

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Women of Aviation Week Comes To San Carlos March 3-9 – Free Discovery Flights and Aviation Events for Women and Girls

February 6, 2014 The ambitious organizers of Women of Aviation Week in San Carlos want to double the number of girls and women who were introduced to aviation careers and free orientation flights last year, beginning March 3rd.

Last year, the event took 250 girls and women up for short orientation flights at the San Carlos airport with licensed pilots volunteering their time and airplanes. To go big, they're bringing in a very special guest recently profiled in a national TV story, retired Air Force Lt. Colonel Olga Custodio. Ms. Custodio holds the distinction of being the first Latina to complete U.S. Air Force pilot training in the first years women were allowed to apply to this male-dominated career field. She decided to serve as an instructor pilot and became the first female T-38 Instructor Pilot. But she didn't stop there. While serving in the Air Force Reserves, Lt. Col. Custodio then became the first Latina commercial airline captain with American Airlines where she qualified and flew four additional airframes. Fox and Friends recently aired a profile of Olga [here](#).

Ms. Custodio will participate in an interactive discussion and aviation panel event at Hiller Aviation Museum (601 Skyway Rd, San Carlos) with four other women aviation professionals representing a variety of aviation careers on Friday March 7 from 5:30 – 7 p.m. The following will be available to interact with the audience:

Gretchen Kelly - Airport Division Manager for San Mateo County Airports, private pilot

Staff Sgt. Ariel Sauvey –Military veteran, Air Traffic Controller at San Carlos Airport

Air Force veteran Captain Graciela Tiscareño-Sato – Former crewmember and KC-135 refueling tanker navigation instructor, author of bilingual children's book *Good Night Captain Mama*

Beth Stanton – Competitive aerobatics pilot and President of the Northern California chapter of the International Aerobatic Club

Ana Uribe – WOA Week San Carlos organizer and private pilot, will moderate the panel.

The WOA week runs from Monday, March 3 to Sunday, March 9, 2014. The purpose of the weeklong event is to introduce girls and women to the world of aviation operations, including free, introductory flights around the Bay Area with an experienced pilot. This year, half of the pilot volunteers are women. All the events are free of charge and require an RSVP.

Register for free orientation flights (for girls ages 7 and up) at www.womenofaviationweek.org/rsvp/sancarlos/

Register for the Friday evening panel here: www.womenofaviationweek.org/rsvp/hiller-museum/

ABOUT WOMEN OF AVIATION WEEK

Women of Aviation Week is held annually, usually in March, aims foster diversity in aviation by celebrating history, raising awareness, and sparking vocations as thousand of girls and women are introduce to aviation through industry-wide collaboration. Learn more about WOA Week, please visit: www.womenofaviationweek.org

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