

## **Howell High School Air Force Junior ROTC Cadet Receives Flight Academy Scholarship and National Honors**

**HOWELL, Mich., May 12, 2022** - For the second year in a row, a Howell High School Air Force Junior ROTC (AFJROTC) cadet has been selected to receive a scholarship to attend an eight week private pilot license training program at an accredited aviation university in the summer of 2022. The cadet, Jaidah Davis, was selected from a competitive pool of 1,300 applicants to receive the scholarship from Headquarters Air Force Junior ROTC, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL. Valued at \$24,000, the scholarship covers transportation, room and board, academics, and flight hours required to earn a private pilot license. In 2021, three Howell High School AFJROTC cadets received the scholarship and completed the program.

"Other than flying and getting my pilot's license, I'm really excited to meet new people from different parts of the United States and get a college experience before I actually go to college. I hope that will make going to college a less stressful journey," said Davis

"The Air Force JROTC Flight Academy Chief of Staff Private Pilot Scholarship is a highly sought-after competitive scholarship amongst AFJROTC cadets. Having earned the scholarship Cadet Davis will have the opportunity to earn her private pilot license from the University of North Dakota at no cost. It is really an incredible opportunity for her," said Lt. Col. Lisa Franz, Howell High School Air Force Junior ROTC instructor. "Having four cadets earn this scholarship in the past two years speaks to the skills and knowledge that our cadets are gaining through the program and to the overall quality of Howell High School's AFJROTC program."

In addition to earning the scholarship, Davis has also been named the top AFJROTC Cadet in Michigan, the top AFJROTC Cadet in the region covering the states of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and is among the top eight AFJROTC cadets in the nation. Davis was selected for these honors based on her AFJROTC accomplishments, co-curricular activities, and academic achievements. Additionally, she has been chosen as the Group Commander for Howell High School's AFJROTC unit for the 2022-2023 school year.

"ROTC is one of the best things about my high school career. When I look back on high school, I'm pretty sure this will be the main thing that I focus on because there are so many fun events. I love the people and the community and ROTC, and I honestly don't think that many people know that. I think people just see it as a military class, but there's so much more to it," said Davis. "I think people just see it as a military class, and that's all, but there's so much more to it. I think a lot more people would get a lot more out of it if they would stop focusing on the fact that it's a military requirement, because it's not, and just focus on the benefits like meeting new people, getting comfortable with the people around you, leadership opportunities, fun events, and becoming a better person."

While only a junior, Davis is already planning for college. After graduation, she hopes to attend the Air Force Academy to earn her undergraduate degree and then attend medical school to become a doctor.

The Flight Academy Scholarship Program is an Air Force-level initiative in collaboration with the commercial aviation industry to address the national civilian and military pilot shortage. The Flight Academy allows aspiring young aviators to get their Private Pilot's Certification, at no cost, during an eight-week summer course at partner universities.

Air Force Junior ROTC's mission is to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community while instilling values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment.

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