



THE LEWIS CENTER CELEBRATES AVIATION HISTORY MONTH!

The Lewis Center for Educational Research celebrates Aviation History month by saluting the accomplishments of the U.S. Air Force/Northrop T-38 Talon jet trainer and its sister aircraft, the F-5 Freedom Fighter. More than 3,500 T-38s and F-5s were built by Northrop--each on time, on cost and with performance as promised. The F-5 was flown by many U.S. Allies, and the U.S. Air Force and Navy used it to simulate Russian MiG fighters in the Red Flag and Top Gun programs. The T-38 was the dominant U.S. Air Force supersonic jet trainer of the 20th Century, Thousands of pilots learned to fly jets in the T-38. NASA still uses the T-38 as its astronaut training aircraft, meaning; that T-38s and F-5s have been in service for five decades. The Lewis Center's Thunderbird campus in Apple Valley, CA features the T-38 (above and at right) as well as the observatory shown at the left. Our K-12 students experience America's rich aviation and space heritage firsthand, not just with the T-38, but with a full Mission Control Center where our Academy for Academic Excellence students and 35,000 other students throughout the world track NASA missions with the Lewis Center's Goldstone Apple Valley Radio Telescope (GAVRT). These inspirational activities have fired the imaginations of our students, with amazing results. The Lewis Center graduated 100 percent of its senior class this year...and every one of those students went on to college or service in the U.S. military. Because at the Lewis Center, the sky is the limit for our students, who envision a future where their horizons are absolutely unlimited!