



PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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***Commemoration of  
The 100th Anniversary of  
Elizabeth (Queen Bessie) Coleman  
June 15,2021***

***(First African American and Native American Woman to earn an International Pilot's License)***

Chicago, IL- On June 15, 2021 will mark the 100th Anniversary of the day that Elizabeth (Bessie) Coleman earned her International Pilot's License in France.

Many Aviation/Aerospace organizations, airlines and airports, air and space museums and enthusiasts will be celebrating in their own way around the world this historical day as Bessie Coleman became the First African American Woman in the world to do the unthinkable in France. Not only did she bring her Aviation skills back to a segregated United States but went back to Europe and flew with the best of them.

The Bessie Coleman Aviation All-Stars, Incorporated (BCAA), (whose President is Gigi Coleman, the Great Niece of Bessie Coleman), is the Official Headquarters representing the Coleman Family. As *Bessie Coleman* belongs to the world, we are requesting that everyone join us collectively on this International Commemorative 100th Anniversary Day by posting on your social media, video, media outlets, flights et.al. In Celebration.

Plans are still being made as we are just about to BEGIN the year of Celebration of *The 100th Anniversary Tribute to the Legacy of Bessie Coleman Tour* in August, 2021. The ten (10) United States (US) cities/towns tour will consist of:

1. Atlanta, Texas and Waxahachie, Texas (retracing her journey)
2. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
3. Chicago, Illinois
4. Memphis, Tennessee
5. Los Angeles, California
6. Denver, Colorado
7. Seattle, Washington
8. Atlanta, Georgia
9. New York City, New York
10. Orlando, Florida (surprise other Florida locations)

Ending in France where she started. During the Celebration we will be bringing Queen Bess to you and student competitions worldwide.

*The 100th Anniversary Tribute to the Legacy of Bessie Coleman Tour funds* raised will provide twenty (20) Scholarships to 20 students: 10 High School and 10 college students to help in support of earning a degree in any Aviation or Aerospace major or career field.

The BCAA would like to thank the many radio, television shows, Jeopardy to be the latest, print media, the many Air and Space Museums that have worked with us during this time of COVID-19, and the many organizations, Public School boards and individuals who have donated and contributed even through in-kind contributions.

Let's make it a memorable groundbreaking year as some of the Tour will be virtual and some live as venue openings permit to following CDC guidelines, COVID-19 restrictions. As Queen Bess, the first to put on a mask in 1918 during the Spanish Flu Pandemic, would often say ***"I refused to take no for an answer!"***

Note: In 2019-2020, The Bessie Coleman Aviation All-Star, Inc. originally planned its 10 City US Tour to raise 20 Scholarships ending at the Paris Airshow in Paris, France. Due to COVID-19 and the many travel and border restrictions, nationally and internationally, to include the cancellation of the Paris Airshow until 2023, we are planning the first of the 10 cities tours to begin on September 3, 2021, the day Queen Bess gave her first US Airshow to WW1 African American Veterans in New York City.

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