



Je'Coven Smith, an upcoming senior of Robert E. Lee High school is one of eleven 2017 Summer Internship Program award recipients! Je'Coven is exploring the possibility of becoming a pilot. With this in mind, Je'Coven was placed at Sterling Flight Training under the leadership of Scott and Irene Malone.

Mr. Malone had this to say about Je'Coven's experience, "Sterling Flight Training was pleased to meet and work with Je'Coven over the last six weeks. Je'Coven was always punctual and ready to work. He rotated through all departments: flight line, aircraft maintenance, flight dispatch, accounting, and flight training. He spent most of his time on the flight line, assisting with aircraft prep, arrivals and departures. He attended a company lunch and observed two instructional flights.

During his time with certified flight instructor, Josh Franklin, they worked together on two occasions; flight planning and going through a preflight and a flight lesson. Josh noted, "Je'Coven really seemed to enjoy his flight (Piper Archer). We went through a weight and balance to make sure we were safe to fly, he asked a lot of good questions about radio calls and he was exposed to real procedures that pilots use."

It was out sincere pleasure to spend time with Je'Coven this summer and we wish him all the best as he enters his senior year.

When asked his thoughts regarding his summer experience, Je'Coven responded, "As an award recipient of the AnnieRuth Foundation's six week program, I experienced the best summer of my life! I interned at Sterling Flight Training at Craigs Airport.

While at Sterling, I shadowed every aspect of the flight business. I loved line and maintenance because it was a "hands on" experience that helped me understand aviation in a way that I've never imagined. I learned how to move planes, fuel planes, code planes, clean planes, fix planes and prepare planes for takeoff.

In addition to 'learning' about planes, I also flew in planes! I made connections and had conversations with so many experienced pilots from the Navy, Marine Corps and the Air Force. I also interacted with pilots, customers and students who are learning to fly. This experience has not only equipped me with tools necessary to be successful in the field of aviation but it also enabled me to interact with people of diverse backgrounds. The AnnieRuth Foundation's Summer Internship Program has made it possible for me to become successful in my area of study and has prepared me for real world situations."

[Click here](#) to see photos from my amazing summer internship experience.