

## **Southwest Airlines Named Title Sponsor of Professional Asian Pilots Association Aerospace Expo 2022**

**Las Vegas, NV** - Southwest Airlines has been named the title sponsor of the first-ever Professional Asian Pilots Association (PAPA) Aerospace Expo 2022. The Expo will be held on Saturday, July 16 at The LINQ Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. PAPA has put together a program focused on celebrating Asian culture and supporting and empowering Asian-Americans in the aviation industry.

"We are honored to welcome Southwest Airlines as title sponsor of the first-ever PAPA Aerospace Expo. Ever since its inception, PAPA has been on a mission to connect the Asian community with a fulfilling career in aviation. This partnership with Southwest Airlines will not only support this mission but will have a lasting impact on the industry as it works to promote an inclusive environment. I am proud to say that I am a pilot for the airline that has chosen to be at the forefront of this inaugural event," said Harley Pasiderio, PAPA president.

"Southwest Airlines takes pride in putting people at the center of everything we do and values the unique perspectives that come from a diverse and inclusive team. We are honored to be the title sponsor of the PAPA Aerospace Expo," said Lee Kinnebrew, Vice President of Flight Operations at Southwest Airlines. "Our intention is to have a team that is as unique and reflective as the customers and communities that we serve so that professional aviators know they are welcome, and can thrive, as part of the Southwest Family."

The Aerospace Expo 2022 is a milestone for PAPA. Founded in 2017, the organization has grown quickly and now has over 800 members from all over the United States and abroad.

"Our aim for this debut event is to welcome everyone to experience our unique perspective of the aviation industry: modern tradition coupled with cultural heritage. In addition to being an essential networking platform for aerospace professionals, we hope attendees will stay to enjoy the cultural activities and festival atmosphere for years to come," said Expo director Lorren Wang.

The one-day event will feature a career fair, food, cultural activities, guest speakers and more. Aviators and aerospace professionals are welcome to attend this event. Registration is currently open. For more information and tickets, please visit [asianpilots.org/expo](http://asianpilots.org/expo)

### **About Southwest Airlines**

Based in Dallas, and founded in 1971, Southwest Airlines operates one of the world's most admired and awarded airlines by offering its one-of-a-kind value and hospitality at 121 airports across 11 countries. Learn more about how Southwest leverages its mission to serve communities at [Southwest.com/citizenship](http://Southwest.com/citizenship).

### **About Professional Asian Pilots Association**

Founded in 2017, Professional Asian Pilots Association (PAPA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in the aviation industry. Our goal is to bring awareness and support to members of the Asian community in the industry through networking opportunities, scholarships, and mentorship. We hope to inspire current and prospective professionals towards a fulfilling career in aviation.