touch and never before have I seen so many," she wrote of one record-setting flight. "I always believed the lure of flying is the lure of beauty, but I was sure of it that night."

The Earhart Award marks completion of Phase III of the CAP Cadet Program, recognizing sustained excellence in all four areas of cadet life: leadership, aerospace, fitness, and character. Further, Earhart Award cadets must have passed comprehensive examinations on leadership and aerospace topics.

To further illustrate the significance of this accomplishment, as of _____ only _____ Earhart Awards have been presented, since the award's inception in 1964.

Once a cadet earns the Amelia Earhart Award, he or she is promoted to the grade of cadet captain and is challenged to lead and serve junior-ranking cadets not just in the hometown squadron but around their wing (state) as well. Perhaps the award's most coveted benefit is that Earhart cadets become eligible to represent the United States in the International Air Cadet Exchange.

After earning the Earhart Award, only Phase IV of the Cadet Program, and the prestigious Spaatz Award Examination remains for the young person to conquer as a CAP cadet.

In granting CAP permission to name this milestone award in Amelia's honor, her sister said that it would've been, "the kind of award Amelia would [have chosen for] herself."