



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**John C. Tune Airport and ImagineAir Partner  
to Aid Metro Youths' Ascension to Elevated Altitudes**

Nashville, TN. (March 30, 2007) On Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup>, John C. Tune (JWN) Airport will host approximately 150 Metro school students who are part of a community minded outreach program aptly titled, *ImagineAir*. Created by Music City pilot David Tune, son of the late John C. Tune, (the airport's namesake), *ImagineAir* was specifically designed to provide educational and extra curricular opportunities for socio-economically disadvantaged Metro school children who exhibit promise in the aviation related academic fields of science & mathematics. The students, who will arrive via complimentary bus ride, (made possible by a grant and Metro Schools Transportation Department), are scheduled to tour the airport and facilities from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., coinciding with the JWN fly-in; a quarterly fellowship luncheon routinely attended by pilots and flight enthusiasts throughout Tennessee.

The *ImagineAir* tour will be provided by *ImagineAir* staff including: John C. Tune, II (a high school sophomore & student pilot), Metro Schools Volunteer Teachers, JWN management staff, local pilots, mechanics, and flight instructors. Students and their parents will receive up-close-and-personal tours of various helicopters, single and twin-engine general aviation aircraft; they will also be able to view the various tenant hangars/aircraft, runway/taxiways, terminal building and pilots' lounge. Students will construct and fly their own balsa wood gliders and learn how aircraft fly. *ImagineAir* is providing lunch for the children and parents attending with the help of volunteer cooks from the airport community.

The premise of the imaginative program, which targets all students grades 3 through 12, is to provide interested youth with curriculum and financial support as well as mentoring, all flavored with an aeronautical twist. The program's goal is to afford students with a continuum of experiences from elementary school through college that will allow their bright futures as aircraft mechanics, engineers, air traffic controllers, aerospace managers or pilots to successfully take-off.

Age appropriate *ImagineAir* team projects include constructing model airplanes, designing an aircraft, and even go as far as to create an actual airline. Winning teams are rewarded in a variety of ways, and include: general aviation plane rides, field trips, scholarships, flying lessons, space camps, air show trips, and airport tours. The program works in conjunction with NASA's S.E.M.A.A. program at TSU, the Nashville Alliance for Public Education, the Experimental Aviation Association (EAA), Women in Aviation, and other organizations that foster opportunities for children.

**Interested media may arrive at 11:00 a.m., park in the lot adjacent to the terminal building, and capture *ImagineAir* students on tour. Media will be allowed on the ramp area.**

The Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority was established in 1970 and owns and operates the Nashville International and John C. Tune General Aviation Airports.